

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



Program Code 10-307-1
Expected Program Costs: \$10,300
Median Annual Salary: 21,000

Accelerated Format: Four terms of eight-nine weeks each and six-week summer term.

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 specialist (nanny).

Beginning with the second term, students will combine classroom learning experiences with 16 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:

- Apply child development theory to practice
- Cultivate relationships with children, family and the community
- Assess child growth and development
- Use best practices in teaching and learning
- Demonstrate professionalism
- Integrate health, safety and nutrition practices

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 bachelor's degree program to become a DPI Certified Teacher
Child Care Center Administrator
Child Care Center Owner

Potential advancement generally requires further education.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

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

1. Complete an MSTC application form online available at www.mstc.edu/earlychildhoodeducation or request an application from any MSTC campus and submit it with the \$30 non-refundable application fee.
2. Complete the Accuplacer or ACT test. Minimum scores required:
 - Reading-Accuplacer score of 55
 - Sentence Skills-Accuplacer score of 60
 - Math-Accuplacer score of 34
 - ACT equivalents for above scores are acceptable.

If a student does not meet the required test scores, they may retest or complete an identified structured course(s) in the Academic Support Center.

- Written Communication, courses in mathematics and some science courses have placement requirements. Please refer to the course description section in the back of the catalog, listed under General Education, for course specific information.

3. Submit an official copy of all academic transcripts, including high school, college or university and HSED/GED.
4. Complete a Background Information Disclosure (BID) Form. The Wisconsin Caregiver Law requires a background check. This form is available at www.mstc.edu/earlychildhoodeducation/apply.htm

**Mid-State Technical College
Admissions
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494**

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENT

The following requirement must be met in order to progress to the Early Childhood Education 10307174 Practicum 1 course:

A Criminal Background Check (CBC) through the Wisconsin Department of Justice and Wisconsin Department of Health Services/Department of Children and Families/Bureau of Regulation and Licensing must show no record of crimes that would prevent persons from being employed in an early childhood setting licensed by the Department of Health Services/Department of Children and Families/Bureau of Regulation and Licensing. The CBC will be processed by the Early Childhood Education program coordinator prior to student registration for the Practicum 1 course. A current list of crimes prohibiting one from being licensed to care for children in Wisconsin can be found at http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/pdf/2009_06_crimes_list.pdf.

Check prerequisites in the 10307174 Practicum 1 course description to access the complete list of progression requirements for the course. Satisfactory completion of all prerequisites is required for practicum participation and program completion.

PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

10307148 // 3 credits Foundations of Early Childhood Education

This 3-credit course introduces you to the early childhood profession. Course competencies include: integrate of 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, and analyze the principles of the WI Model Early Learning Standards.

10307151 // 3 credits

Infant & Toddler Development

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 culturally and developmentally appropriate environments for infants and toddlers, examine the role of brain development in early learning (conception through age three); examine caregiving routines as curriculum.

10307166 // 3 credits

Curriculum Planning

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; integrate Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) into curriculum; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; develop curriculum plans that promote child development and learning across all content areas; analyze early childhood curriculum models.

Prerequisites: Art, Music & Language Arts 10307178; Math, Science & Social Studies 10307194; Infant & Toddler Development 10307188; Child Development 10307179; Guiding Children's Behavior 10307188 or consent of instructor or associate dean

CURRICULUM

Term (18 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
10809172	Race, Ethnic & Diversity Studies	3

Term (12 credits)

10307174	Practicum 1	3
10307178	Art Music & Language Arts	3
10307179	Child Development Elective	3

Term (15 credits)

10307187	Children with Differing Abilities	3
10307188	Guiding Children's Behavior	3
10307192	Practicum 2	3
10806112	Principles of Sustainability	3
10809144	Macroeconomics	3

Term (15 credits)

10307166	Curriculum Planning	3
10307194	Math Science & Social Studies	3
10307197	Practicum 3	3
10809196	Intro to Sociology	3
10809198	Intro to Psychology	3

Term (9 credits)

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

Total Credits 69

Please Note:

- The Early Childhood Education program has an August start date. We advise you to meet with an academic advisor or counselor to successfully plan your academic schedule.
- This curriculum sequence is only for student planning. Actual student schedules will vary depending on course availability.
- Degree completion time may vary based on student scheduling and course availability.
- For General Education course descriptions (800 level), see section marked under Course Descriptions.

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10307167 // 3 credits

Health, Safety & Nutrition

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 // 3 credits

Practicum 1

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: 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 and adults; analyze the guiding principles and the five developmental domains related to the WI Early Learning Standards; integrate the WI Early Learning Standards into the program's teaching cycle (ongoing assessment, planning and curriculum goals, and implementation); evaluate learning and assessment activities using the early learning standards for each individual child.

Prerequisite: Admission to Early Childhood Education Program 103071; ECE: Foundations of ECE 10307148 or consent of instructor or associate dean; Accuplacer Reading score of 70 or higher or Intro to Reading and Study Skills 10836105 with a C or better; Accuplacer Sentence Skills score of 85 or higher or Written Communication 10801195 with a C or better and Criminal Background Check (CBC) refer to the Early Childhood Education admission process under Progression Requirement

10307178 // 3 credits

Art Music & Language Arts

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 for art, music, and language arts; 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 // 3 credits

Child Development

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; examine the role of brain development in early learning (ages 3-8).

Prerequisite: Infant & Toddler Development 10307151 or consent of instructor or associate dean

10307187 // 3 credits

Children with Differing Abilities

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; work collaboratively through the consultation process to embed intervention in natural based settings; 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 // 3 credits

Guiding Children's Behavior

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.

Prerequisite: Child Development 10307179 or consent of instructor or associate dean

10307192 // 3 credits

Practicum 2

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 // 3 credits

Math Science & Social Studies

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 for math, science, and social studies; 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 // 3 credits

Family & Community Relationships

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 // 3 credits

Practicum 3

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 // 3 credits

Administering an Early Childhood Education Program

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 // 3 credits

Practicum 4

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; develop a career plan for your transition from student to professional.

Prerequisite: Practicum 3 10307197 or consent of instructor or associate dean