

Early Childhood Education, A.S.

The Early Childhood Education associate's degree program is for those students who currently are employed or aspire to work in early childhood care and education programs. Completion of JCCC's associate of science degree program provides students the credentials to advance in quality early childhood care and education settings. The program has four areas of specialization: administration, care and education of young children with special needs, infant/toddler care and education and school age programs. Credits will transfer to many Kansas universities. Excellent practical education opportunities are available to students in the program.

This program requires a professional liability insurance fee. Students will be notified via their JCCC student e-mail account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee. The dollar amount for fees is subject to change.

Prerequisite

Students must meet the requirements for employment in early childhood care and education centers in Kansas (stated in the Kansas Licensing Regulations for Preschools and Child Care Centers).

Associate of Science Degree

Important: Students graduating with an Early Childhood Education degree must complete an approved cultural diversity course. Some of the approved courses are able to meet both the cultural diversity requirement and a general education requirement.

Cultural Diversity Course Requirement at JCCC (<http://catalog.jccc.edu/spring/degreecertificates/electives/cultural-diversity-courses-aa>)

(Major Code 2100; State CIP Code 19.0708)

- Education and Early Childhood (<http://www.jccc.edu/education-early-childhood>)

First Semester

EDUC 130	Foundations of Early Childhood Education*	3
ENGL 121	Composition I*	3
PSYC 130	Introduction to Psychology	3
SPD 121	Public Speaking	3
Math Elective ^		3

NOTE: The mathematics requirement will be satisfied by any mathematics course except MATH 111, Fundamentals of Mathematics, and MATH 115, Elementary Algebra.

Specific recommended course: MATH 171 College Algebra

Total Hours 15

^ Math Elective (<http://catalog.jccc.edu/spring/degreecertificates/electives/sci-and-math-as>)

Second Semester

EDUC 131	Early Childhood Curriculum I*	3
EDUC 250	Child Health, Safety and Nutrition*	3
PSYC 215 or PSYC 218	Child Development* Human Development*	3
Health/Physical Education ^		1-2

Recommended HPER course if not certified in CPR: HPER 200 First Aid and CPR

Science course with Lab ^^ 4-5

See recommended courses for the science requirement below.

Total Hours 14-16

^ Health/Physical Education (<http://catalog.jccc.edu/spring/degreecertificates/electives/health-and-or-physical-ed-as>)

^^ Science course with Lab (<http://catalog.jccc.edu/spring/degreecertificates/electives/sci-and-math-as>)

Summer Semester

ENGL 122	Composition II*	3
Humanities Elective ^		3
Total Hours		6

^ Humanities Elective (<http://catalog.jccc.edu/spring/degreecertificates/electives/humanities-as>)

Third Semester

EDUC 231	Early Childhood Curriculum II*	3
EDUC 210	Creative Experiences for Young Children*	3
EDUC 260	Observing and Interacting with Young Children*	3
ANTH 130	World Cultures	3
or ANTH 125	Cultural Anthropology	
or SOC 131	Sociology of Families	
NOTE: ANTH 130 and ANTH 125 meets Cultural Diversity requirement		
Science or Math ^		4-5
Total Hours		16-17

^ Science or Math (<http://catalog.jccc.edu/spring/degreecertificates/electives/sci-and-math-as>)

Fourth Semester

Specialization courses (see below)		6
EDUC 235	Parenting*	2
EDUC 284	Seminar: Early Childhood Education*	3
EDUC 285	Student Teaching: Early Childhood Education*	3
Humanities Elective ^		3
Total Hours		17

^ Humanities Elective (<http://catalog.jccc.edu/spring/degreecertificates/electives/humanities-as>)

Area of Specialization Select one:**Child Care Administration**

ACCT 121	Accounting I	3
EDUC 280	Administration of Early Childhood Program*	3

Children with Special Needs

EDUC 220	Survey of the Exceptional Child*	3
EDUC 215	Young Children with Special Needs*	3

