

Early Childhood Education

Associate in Applied Science Degree (AAS)

Accelerated Format: Four Quarters and Six-Week summer session

Overview

As the demand for well-trained, qualified child care providers grows, the need for early childhood teachers becomes more important. In the Early Childhood Education program, you will learn of the physical, emotional, intellectual and social development of children. You will work with teachers in early childhood educational settings. This program will help you learn to recognize typical patterns of growth for children and develop creative and stimulating activities for them.

You will learn and practice skills that will help you become employable as a child care teacher in group and family child care centers and nursery schools, or as a teacher aide in public or private kindergartens,

special education classes and primary classrooms. You may also find opportunities as a Head Start teacher or as an in-home child care provider (nanny).

Beginning with the second quarter, students will combine classroom learning experiences with eight or more hours per week of practical experience in local early childhood centers working with children from infancy through school age.

The Early Childhood Education program is offered at the Wisconsin Rapids campus.



Program Outcomes

Employers will expect you, as an Early Childhood Education graduate, to be able to:

- Advocate for children, families and the profession
- Apply child development theory to practice
- Demonstrate professional and ethical standards
- Implement developmentally appropriate curriculum
- Incorporate developmentally appropriate guidance strategies
- Integrate health, safety and nutrition practices according to local, state and national standards
- Observe, record and assess child growth and development
- Provide a respectful, diverse and inclusive program
- Use interpersonal skills to develop respectful relationships with children and adults

Career Options

Child Care Center Teacher
Family Day Care Provider
Head Start Teacher
In-Home Child Care Specialist (Nanny)
Teacher Aide-Elementary School
Teacher Aide-Exceptional Education Program
Teacher or Teacher Aide-Nursery School Program

Potential for Advancement

Enroll in a University or College Program to become a DPI Certified Teacher
Child Care Center Administrator
Child Care Center Owner

Potential advancement generally requires further education. Credit transfer opportunities for graduates of Wisconsin Technical College System Early Childhood Education associate degree programs are available through several public and private baccalaureate institutions in Wisconsin.

Admissions Procedures

To apply to the Early Childhood Education program, please submit the following to MSTC Student Affairs Admissions Office:

1. WTCS application form and \$30 non-refundable application fee
2. Completed Accuplacer test. (Other test scores may be acceptable alternatives.) Entrance exam requirements for the Early Childhood Education program are:
 - Reading–Accuplacer score of 70 or equivalent
 - Language–Accuplacer score of 74 or equivalent
 - Math–Accuplacer score of 79 or equivalent

If a student does not meet the required scores in these academic areas, he/she may remediate and retest or complete an identified structured remediation course(s) in the Academic Support Center.

3. A criminal background check through the Wisconsin Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Family Services must show no record of crimes that would prevent persons from being employed in an early childhood setting licensed by the Department of Health and Family Services.
4. Completed Background Information Disclosure (BID) form
5. High school transcript or GED/HSED scores

Mid-State Technical College
Admissions
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
mstc.edu
888.575.MSTC

Program Course Descriptions

10307148

Foundations of Early Childhood Education

3 credits

This 3-credit 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.

10307151

Infant & Toddler Development

3 credits

In this 3-credit course you will study infant and toddler development as it applies to an early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; 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.

10307166

Curriculum Planning

3 credits

This 3-credit course examines the components of curriculum planning in early childhood education. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment; examine caregiving routines as curriculum; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; develop unit plans that promote child development and learning; analyze early childhood curriculum models. Prerequisites: Art, Music & Language Arts 10307178; Math, Science & Social Studies 10307194; Infant & Toddler Development 10307188; Child Development 10307179; and Guiding Children's Behavior 10307188 or consent of instructor or associate dean

10307167

Health, Safety & Nutrition

3 credits

This 3-credit course examines the topics of health, safety and nutrition within the context of the early childhood educational setting. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; follow governmental regulations and professional standards as they apply to health, safety and nutrition; provide a safe early childhood program; provide a healthy early childhood program; provide a 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.

