Early Childhood (ECE) Courses

ECE 2013. Introduction to Multicultural Early Childhood Education. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Examination of the history of Early Childhood Education, curriculum, and current issues with a special emphasis on culturally and linguistically diverse families and young children. Field experience required.

ECE 2123. Diversity in Early Childhood. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Study of diversity within early childhood contexts including culture, language, traditions, beliefs, family structure, socioeconomic background, ability, and national origin within the US and the world. (Same as BBL 2123. Credit cannot be earned for both ECE 2123 and BBL 2123).

ECE 3133. Programs and Policies in Early Childhood Education. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
This course is a survey of historical, philosophical, and sociocultural foundations of early childhood programs and policies. Students will examine past and current trends in early childhood education and their impact on early childhood practices and policies. A variety of early childhood programs-national and international, traditional and culturally responsive, federal and state-funded-will be examined. Early childhood policies and their impact on teachers and students will be discussed at length. Generally offered: Fall.

ECE 3143. Child Growth and Development. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Concurrent enrollment in ECE 3313 and ECE 3603 is required. Examination of child development theories (conception through elementary years) within different domains that affect children’s development and learning including, physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional. Emphasis on multicultural theoretical perspectives of child development addressing culturally and linguistically diverse populations and children with atypical patterns of development. Field experience required. (Formerly ECE 2103. Credit cannot be earned for both ECE 3143 and ECE 2103.) Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

ECE 3153. Movement, Music and Health in Early Childhood. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Emphasis on creative movement through the senses focusing on appropriate motor development skills (fine and gross). Examination of physical development to increase health awareness through culturally relevant music. Field experience required.

ECE 3313. Play, Creativity, and Learning. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Concurrent enrollment in ECE 3143 and ECE 3603 is required. A study of play theories as they relate to creativity, development, and learning. Will provide early childhood and elementary educators with knowledge and skills necessary to promote and guide children's play as a fundamental learning mechanism within culturally, linguistically, and cognitively diverse classrooms. Emphasis on effective strategies, equipment, materials, and activities that support and encourage children’s play and creativity at the early childhood and elementary grades. Field experience required. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

ECE 3603. Language and Literacy Acquisition. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Concurrent enrollment in ECE 3143 and ECE 3313 is required. Exploration of theories of first and second language development in young children with implications for the acquisition of early literacy concepts for all children. Examines ways that educators can enhance language and literacy development for first and second language learners. Introduces appropriate, research-based approaches to teach early reading and writing for culturally and linguistically diverse children. Field experience required. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

ECE 4103. Guidance of Young Children in Groups. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Study of effective strategies for guiding the social-emotional development and learning of children, including those with special needs, in group settings. Emphasis on classroom management and discipline methods; understanding human interactions and the cultural dynamics of groups; and guiding children in task involvement. Examination of strategies for facilitating cooperative activities and use of materials; the design of effective learning environments; conflict resolution techniques, and strategies for enhancing the inclusion of children with special needs in social and learning contexts. Field experience required. Generally offered: Spring.

ECE 4123. Family and Community Resources in Early Childhood. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Study of approaches to family, community, societal, cultural, and ideological support systems in children's growth, learning, and development. Emphasis on how these factors are related in the permissive-restrictive dimensions of child rearing and socialization in broad perspectives across environmental contexts. Examination of resources and systems to address the special needs of families with children who are “at risk” or have disabilities. Review of technological tools used to locate and compile information on community resources. Field experience required. Generally offered: Spring.

ECE 4143. Principles and Practices of Differentiated Education EC–6. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Admission to the Teacher Certification Program, completion of C&I 4353, C&I 4403, ECE 4203, and LTED 3823. Concurrent enrollment in C&I 4303 and LTED 4833 is required. May not be taken concurrently with C&I 4353, C&I 4403, ECE 4203, and LTED 3823. Study of cultural and responsive programming for linguistically diverse groups of children representing a wide range of abilities. Identification of theoretical perspectives and principles for differentiated education in early childhood and elementary. Emphasis on effective instructional planning, learning environments, and teaching practices to accommodate individuals in group settings. Field experiences may be required. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

ECE 4153. Culturally Appropriate Assessment for Infants and Young Children. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Selecting and employing culturally fair assessment and evaluation techniques that are reliable, valid, and developmentally appropriate for infants and young children. Includes the examination of strategies such as developmental checklists, parent interviews, play-based, portfolios, and informal observations for conducting assessment. Using assessment outcomes appropriately for instructional and curricular planning.
ECE 4203. Assessment and Evaluation in EC–6. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: ECE 3143, ECE 3603 and admission to Teacher Certification Program. Concurrent enrollment in C&I 4403 or C&I 4353 and LTED 3823 or LTED 3513 is recommended. Principles of designing and using assessment and evaluation techniques that are culturally fair, intellectually sound, reliable, dependable, and content-valid for first and second language learners. Examination of standardized, authentic, and performance-based assessments. Review of strategies for using assessment data to inform instructional planning for culturally and linguistically diverse children. Exploration of matching assessment techniques to individual children and learning situations. Field-based experiences required. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

ECE 4253. STEM in Early Childhood Contexts. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
This course focuses on the integration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in early childhood settings. Participants will examine the design of developmentally appropriate methodologies to engage young children in interdisciplinary learning in authentic settings.

ECE 4342. Internship in Multicultural Early Childhood Development I - Infants. (0-0) 2 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Completion of required courses in the major and the minor. Students engage in an internship experience where the focus is on the development and growth of infants. Emphasis is on experiences that benefit infants and families in different contexts. There is a study abroad option.

ECE 4412. Internship in Multicultural Early Childhood Development II - Toddlers. (0-0) 2 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Completion of required courses in the major and the minor. Students engage in an internship experience where the focus is on the development and growth of toddlers. Emphasis is on experiences that benefit toddlers and families in different contexts. There is a study abroad option.

ECE 4552. Internship in Multicultural Early Childhood Development III - Preschool. (0-0) 2 Credit Hours.
Students engage in an internship experience where the focus is on the development and growth of preschoolers. Emphasis is on experiences that benefit preschoolers and families in different contexts. There is a study abroad option.

ECE 4653. Leadership and Management of Early Childhood Settings. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
This course will focus on the leadership aspects related to sustaining high-quality Early Childhood Education programs. Developmentally Appropriate Practice and growth and development practices for young children will be explored. Special attention will be given to effective ECE practices in culturally and linguistically diverse settings.

ECE 4913. Independent Study. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Permission in writing (form available) from the instructor, the student's advisor, the Department Chair, and Dean of the College in which the course is offered. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/or writing under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree.