

CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term
Fall 2009
[2009*03]

Curriculum Program Title

Early Childhood Education

Code

A55220

Concentration

(not applicable)

Curriculum Description

The Early Childhood Education curriculum prepares individuals to work with children from birth through eight in diverse learning environments. Students will combine learned theories with practice in actual settings with young children under the supervision of qualified teachers.

Course work includes child growth and development; physical/nutritional needs of children; care and guidance of children; and communication skills with families and children. Students will foster the cognitive/language, physical/motor, social/emotional, and creative development of young children.

Graduates are prepared to plan and implement developmentally appropriate programs in early childhood settings. Employment opportunities include child development and child care programs, preschools, public and private schools, recreational centers, Head Start Programs, and school-age programs.

*Curriculum Requirements**

[for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 23 NCAC 02E.0204(3)]

- I. General Education.** Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.
- II. Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. *(See second page for additional information.)*
- III. Other Required Hours.** A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate, diploma, or associate in applied science program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC)	64-76	36-48	12-18

**Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.*

Major Hours

[ref. 23 NCAC 02E.0204(3)]

- A. Core.** The subject/course core is comprised of subject areas and/or specific courses which are required for each curriculum program. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the subject/course core of the AAS program.
- B. Concentration** (if applicable). A concentration of study must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit from required subjects and/or courses. The majority of the course credit hours are unique to the concentration. The required subjects and/or courses that make up the concentration of study are in addition to the required subject/course core.
- C. Other Major Hours.** Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours of credit may be selected from any prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core or concentration. Work experience, including cooperative education, practicums, and internships, may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit.

Early Childhood Education A55220

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum Major Hours Required	49 SHC	30 SHC	12 SHC
A. CORE <i>Courses required for the diploma are designated with *</i> Required Courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * EDU 119 Intro to Early Child Edu 4 SHC * EDU 131 Child, Family, & Commun 3 SHC * EDU 146 Child Guidance 3 SHC * EDU 151 Creative Activities 3 SHC * EDU 153 Health, Safety & Nutrit 3 SHC * EDU 221 Children with Exceptional 3 SHC EDU 271 Educational Technology 3 SHC EDU 280 Language & Literacy Exp 3 SHC EDU 284 Early Child Capstone Prac 4 SHC Required Subject Area: *Child Development. Select one set: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDU 144 Child Development I 3 SHC & EDU 145 Child Development II 3 SHC <li style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>OR</i> PSY 244 Child Development I 3 SHC & PSY 245 Child Development II 3 SHC 	35 SHC	25 SHC	
B. CONCENTRATION (Not applicable)			
C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS <i>The remaining other major hours may be chosen from the following prefixes:</i> ACC, ART, ANT, ASL, AST, BIO, BUS, CHM, CIS, COE, COM, CSC, CTS, DAN, DBA, DRA, ECO, EDU, ENG, FRE, GEO, GER, HEA, HIS, HUM, MUS, PED, OST, PHI, PHS, POL, PSY, REL, SCI, SOC, SPA, and WEB <i>Foreign language courses (including ASL) that are not designated as approved other major hours may be included in all programs up to a maximum of 3 semester hours of credit.</i>			