

Early Childhood Education

Program Number: 10-307-1

Associate in Applied Science Degree

Education Program Cluster

Center for Human and Protective Services

Program offered at Downtown Education Center, Madison

For information call: (608) 245-5888 or
(800) 322-6282 Ext. 5888

About the Program

The Early Childhood Education program prepares students to work as teacher-caregivers in early childhood settings. It combines hands-on fieldwork in area centers with related academic work at the college. Graduates become responsible for the care and education of children in the birth-to-six-years age range. They create and maintain safe and healthy play environments, guide behavior, plan and implement learning activities, and work cooperatively with staff and parents.

Success in the field depends on a caring attitude, showing respect for children and adults, flexibility, good judgment, dependability and effective communication skills.

Travel to fieldwork sites is necessary and is the student's responsibility. Public transportation is readily available. Some courses in the program involve preparation of learning materials, field trips, etc. that may involve additional expenses.

Unique Requirements for Admission

High school diploma with a GPA of 2.0 or GED or satisfactory completion of 12 college credits. In addition, prior to taking ECE: Practicum 1, students must show evidence of a physical examination including TB test and must complete a Background Information Disclosure and Criminal History Check (CHC) prior to placement in the Early Childhood Education Practicum courses. Information obtained from the CHC may affect the ability to secure a practicum placement. A COMPASS Reading score of 75 or higher, or an ASSET Reading score of 39 or higher, is required for all first semester Early Childhood Program courses.

Unique Requirements for Graduation

Students must achieve at least a 2.0 (C) grade in all program core courses and an overall 2.0 (C) grade point average.

Curriculum

FIRST YEAR

First Semester		Credits	Hrs/week Lec-Lab
10-307-148	ECE: Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3	3-0
10-307-151	ECE: Infant and Toddler Development	3	3-0
10-307-166	ECE: Curriculum Planning	3	2-2
10-307-167	ECE: Health, Safety, and Nutrition	3	3-0
10-307-174	ECE: Practicum 1	2	1.5-7
10-801-195	Written Communication OR	3	3-0
20-801-201	English 1*	(3)	(3-0)
Semester Total		17	

Second Semester

10-307-178	ECE: Art, Music, and Language Δ	3	2-2
10-307-179	ECE: Child Development Δ	3	3-0
10-307-188	ECE: Guiding Children's Behavior Δ	3	2-2
10-307-192	ECE: Practicum 2**	3	3-8
10-801-198	Speech OR	3	3-0
20-810-201	Fundamentals of Speech Composition*	(3)	(3-0)
10-809-172	Race, Ethnic & Diversity Studies OR	3	3-0
20-809-217	Race, Class and Gender*	(3)	(3-0)
Semester Total		18	

SECOND YEAR

First Semester

10-307-194	ECE: Math, Science, and Social Studies Δ	3	2-2
10-307-195	ECE: Family and Community Relations Δ	3	3-0
10-307-197	ECE: Practicum 3**	3	1.5-10.5
10-801-197	Technical Reporting OR	3	3-0
20-801-202	English 2*	(3)	(3-0)
10-809-199	Psychology of Human Relations OR	3	3-0
20-809-231	Introduction to Psychology*	(3)	(3-0)
Semester Total		15	

Second Semester

10-307-187	ECE: Children with Differing Abilities Δ	3	3-0
10-307-198	ECE: Administering an Early Childhood Program Δ	3	3-0
10-307-199	ECE: Practicum 4**	3	1.5-10.5
10-804-123	Math with Business Applications OR	3	3-0
20-804-201	Intermediate Algebra*	(3)	(3-0)
10-809-197	Contemporary American Society	3	3-0
20-809-203	Introduction to Sociology*	(3)	(3-0)
	<u>Elective</u>	3	E
Semester Total		18	

* College transfer equivalent courses.

** Prerequisites required. Consult faculty.

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Note: Students are placed in English or mathematics courses based on their scores on the COMPASS or ASSET test or on completion of the appropriate prerequisite/s. A COMPASS Reading score of 75 or higher, or an ASSET Reading score of 39 or higher, is required for all first semester Early Childhood Program courses.

NOTE: Early Childhood Education courses are usually offered one semester per year as indicated above. Students interested in a part-time schedule should consult the Program Director prior to registration.



Program Courses

10-307-148 ECE: Foundations of Early Childhood Education 3 credits

This course introduces you to the early childhood profession. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; investigate the history of early childhood education; summarize types of early childhood education settings; identify the components of a quality early childhood education program; summarize responsibilities of early childhood education professionals; explore early childhood curriculum models.

10-307-151 ECE: Infant and Toddler Development 3 credits

In this course you will study infant and toddler development as it applies to an early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: analyze development of infants and toddlers (conception to three years); correlate prenatal conditions with development; summarize child development theories; analyze the role of heredity and the environment; examine research-based models; examine culturally and developmentally appropriate environments for infants and toddlers.

10-307-166 ECE: Curriculum Planning 3 credits

This course examines the components of curriculum planning in early childhood education. Course competencies include: examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment; examine care giving routines as curriculum; develop activity plans and unit plans that promote child development and learning; analyze early childhood curriculum models.

