

EDUCATION WITH AN EMPHASIS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD (MA)

This program prepares educators to be professional decision-makers, reflective practitioners, and adaptive experts in the field of Early Childhood Education. It focuses on strategies and best practices rooted in theory and philosophy supported by research. Students in this program will interpret, evaluate, and apply research and connect theory to practice related to all areas of early childhood education.

Code	Title	Credits
ECE 522	Play: Theoretical Foundations and Applications	3
ECE 544	Language Development and Emergent Literacy	3
ECE 541	The Diverse Classroom	3
ECE 526	Curriculum and Instruction in Early Childhood Education	3
ECE 527	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Education	3
ED 521	Educational Research and Applications	3
ED 516	Family Systems for Educators	3
ED 582	Ethics for Educators	3
ECE 576	Methods, Advocacy, and Leadership in ECE	3
ED 590	Conducting Research and Completing the Capstone ¹	3
Total Credits		30

¹ ED 591 Thesis-Option Capstone (1 credit): Graduate level action research is included in this post-Capstone course for students that want this additional option, but is not required to complete the degree program.

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
ECE 522	Play: Theoretical Foundations and Applications	3
ECE 544	Language Development and Emergent Literacy	3
Second Semester		
ECE 541	The Diverse Classroom	3
ECE 526	Curriculum and Instruction in Early Childhood Education	3
Third Semester		
ECE 527	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Education	3
ED 521	Educational Research and Applications	3
Credits		18
Second Year		
First Semester		
ED 516	Family Systems for Educators	3

ED 582	Ethics for Educators	3
Second Semester		
ECE 576	Methods, Advocacy, and Leadership in ECE	3
ED 590	Conducting Research and Completing the Capstone	3
Third Semester		
ED 591	Completing Thesis-Option Capstone	1
Credits		13
Total Credits		31

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
ECE 522	Play: Theoretical Foundations and Applications	3
ECE 544	Language Development and Emergent Literacy	3
Second Semester		
ECE 541	The Diverse Classroom	3
ECE 526	Curriculum and Instruction in Early Childhood Education	3
Third Semester		
ECE 527	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Education	3
Credits		15
Total Credits		15