

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM (ECE)

### ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE

This curriculum provides the early childhood education professional with knowledge to care for children in child care centers, home child care, school-age programs, preschools, as well as assist in public schools using developmentally appropriate standards. The field of early childhood covers children, birth through eight years. You must be fingerprinted and have a background clearance to complete ECE 260 and work in child care in Illinois.

#### PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

1. Create environments that are healthy, respectful, supportive and challenging for all children, using understanding of child development.
2. Explain how to engage in respectful, reciprocal relationships that support and empower families.
3. Identify and utilize formal and informal assessment strategies to positively influence children's development.
4. Implement a wide array of effective approaches, strategies, and tools to positively influence children's development and learning.
5. Construct lesson plans to provide developmentally appropriate experiences.
6. Demonstrate ethical guidelines of the early childhood profession to maintain standards of professional conduct.

#### FIRST SEMESTER

ECE	100	Early Childhood Growth and Development .....	3
ECE	101	Observation and Assessment of Children .....	3
ECE	105	Health, Safety and Nutrition for Children.....	3
ECE	110	Introduction to Early Childhood Education .....	3
		General Education Requirement .....	3
			Total 15

#### SECOND SEMESTER

ECE	115	Family, School and Community .....	3
ECE	120	Language Arts for Children.....	3
ENG	101	Rhetoric I .....	3
		General Education Requirement .....	4
		General Education Requirement .....	3
			Total 16

#### THIRD SEMESTER

ECE	125	The Exceptional Child.....	3
ECE	160	Curriculum Planning for Children.....	3
ECE	200	Play and Guidance of Children.....	3
ECE		Elective* .....	3
ECE		Elective* .....	3
		General Education Requirement .....	3
			Total 18

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

### FOURTH SEMESTER

ECE	260	Early Childhood Education Internship .....	3
ECE		Elective* .....	3
ECE		Elective* .....	3
ECE		General Education Requirement .....	3
ECE		General Education Requirement .....	3
Total			15

Overall Total 64

**\*This Certificate will allow the student to apply for one of the following:**

**Level IV ECE Credential**

**Level IV Infant/Toddler Credential**

**Level 1 Illinois Director Credential**

These credentials fit into the State of Illinois early childhood career lattice system and the ExcelRate Illinois, creating a seamless framework for professional development and promoting access to varied career opportunities in the early childhood field. To earn this credential, students must follow a prescribed course of study. Students should contact the Early Childhood Education Coordinator for further information about this credential and the courses they need to take in order to earn the credentials in addition to their degree.

#### **\*ECE Electives for Level IV ECE Credential**

ECE	102	Guidelines/Standards for Birth Through Preschool .....	1
ECE	130	Education Technology .....	1
ECE	162	Creative Curriculum for Preschool .....	1
ECE	164	Creative Curriculum for Infants/Toddlers .....	1
ECE	202	Math for Early Childhood .....	3
ECE	203	Emerging Literacy in Children .....	3
ECE	207	Creative Expression for Children .....	3
ECE	210	Early Childhood Administration .....	3
ECE	215	The First Three Years of Life .....	3
EDU	100	Introduction to American Aducation .....	3

#### **\* Level IV Infant/Toddler Credential**

**Must take ECE 215 The First Three Years of Life**

**ECE 164 Creative Curriculum for Infants/Toddlers**

**ECE 260 Internship must be done with Infants or Toddlers**

#### **\* Level I Illinois Director Credential**

**Must take ECE 210 Early Childhood Administration**

**ECE 130 Educational Technology**

**SPE 101 Principles of Public Speaking**

**ECE 260 Internship must be done twice and once with an Administrative role**

Notes: ECE 105 meets the Health and Physical Fitness general education requirement. Students must complete all ECE courses with a minimum grade of "C".