10-307-167 ECE: Health, Safety, and Nutrition 3 credits

This course examines the topics of health, safety and nutrition within the context of the early childhood educational setting. Course competencies include: follow governmental regulations and professional standards as they apply to health, safety and nutrition; provide a safe, healthy, and nutritionally sound early childhood program; adhere to child abuse and neglect mandates; apply Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) risk reduction strategies; incorporate health, safety and nutrition concepts into the children's curriculum.

10-307-174 ECE: Practicum 1 2 credits

In this practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual childcare setting. This first of four training experiences develops skill in interacting with children and staff. MATC faculty help students through periodic observation and conferences. In addition, there is a weekly discussion which focuses on what students are observing and learning in their practicum sites and on developing skills as team members.

10-307-178 ECE: Art, Music and Language 3 credits

This course will focus on beginning level curriculum development in the specific content areas of art, music and language arts. Course competencies include: examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; analyze care giving routines as curriculum; create developmentally appropriate language, literature and literacy activities; create developmentally appropriate art, music, and movement activities. Recommended prerequisite: 10-307-166.

10-307-179 ECE: Child Development 3 credits

The course examines child development within the context of the early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: analyze social, cultural and economic influences on child development; summarize child development theories; analyze development of children age three through age eight; summarize the methods and designs of child development research; analyze the role of heredity and the environment. Recommended prerequisite: 10-307-151.

10-307-187 ECE: Children with Differing Abilities 3 credits

This course focuses on the child with differing abilities in an early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: provide inclusive programs for young children; apply legal and ethical requirements including, but not limited to, ADA and IDEA; differentiate between typical and exceptional development; analyze the differing abilities of children with physical, cognitive, health/medical, communication, and/or behavioral/emotional disorders; work collaboratively with community and professional resources; utilize an individual educational plan (IEP/IFSP) for children with developmental differences; adapt curriculum to meet the needs of children with developmental differences; cultivate partnerships with families who have children with developmental differences. Recommended prerequisites: 10-307-151 and 10-307-179.

10-307-188 ECE: Guiding Children's Behavior 3 credits

This course examines positive strategies to guide children's behavior in the early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: summarize early childhood guidance principles; analyze factors that affect the behavior of children; practice positive guidance strategies; develop guidance strategies to meet individual needs; create a guidance philosophy. Recommended prerequisite: 10-307-151.

10-307-192 ECE: Practicum 2 3 credits

In this second training experience, students apply the knowledge and skills acquired in Practicum 1 and related class work under the supervision of MATC faculty and teacher-caregivers at centers. Planning and implementing activities are included and conferences are scheduled to help students. Prerequisite: 10-307-174.

10-307-194 ECE: Math, Science and Social Studies 3 credits

This course will focus on beginning level curriculum development in the specific content areas of math, science and social studies. Course competencies include: examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; create developmentally appropriate math, science and social studies activities. Recommended prerequisite: 10-307-166.

10-307-195 ECE: Family and Community Relations 3 credits

In this course you will examine the role of relationships with family and community in early childhood education. Course competencies include: analyze contemporary family patterns, trends and relationships; utilize effective communication strategies; establish ongoing relationships with families; advocate for children and families; work collaboratively with community resources. Recommended prerequisite: 10-307-188.

10-307-197 ECE: Practicum 3 3 credits

In this third training experience, students continue to develop teacher-caregiver skills. One week of head teaching is required. Prerequisites: 10-307-174 and 10-307-192.

10-307-198 ECE: Administering an Early Childhood Education Program 3 credits

This course focuses on the administration of an early childhood education program. Course competencies include: analyze the components of an ECE facility; design an ECE program; analyze the aspects of personnel supervision; outline financial components of an ECE program; apply laws and regulations related to an ECE facility; advocate for the early childhood profession. Recommended prerequisite: 10-307-192.

10-307-199 ECE: Practicum 4 3 credits

This final training experience includes two weeks of head teaching, stresses staff-parent communication and may be designed to coordinate with student's choices of career specializations. Prerequisites: 10-307-174, 10-307-192 and 10-307-197.

Career Potential:

- **Child Care Teachers**
Work in full-day and part-day childcare programs, nursery schools and Head Start programs.
- **Child Care Assistant Teachers**
Work under the supervision of a child care teacher.
- **Family Child Care Providers**
Care for eight children or less in provider's home.
- **Infant or Toddler Caregivers**
Care for children under two years of age.
- **In-home Providers/Nannies**
Provide care in the child's home.
- **Early Childhood Special Needs/Educational Assistants**
Work in public school early childhood programs, and public school four-year-olds' programs.
- **Directors/Administrators**
Are responsible for managing day care centers and planning and implementing program.

More detailed and updated information on this program may be available at: matcmadison.edu. The college reserves the right to make changes in the regulations and courses announced in this publication without notice.

Madison Area Technical College provides equal opportunity in education and employment.

Rev: 05/09