

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Associate in Applied Science A.A.S.: Option 2: Early Childhood Education Degree - Teacher

The 60 credit-hour curriculum is designed to provide students with the requisite skills and theoretical knowledge to work in a variety of facilities for young children. Upon completion of courses for the specialized area of teacher, students need to complete an IL Gateways application to qualify for the Illinois ECE Credential Level 4 and Illinois Infant/Toddler Credential Level 4.

This sequenced degree plan is one of two options that students may pursue to earn the Early Childhood Education Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree. While there are multiple specializations, **this particular degree can be awarded only once.**

F = Fall only course S = Spring only course U = Summer only course

FIRST SEMESTER:

| Number | Course Title | Credits | Course Category |
|---------|---|---------|-----------------------|
| ECE 101 | Introduction to Early Childhood Education | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ECE 102 | Child Development | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ECE 115 | Principles of Early Childhood Curriculum | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ENG 101 | Composition | 3 | AAS General Education |
| | Mathematics ¹ | 3 | AAS General Education |

SECOND SEMESTER:

| Number | Course Title | Credits | Course Category |
|---------|--|---------|-----------------------|
| ECE 111 | Infant/Toddler Programs | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ECE 226 | Assessment and Guidance | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ECE 250 | Health, Nutrition and Safety | 3 | Program Requirement |
| EDU 219 | Students With Disabilities in School | 3 | Program Requirement |
| PSY 101 | Introduction to Psychology | 3 | AAS General Education |

THIRD SEMESTER:

| Number | Course Title | Credits | Course Category |
|---------|---|---------|-----------------------|
| ECE 209 | Language Development and Activities for the Young Child (F) ... | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ECE 210 | Creative Activities for Young Children (F) | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ECE 291 | Early Childhood Practicum I | 3 | Program Requirement |
| EDU 220 | Diversity in Schools and Society* | 3 | AAS General Education |
| SPE 101 | Fundamentals of Speech Communication | 3 | AAS General Education |

FOURTH SEMESTER:

| Number | Course Title | Credits | Course Category |
|---------|---|---------|---------------------|
| | AAS General Education elective ² | 3 | |
| ECE 221 | Math and Science for the Young Child (S) | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ECE 252 | Child-Family-Community | 3 | Program Requirement |
| ECE 292 | Early Childhood Practicum II | 3 | Program Requirement |
| | ECE elective ³ | 3 | Program Requirement |

¹ The mathematics requirement for this degree (MTH 065) can be met with Math Competency. See [Math Competency options](#) for information. Students who utilize Math Competency to meet the mathematics requirement must complete an additional three credit-hour AAS General Education elective. See full list of [AAS General Education Electives](#).

⁺ This course meets the World Culture and Diversity graduation requirement.

² See full list of [AAS General Education Electives](#).

³ ECE elective: Any ECE course.