Infant and Toddler Care and Education

EDUC 270	Early Childhood Development*	3
EDUC 225	Infant and Toddler Education and Care*	3

School-Age Programs

EDUC 240	School-Age Programs and Curriculum I*	3
EDUC 245	School-Age Programs and Curriculum II*	3

Recommended Courses for the Science Requirement**Life Science**

BIOL 121	Introductory Biology for Non-Majors	4
BIOL 130	Environmental Science	3
BIOL 131	Environmental Science Lab*	1

Physical Science

ASTR 122	Astronomy	4
GEOS 130	General Geology	5
GEOS 140	Physical Geography	3
GEOS 141	Physical Geography Lab*	2
PSCI 120	Physical Science	4

Total Program Hours: 69-70

Courses**EDUC 121 Introduction to Teaching* (3 Hours)**

Prerequisites: RDG 126 or College Reading Readiness

Teaching concepts and practices as they apply to today's elementary and secondary schools will be introduced. Topics will include the roles and responsibilities of the teacher, various modes of instruction, specialized areas in teaching, and professional requirements and concerns. Twenty hours of observation in a school setting are required. Enrollment in this course requires that you be current in payment of a professional liability fee of \$16.00. This fee is required once per calendar year based on enrollment in selected courses and must be in place prior to the start of classes. Students will be notified via their JCCC student email account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 130 Foundations of Early Childhood Education* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: RDG 126 or College Reading Readiness

This introductory survey course is designed to provide students with current information on topics relevant to employment in early childhood programs. The course explores the historical and philosophical roots of early childhood education, general principles in child development, the teacher's role, values and ethics in early childhood education, curriculum design, and classroom management. Twenty hours of observation in a group childcare setting are required. Enrollment in this course requires that you be current in payment of a professional liability fee of \$16.00. This fee is required once per calendar year based on enrollment in selected courses and must be in place prior to the start of classes. Students will be notified via their JCCC student email account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 131 Early Childhood Curriculum I* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites or corequisites: EDUC 130 with a grade of "C" or higher

This methods course is designed for students who are, or will be, working in an early childhood education setting and parents or others who desire to develop an intellectually challenging environment for young children. The focus of the course is curriculum areas that deal with language and physical development. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 210 Creative Experiences for Young Children* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: EDUC 130 with a grade of "C" or higher and one of the following: PSYC 215 or PSYC 218 or EDUC 270

This course is a study of constructing and maintaining an environment for young children that fosters aesthetic sensitivity and creativity. The course includes the young child's developmental stages in art, music, movement, language, and creative and dramatic play; methods and materials that nourish developmentally appropriate creative experiences and support an inclusive, anti-bias curriculum; integration of creative experiences in the whole curriculum; the use of technology; and helping families understand the creative experience. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 215 Young Children with Special Needs* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: RDG 126 or College Reading Readiness

This course is a study of creating and maintaining a developmentally appropriate inclusive environment for young children with special needs. The course includes the history of education and care for young children with special needs, federal and state legislation, types of differing abilities, developmental stages and capabilities of all young children, an inclusive approach to early education, and curriculum development for young children with special needs. Health, safety and nutrition; screening and assessment; interaction techniques; the role of the educator specific to the child's special needs; partnering with the family, other disciplines and community; and advocating for children are presented. The laboratory will include demonstration of the subject matter. Enrollment in this course requires that you be current in payment of a professional liability fee of \$16.00. This fee is required once per calendar year based on enrollment in selected courses and must be in place prior to the start of classes. Students will be notified via their JCCC student email account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee. 2 hrs. lecture, 3 hrs. lab/wk.

