

EARLY CHILDHOOD (ECH) (HEGIS 5503)

This program provides students with a background in general education and specific skills necessary to work effectively with young children. The curriculum is designed to prepare students, through class and laboratory experience, to become a teacher (head of group) or assistant in preschool/ day care/ nursery school settings. The College conducts an on-campus Laboratory Nursery School where students can gain practical teaching experience under professional supervision. Students also participate in various day care centers, pre-schools and kindergartens in the community.

The program is designed for students seeking employment in the field. However, many of the credits will transfer to senior colleges offering a baccalaureate degree in elementary education. Students intending to transfer should consult the Education Coordinator (H403K, ext. 8343), Early Childhood Program Chairperson (T207, ext. 8348) and the Transfer Advisor (S301, ext. 8040).

The Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree is awarded upon completion of the requirements for this program.

Upon completion of the ECH program, students will be able to display knowledge and appropriate applications in the follow areas:

1. Promote Child Development and Learning by creating a learning environment that addresses the developmental characteristics and needs of young children.
2. Build Family and Community Relationships by demonstrating the learners' understanding of the impact on children's development and learning of families and the communities in which they live.
3. Observe, Document and Assess to Support Young Children and their Families by using systematic observations, documentation and other age appropriate strategies to develop age appropriate curriculum and strategies to impact positively on children's development and learning and communicate with families and other professionals.
4. Actuate the Teaching and Learning Process by integrating the knowledge of developmentally effective approaches to design, implement and evaluate learning experiences for young children in a variety of curricular areas.
5. Become a Professional by illustrating an understanding of the ethical implications and consequences of decisions regarding policies and practices in early childhood.

Courses should be selected in consultation with an advisor.

<u>Course No.</u>	<u>Descriptive Title</u>	<u>Cr.Hrs.</u>
<u>FIRST SEMESTER</u>		
ENG 101	Composition I	3
PSY 111	Psychological Principles I	3
ECH 101	Introduction to Early Childhood	3
ECH 102	Introductory Seminar: Programs for Young Children	1
ECH 120	Infant and Toddler Curriculum	3
ECH 121	Infant and Toddler Curriculum Fieldwork (b)	1
ECH 111	Curriculum Activities for Young Children	<u>2</u>
	TOTAL	16
<u>SECOND SEMESTER</u>		
ENG 102	Composition II	3
ECH 107	Preparing to Teach Young Children	2
ECH 108	Early Childhood Practicum I (b)	2
PSY 221	Child & Adolescent Development	3
SPE 101, PSY 134, or PSY 206		3
BIO 103	Human Biology (a)	<u>4</u>
	TOTAL	17
<u>THIRD SEMESTER</u>		
ECH 254	Foundations and Issues in Early Childhood Education	3
ECH 205	Early Childhood Practicum II (b)	4
BHS 103	Social Problems in Today's World	3
ECO 105, GOV 121, HIS 104, HIS 108		3
WFE 101	Lifetime Wellness and Fitness	<u>3</u>
	TOTAL	16
<u>FOURTH SEMESTER</u>		
ECH 206	Early Childhood Practicum III (b)	4
ECH 212	Language and Literature in Early Childhood	3
ECH 214	Observation and Assessment	3
BIO 104	Environmental Biology (a)	4
Free Elective (c)		<u>3-4</u>
	TOTAL	17-18
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	66

NOTE: In addition to the course requirements for this curriculum, all matriculated students must demonstrate proficiency in basic quantitative skills by earning a passing score on the numerical skills placement test. Students who do not earn a passing score on this test will be required to take CSM 090 and earn a grade of C or better.

a. The sequence BIO 101-102 may be substituted for the sequence BIO 103-104.

b. Transportation to and from practicum sites is the responsibility of the student. All students are required to submit a completed physical examination form within the two weeks of the beginning of the semester. Forms are available at the College Health Office.

c. See page 98 for a full discussion of the free elective requirement. The subject area for Early Childhood includes all courses labeled ECH.