10307174

Practicum 1

2 credits

In this 2-credit practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. The course competencies include: document children's behavior; explore the standards for quality early childhood education; explore strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; implement activities developed by the co-op teacher/instructor; demonstrate professional behaviors; practice caregiving routines as curriculum; practice positive interpersonal skills with children; practice positive interpersonal skills with adults. There is no remuneration for students enrolled in this course. Prerequisite: Foundations of Early Childhood Education 10307148 or consent of instructor or associate dean

10307178

Art, Music & Language Arts

3 credits

This 3-credit course will focus on beginning level curriculum development in the specific content areas of art, music and language arts. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; analyze caregiving routines as curriculum; create developmentally appropriate language, literature and literacy activities; create developmentally appropriate art activities; create developmentally appropriate music and movement activities.

10307179

Child Development

3 credits

The 3-credit 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. Prerequisite: Infant & Toddler Development 10307151 or consent of instructor or associate dean

Curriculum

First Quarter

(15 Credits)

10307148	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
10307151	Infant & Toddler Development	3
10307167	Health, Safety & Nutrition	3
10801195	Written Communication	3
10801198	Speech	3

Second Quarter

(14 Credits)

10307174	Practicum 1	2
10307178	Art, Music & Language Arts	3
10307179	Child Development	3
10809172	Race, Ethnic & Diversity Studies Elective	3

Third Quarter

(15 Credits)

10307188	Guiding Children's Behavior	3
10307192	Practicum 2	3
10307194	Math, Science & Social Studies	3
10804106	Intro to College Math	3
10809144	Macroeconomics	3

Fourth Quarter

(15 Credits)

10307166	Curriculum Planning	3
10307187	Children with Differing Abilities	3
10307197	Practicum 3	3
10809196	Intro to Sociology	3
10809198	Intro to Psychology	3

Fifth Quarter

(9 Credits)

10307195	Family & Community Relationships	3
10307198	Administering an Early Childhood Education Program	3
10307199	Practicum 4	3

Total Credits

68

Please Note:

- The Early Childhood Education program has an August starting date. However, we advise you to meet with a counselor to successfully plan your academic schedule.
- For General Education course descriptions (800 level courses), see section marked under Course Descriptions.

Early Childhood Education (Continued)

10307187

Children with Differing Abilities 3 credits

This 3-credit course focuses on the child with differing abilities in an early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; 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.

10307188

Guiding Children's Behavior 3 credits

This 3-credit course examines positive strategies to guide children's behavior in the early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; 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.

10307192

Practicum 2 3 credits

In this 3-credit practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. The course competencies include: identify children's growth and development; maintain the standards for quality early childhood education; practice strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; implement student teacher-developed activity plans; identify the elements of a developmentally appropriate environment; implement positive guidance strategies; demonstrate professional behaviors; utilize caregiving routines as curriculum; utilize positive interpersonal skills with children; utilize positive interpersonal skills with adults. There is no remuneration for students enrolled in this course. Prerequisite: Practicum 1 10307174 or consent of instructor or associate dean

10307194

Math, Science & Social Studies 3 credits

This 3-credit course will focus on beginning level curriculum development in the specific content areas of math, science and social studies. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; create developmentally appropriate science activities; create developmentally appropriate math activities; create developmentally appropriate social studies activities. Prerequisite: Art, Music & Language Arts 10307178 or consent of instructor or associate dean

10307195

Family & Community Relationships 3 credits

In this 3-credit course you will examine the role of relationships with family and community in early childhood education. Course competencies include: implement strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives when working with families and community; 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.

10307197

Practicum 3 3 credits

In this 3-credit practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. The course competencies include: assess children's growth and development; implement the standards for quality early childhood education; integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; build meaningful curriculum; provide a developmentally appropriate environment; facilitate positive guidance strategies; evaluate one's own professional behaviors and practices; lead caregiving routines as curriculum; utilize positive interpersonal skills with children; utilize positive interpersonal skills with adults. There is no remuneration for students enrolled in this course. Prerequisite: Practicum 2 10307192 or consent of instructor or associate dean

10307198

Administering an Early Childhood Education Program 3 credits

This 3-credit course focuses on the administration of an early childhood education program. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; 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.

10307199

Practicum 4 3 credits

In this 3-credit practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. Course competencies include: analyze children's growth and development based on assessment; integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; promote professional behaviors and practices; implement meaningful curriculum; create respectful, reciprocal relationships; evaluate early childhood education programs for quality; explore professional options in early childhood education. There is no remuneration for students enrolled in this course. Prerequisite: Practicum 3 10307197 or consent of instructor or associate dean