

Early Childhood Education

Associate of Applied Science Degree Program

MHCC Faculty Adviser

Ellen White: 503-491-6985
Ellen.White@mhcc.edu

Room EC 22

The Early Childhood Education program prepares students to work with children from birth through school age in both public and private school settings. This program is designed for persons of all ages and backgrounds, with special attention given to individual student needs and abilities. A two-year program leading to an associate degree is available. Graduates are trained to work in a variety of educational and child-care settings, including pre-school, child care, private kindergarten and as para-professionals in the public schools. Course work and practical work experience emphasize knowledge of normal growth and development, guidance skills with young children, and the planning and directing of activities for children which foster positive intellectual, social, emotional and physical growth and development.

Program Outcomes

At the completion of this program, the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate an exemplary work ethic and uphold the standards of the profession
- Use positive guidance strategies to promote children's development
- Manage a classroom using Developmentally Appropriate Practices and all relevant guidelines
- Provide a learning environment designed to promote children's optimal development in all domains with emphasis on secure relations, self-efficacy and flexible thinking
- Develop positive relationships with families and community to best support each child's optimal development

Enrollment in the early childhood classes is open to all interested students, whether attending school full- or part-time. However, only a limited number of practicum opportunities is available and enrollment in this aspect of the program is available only with consent of the program faculty. Many of the courses are also excellent for parents and others who work with young children.

NOTE: The course requirements for this program are subject to change each academic year. For MHCC certificate/degree requirements, a student must follow the program requirements the year the student is officially admitted to the program or the year the student is completing the program.

With or without accommodation, students must fulfill the program competencies for practicum experiences with young children. The safety and well-being of children is always of primary importance. Certificate and degree candidates should anticipate practicum settings with physical, emotional and mental challenges. Students with questions about the nature of the program should arrange for an individual appointment with a program adviser.

Early Childhood Education options include certificate and AAS programs. Consult ECE program advisers regarding your individual needs.

Please check the MHCC Web site for any curricular changes that have occurred since the catalog was published.

First Quarter	Credits
ECE123 Early Childhood Literature and Language	2
ECE140 Introduction to Early Childhood Education ¹	2
ECE146 Curriculum: Foundations ¹	3
ECE156 Cooperative Planning Seminar I ²	1
ECE170 Health, Safety, and Nutrition	2
WE280CDC Cooperative Education Internship ²	3
WR101 Workplace Communications or WR121 English Composition	3
16	

Second Quarter	Credits
ECE131 Child Development	3
ECE145 Techniques of Positive Guidance	3
ECE150 Curriculum: Play ¹	3
ECE156 Cooperative Planning Seminar II ²	1
WE280CDC Cooperative Education Internship ²	3
13	

Third Quarter	Credits
ECE147 Infant/Toddler Care and Curriculum	3
ECE152 Creative Explorations	3
ECE157 Sensory Motor	3
ECE160 Interpersonal Skills	2
MTH65 Beginning Algebra II (or higher) ³ ‡	4
15	

Fourth Quarter	Credits
ECE156 Cooperative Planning Seminar III ²	1
ECE231 Child Development: Theory to Practice	3
ECE236 Curriculum: Social-Emotional	3
ECE244 Observation for Curriculum Development	3
WE280CDC Cooperative Education Internship ²	3
Distribution requirement ‡	3
16	

Fifth Quarter	Credits
ECE156 Cooperative Planning Seminar IV ²	1
ECE224 Early Childhood Math and Science	3
ECE237 Curriculum: Physical/Motor	3
ECE245 Guidance Challenges	3
WE280CDC Cooperative Education Internship ²	3
Health and Physical Education requirement ‡	3
16	

Sixth Quarter	Credits
ECE156 Cooperative Planning Seminar V ²	1
ECE238 Curriculum: Cognition	3
ECE246 Parent/Family Relations	2
ECE260 Values and Issues in Early Childhood Education 2	2
PSY235 Human Development: I: Infancy-Adolescence	3
WE280CDC Cooperative Education Internship ²	3
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¹ ECE140 and ECE146 may be taken Fall or Winter; ECE150 may be taken Winter or Spring.

² ECE156 and WE280CDC must be taken concurrently. Level I seminar and co-op may be taken Fall or Winter term. Level II seminar and co-op may be taken Winter or Spring term.

³ Students may not use demonstrated proficiency on the College Placement Test (CPT) to satisfy this requirement.

Students must successfully complete 1st year classes/certificate coursework prior to admission to 2nd year classes. Program advisers will determine individual eligibility

‡ See page 10.