

Early Childhood Education

68-credit Associate of Applied Science Degree

About the Program

Through a combination of class work and practical experience in early child settings, students will gain an understanding of the principles of early childhood education. Child development, child behavior, developmentally-appropriate practices, and strategies for working with parents will also be covered.

Potential Job Titles

- Assistant Director
- Teacher Assistant
- Before-after School Teacher
- Child Care Administrator
- Early Childhood Teacher
- Preschool Teacher
- Kindergarten Aide

Credit Transfer

Credits earned in the Early Childhood program may be transferable to institutions offering baccalaureate degrees. Visit www.wctc.edu/transfer for specific information. Since the details of credit transfers change from time to time, be sure to contact the intended college or university to verify credit transferability.

Admission Process

- Fill out a WCTC application
- Send \$30 non-refundable application fee
- Send high school transcript or GED/HSED
- Send any previous college transcripts
- Complete Skills Assessment test (COMPASS)
- Begin pursuing Financial Aid options
- Requires a physical examination prior to field placement co-op courses
- Prior to acceptance into a field placement co-op course, the Department of Health and Family Services requires a caregiver background check.
- Transcribed credit agreements are in effect with several Waukesha County high schools

For more information, call 262.691.5200.

Required Courses	Credits
First Semester	
307-148 Foundation of Early Child Ed	3
307-151 Infant & Toddler Development	3
307-166 Curriculum Planning	3
307-167 Health, Safety & Nutrition	3
307-174 Practicum 1	2
801-195 Written Communication	3+
Total semester credits	17
Second Semester	
307-178 Art, Music & Language Arts	3
307-179 Child Development	3
307-188 Guiding Child Behavior	3
307-192 Practicum 2	3
801-196 Oral/Interpersonal Communication	3+
804-123 Math with Business Applications	3+
Total semester credits	18
Third Semester	
307-187 Children with Differing Abilities	3
307-194 Math, Science & Social Studies	3
307-195 Family & Community Relationships	3
307-197 Practicum 3	3
809-195 Economics	3+
809-198 Introduction to Psychology	3+
Total semester credits	18
Fourth Semester	
307-198 Admin an ECE Program	3
307-199 Practicum 4	3
809-172 Race, Ethnic & Diversity	3
809-196 Introduction to Sociology	3+
Elective	3
Total semester credits	15
+ Proficiency exam available	
<i>A grade point of 2.0 (C) or better is required in all core courses to complete the program. Curriculum is current as of catalog printing. The most current curriculum requirements for graduation will be provided upon admission to program, or review at www.wctc.edu.</i>	

Early Childhood Education Required Courses

307-148 Foundations of ECE 3
An introduction to the early childhood profession, competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; investigate history of early childhood education; summarize types of early childhood education settings; identify components of a quality early childhood education program; summarize responsibilities of early childhood education professionals; explore early childhood curriculum models.

307-151 Infant & Toddler Dev 3
An introduction to the development, care and educations of children from birth to age two and one-half. It includes the principles of caregiving, developmentally appropriate practices, diversity issues, curriculum, guidance, observation and

assessment. Both typical and atypical development is examined.

307-166 Curriculum Planning 3
Examine 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.

307-167 Hlth Safety & Nutrition 3
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 government

