

Early Childhood Education

Associate in Applied Science

Career Pathway and Career Cluster: Human Services

Program Advisor: Tina Wake
(269) 782-2106
cwake@swmich.edu

This degree program prepares students for work as preschool teachers, program directors for childcare agencies and family educators or paraprofessionals in Head Start programs.

Salary ranges vary depending upon the type of position obtained. State and federally funded programs usually provide excellent benefits. Employment opportunities are excellent both locally and nationally. This program incorporates up to 16 credit hours for directed work experience in early childhood education or through documentation via the Childhood Development Associate (CDA) credential. It can be completed on a full- or part-time basis and classes are available both evenings and Saturdays.

Prerequisites

- You will need to demonstrate proficiencies in reading, English and mathematics based on SMC assessment tests, ACT or SAT scores, MEAP scores or by taking the recommended classes.
- Some of the courses in this curriculum have specific prerequisites. These are described in the course descriptions.
- You will need to demonstrate competency through testing in computer information systems. If unable to demonstrate, appropriate class must be taken (ISYS 110).

Core Curriculum

- In order to graduate with a college degree, all students are required to take certain general education courses. These include two semesters in English composition, speech, wellness and proficiency in mathematics and computer use.

Course Sequence

- A few of the courses in this curriculum must be taken in a prescribed sequence. The listing that follows is a suggested sequence of courses for the first two semesters.
- If you are a part-time student or have transferred courses from another school, you should complete the courses listed under Semester I before taking those listed under Semester II.

- The courses listed under the heading "Non-sequential Courses" may be taken at anytime during your program.
- Please be sure to consult the course descriptions as some courses may not be offered every semester.

Course		Credits
Semester I		
ENGL 103	Freshman English II	3
PSYC 101	General Psychology	3
Semester II		
EDUC 215	Human Development & Learning	3
ENGL 104	Freshman English III	3
Non-sequential Courses		
BIOL 110	Human Biology	
	OR Approved Lab Science	4
EDUC 115	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
EDUC 140	Early Childhood Education - Off-campus Training I	
	OR Approved Electives	8
EDUC 217	Early Childhood Development	3
EDUC 220	Guiding Children's Social Development	3
EDUC 221	Early Childhood Curriculum – Cognitive and Communication	3
EDUC 222	Early Childhood Curriculum – Physical and Creative	3
EDUC 223	Issues in Early Childhood Education	3
EDUC 230	Administration of Early Childhood Programs	3
EDUC 240	Early Childhood Education - Off-campus Training II	
	OR Approved Electives	8
MATH 101	Elementary Algebra	4
	OR	
MATH 115	Business Mathematics	(3)
PHED 103	Life Fitness	2
SPEE 104	Introduction to Human Communication	3
Total Program Credits		62

NOTE: A minimum of 62 credits is required to graduate.