EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Degree Program
This program leads to the LEVEL 5 certification in Early Childhood Education and is designed to prepare master teachers to work with children in Pre K-5. This program also provides knowledge and skills for teachers to serve in leadership roles in curriculum development supervision and research in the field of Early Childhood Education.

Area A - Nature of Learners and Learning Problems 3 hrs
- ECEC 5500 Early Childhood Development
- EDUC 5554 Psychology of Teacher
- EDUC 5563 Methods of Child Study
- PSYC 5515 Educational Psychology
- PSYC 5520 Developmental Psychology
- PSYC 5552 Conditions of Learning
- PSYC 5555 Theories of Learning

Area B - Programs and Problems of the School 3 hrs
- EDUC 5504 History of American Education
- EDUC 5509 Philosophy of Education
- EDUC 5510 Sociology of Education
- EDUC 5555 Clinical Approach to Classroom Analysis
- ECEC 5518 Issues in Early Childhood Education
- EDAS 6648 Economics in Education

Area C - Teaching Field 18 hrs
- ECEC 5509 Theories, Design and Program Development in Early Childhood Education
- ECEC 5512 Cultural Diversity in Early Childhood Education
- ECEC 5520 Language Development for Young Children
- ECEC 5525 Math Experiences for Young Children*
- ECEC 5527 Science Experiences for Young Children*
- ECEC 5530 Communicative Arts in Early Childhood Education
- ECEC 5535 Reading in Early Childhood Education*
- ECEC 5545 Infant Education
- ECEC 5550 Social Studies in Early Childhood Education*
- ECEC 5555 Creative Physical Experiences in Early Childhood Education
- ECEC 5560 Counseling in Early Childhood Education
- ECEC 5565 Diagnosis and Remediation
- ECEC 5570 Theories of Play
- ECEC 5575 Parent Involvement in the Early Childhood Education
- ECEC 5580 Tests and Measurements in Early Childhood Education
- ECEC 5581 Evaluation of Research in Early Childhood Education
- MATH 5202 Technology - Oriented Mathematics
- SECD 5500 Fundamental and Theories Practicums
- SPED 5512 Characteristics of Children and Youth with Mild Learning, Intellectual, and/or Behavioral Problems.
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ECEC 5500 — Early Childhood Development ........................................................................ 3(3-2)
Advanced course in the physical, emotional, social and intellectual development of infants and young children through nine years of age and in observations of children in this age period for the purpose of applying principles and plotting developmental changes. Observation-laboratory experiences will be included to reflect on those observations.

ECEC 5509 — Theories, Design, and Program Development in Early Childhood Education .............................................................. 3(3-0)
Provides for the analysis and evaluation of the needs of both student and teacher in differential learning environments in the preschool primary grades in early childhood education. Curricula design will address varied philosophies, theories, and methods of teaching and supporting auxiliaries.

ECEC 5512 — Cultural Diversity in Early Childhood Education ...................................................... 3(3-2)
Educational programs for young children with varied cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Opportunities will be provided for analysis and evaluation of these programs through selected field experiences and action research.

ECEC 5518 — Issues in Early Childhood Education ........................................................................ 3(3-0)
This course will focus on current research trends and issues, historical, philosophical and sociological influences that have shaped early childhood education. Controversial issues and alternative approaches to solve problems will be investigated.

ECEC 5520 — Language Development of Young Children .............................................................. 3(3-0)
Focuses on the study of the nature of language development and processing from infancy to nine. Attention will also be given to the relationship between stages of cognitive development and the acquisition of speech-sound categorization with emphasis on the environmental and individual factors acting to influence that language.

ECEC 5525 — Mathematical Experiences for Young Children ...................................................... 3(3-0)
Theoretical viewpoints which have affected the teaching of pre-mathematical and math concepts will be examined. Innovative mathematics projects and programs will be reviewed. Laboratory experiences to be arranged.

ECEC 5527 — Science Experiences for Young Children .............................................................. 3(3-0)
Theoretical viewpoints, which have affected the teaching of science concepts, will be reviewed. Curriculum, method, materials and technologies will be analyzed and evaluated in view of current research and practices.
ECEC 5530 — Communicative Arts in Early Childhood Education ........................................ 3(3-0)

Considers the role of oral and written language in a child's life (birth-nine). A critical examination will be made of the inter-relatedness of the speaking, listening, reading and writing behaviors of children.

ECEC 5535 — Reading in Early Childhood Education .......................................................... 3(3-0)

Focuses on the teacher’s task in early childhood. Special attention to current approaches and such aspects as introduction to language symbols in the pre-school and the first grade, readiness, motivation and individual differences. The course includes relevant theory and practical applications of basic skills. Students will work with materials and techniques on various levels.

ECEC 5545 — Infant Education .............................................................................................. 3(3-0)

Theories and research in infant education. Emphasis will be placed on development during the first three years with intensive observation of prenatal and postnatal development. Observation and participation with infants required. Prerequisites: Advanced child growth and development.

ECEC 5555 — Creative Experiences in Early Childhood Education ....................................... 3(3-2)

Emphasizes a team teaching approach to the study of the creative process by use of selected topics of creative experiences in the living and learning of children. Emphasis is also on the philosophy, techniques and problems of providing creative experiences for young children. Field laboratory experiences will be provided.

ECEC 5560 — Counseling in Early Childhood Education ...................................................... 3(3-2)

Addresses a dual emphasis on understanding the theoretical basis of counseling and on learning skills involved in helping relationships with young children. Selected reading in counseling theory and practices will be discussed. As part of the skill-building process, students will tape counseling sessions for presentation in class.

ECEC 5565 — Diagnosis and Remediation ............................................................................ 3(3-2)

Focuses on basic concepts in identifying and correcting student difficulties in the areas of math and reading. Techniques and procedures will be presented and practiced through actual tutoring of young children. Laboratory experiences are required and will be arranged.

ECEC 5570 — Theories of Play ............................................................................................... 3(3-2)

Analyzes the role of play in the cognitive, affective and social development of children’s play and creativity. Emphasis is on the increased understanding of the personal and educational significance of children’s behavior at play. Field observation and analysis is required.

ECEC 5575 — Parent Involvement in the Early Years ............................................................ 3(3-0)

A careful investigation of strategies to involve parents in varied early childhood programs. Emphasizes exploring the theoretical and practical issues associated with parental participation in early childhood education.

ECEC 5580 — Tests and Measurements in Early Childhood Education .............................. 3(3-0)

Provides an introduction and analysis of major assessment instruments in the early childhood curriculum. Active involvement in constructing valid diagnostic teacher-made assessment tools will be required.

ECEC 5581 — Evaluation of Research in Early Childhood Education ..................................... 3(3-0)

Examines significant recent research in early childhood to enable students to gain an understanding of the conceptual and methodological basis of research. Students will be expected to gain competence in the analysis and interpretation of research. Prerequisite: ECEC 5580