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.			
307-174 Practicum 1	2	Learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. 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. Prerequisites: 307-167 ECE: Hlth Safety & Nutrition (or concurrent) or 307-133 Child Health Safety Nutrition (or concurrent); and 307-151 ECE: Infant & Toddler Dev (or concurrent) or 307-132 Infant/Toddler Growth Dev (or concurrent); and 307-166 ECE: Curriculum Planning (or concurrent) or 307-127 Administration and Supervision (or concurrent); and 307-148 ECE: Foundations of ECE (or concurrent) or 307-127 Administration and Supervision	
307-178 Art Music & Lang Arts	3	Focus is on beginning level curriculum development in the specific content areas of art, music and language arts. 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 art, music and movement, language, literature and literacy activities.	
307-179 Child Development	3	Examine 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 eight; summarize the methods and designs of child development research; analyze the role of heredity and the environment.	
307-187 Children w Diff Abilities	3	Focus on child with differing abilities in early childhood educational setting. 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; use an individual educational plan (iep/ifsp) for children with developmental differences; adapt curriculum to meet needs of children with differences; cultivate partnerships with families who have children with developmental differences.	
307-188 Guiding Child Behavior	3	Examine 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. Prerequisites: 801-195 Written Communication	
307-192 Practicum 2		Learn and apply competencies such as: 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 and adults. Prerequisites: 307-137 Child Care Co-Op I or 307-174 ECE: Practicum 1; and 307-188 ECE: Guiding Child Behavior (or concurrent)	3
307-194 Math Science & Soc St	3	Focus is on beginning level curriculum development in the specific content areas of math, science and social studies. 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 math, science and social studies activities.	
307-195 Family & Community Rel	3	Examine the role of relationships with family and community in early childhood education. 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.	
307-197 Practicum 3	3	Learn and apply competencies in an actual child care setting such as: 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 and adults. Prerequisites: 307-192 ECE: Practicum 2 or 307-140 Child Care Co-Op II	
307-198 Admin an ECE Program	3	Focus is on administration of an early childhood education program. 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. Prerequisites: 307-197 ECE: Practicum 3 or 307-156 Early Childhood Co-Op III	
307-199 Practicum 4	3	Integrate the theory, practice and reflection of the above courses and requires a supervised demonstration of best practices within an infant toddler setting. Prerequisites: 307-197 ECE: Practicum 3 or 307-156 Early Childhood Co-Op III	
801-195 Written Communication	3	Study and practice the transfer of information, ideas, and experiences in written form through reports, letters, memoranda, and other documents. Gain proficiency in the areas of organization, clarity, accuracy, and directness. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Writing Skills or ACT-English or ASSET-Writing Skills or Accuplacer Sentence Skills or TABE Advanced Language or 831-103 Intro to College Writing or 851-771 Writing-Program Readiness	
801-196 Oral/Interpersonal Comm	3	Practice the necessary skills for effective speech delivery, listening, assertiveness, conflict resolution, teamwork, and general interpersonal communication.	
804-123 Math w Business Apps	3	Develop an understanding of real numbers, basic operations, linear equations, proportions with one variable, percents, simple interest, compound interest, annuity, apply math concepts to the purchasing/buying process, apply math concepts to the selling process, and basic statistics with business/consumer applications.	
809-172 Race Ethnic & Diversity	3	Race, Ethnic, and Diversity is a course that draws from several disciplines to reaffirm the basic American values of justice and equality by teaching a basic vocabulary, a history of immigration and conquest, principles of transcultural communication, legal liability and the value of aesthetic production to increase the probability of respectful encounters among people. In addition to an analysis of majority/minority relations in a multicultural context, the topics of ageism, sexism, gender differences, sexual orientation, the disabled and the American Disability Act (ADA) are explored. Ethnic relations are studied in global and comparative perspectives. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehens or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading	
809-195 Economics	3	Discuss the major institutions and principles that underlie the contemporary American economic system, and consider topics such as the free enterprise system, supply and demand, circular flow, government involvement, the Federal Reserve System, economic growth and development, the effects of international trade, comparative economic systems, and global economics. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehens or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading	
809-196 Introduction to Sociology	3	Learn the basic concepts of sociology: culture, socialization, social stratification, multiculturalism, and the five institutions, including family, government, economics, religion, and education. Other topics include demography, deviance, technology, environment, social issues, social change, social organization, and workplace issues. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehens or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading	
809-198 Introduction to Psychology	3	Explore concepts and terminology related to the topics of learning, perception, personality, motivation, human development, and abnormal behavior. Examine the theories of the major psychologists. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehension or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading	
Elective Options		Any course at the associate degree level will meet the elective requirement.	