EDUC 220 Survey of the Exceptional Child* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: RDG 126 or College Reading Readiness

This course is an overview of the field of special education geared to those who are preparing to work with students with special needs. The course provides fundamental information on the identification and exceptionality, laws and legal cases affecting the delivery of services to individuals with exceptionalities and the principles of effective educational approaches for each exceptionality. Categories of exceptionality presented include learning disabilities, mental retardation, behavior disorders, gifted and talented, communication disorders, autism, traumatic brain injury, physical disabilities, sensory impairments, other health impairments and multiple and severe disabilities. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 225 Infant and Toddler Education and Care* (3 Hours)**Prerequisites:** EDUC 130 with a grade of "C" or higher

This course is a study of creating and maintaining a developmentally appropriate environment for infants and toddlers. The course will include the history of education and care, theories of child development, developmental stages and capabilities of the very young child, and curriculum development for infants and toddlers. Health, safety and nutrition; assessment; interaction techniques; the role of the educator specific to the needs of the infant and toddler; partnering with family and community; and advocating for the very young are presented. The laboratory will include demonstration of the subject matter. Enrollment in this course requires that you be current in payment of a professional liability fee of \$16.00. This fee is required once per calendar year based on enrollment in selected courses and must be in place prior to the start of classes. Students will be notified via their JCCC student email account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee. 2 hrs. lecture, 3 hrs. lab/wk.

EDUC 231 Early Childhood Curriculum II* (3 Hours)**Prerequisites:** EDUC 131

This methods course is designed for students who are, or will be, working in an early childhood education setting and parents or others who desire to develop an intellectually challenging environment for young children. The focus of the course is on curriculum areas that deal with the physical and social aspects of the world. Included in this inquiry curriculum are mathematics, science, social studies and nutrition. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 235 Parenting* (2 Hours)**Prerequisites or corequisites:** PSYC 215 or PSYC 218 or EDUC 270

This course is a study of effective parenting. The course is designed for teachers of young children and parents and guardians who desire to provide an environment that reflects sensitivity to the unique needs of the individual child and family. Topics covered during the course are the history of child-rearing methods, an overview of child development, types of families, parent/guardian fears and concerns, purposes of child behavior, and effective communication techniques. Problem prevention and resolution, nurturing self-esteem in children and building effective, collaborative relationships between teachers and families are also covered. 2 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 240 School-Age Programs and Curriculum I* (3 Hours)**Prerequisites:** EDUC 130 with a grade of "C" or higher

This methods course is designed for students who are, or will be, working in an early childhood education setting and parents and caregivers who desire to develop an intellectually challenging environment for school age children. The focus of the course is on curriculum areas for the school-aged child and extended day and summer programs. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 243 Issues and Skills for Paraeducators (3 Hours)

Students will explore the issues, skills and challenges specific to working as a paraeducator. In particular, students will be introduced to the issues relating to the inclusion of students with special needs into the mainstream educational environment. Students will review and practice those skills necessary to being an effective member of an instructional team, including collaboration, problem solving, decision making, team building and parent outreach. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 245 School-Age Programs and Curriculum II* (3 Hours)**Prerequisites:** EDUC 240

The student will study the creation and maintenance of a developmentally appropriate environment for school-age children in extended school day and summer programs. The student will acquire the skills and characteristics of effective educators. The student will explore types of programs and how to plan, implement and evaluate these programs. Also, staff supervision and development, record keeping, relevant state regulations and laws will be discussed. Collaboration with family and community, public relations and contributing to the profession will be studied. The lab will include demonstration of the subject matter. Enrollment in this course requires that you be current in payment of a professional liability fee of \$16.00. This fee is required once per calendar year based on enrollment in selected courses and must be in place prior to the start of classes. Students will be notified via their JCCC student email account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee. 2 hrs. lecture, 1 hrs. lab/wk.

EDUC 246 Multicultural Issues in Education (2 Hours)

In this course students will explore the changing demographics of students in public schools. The course will also explore the ways in which a student's culture can affect the student's learning style, communication skill and behavior. The course will also describe strategies that take into account cultural differences, values and child-rearing practices when educators seek to create a safe and accepting environment for all students. 2 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 250 Child Health, Safety and Nutrition* (3 Hours)**Prerequisites:** RDG 126 or College Reading Readiness

This course is a study of the basic health, nutrition and safety management practices for young children. Information on establishing and maintaining a physically and psychologically safe and healthy learning environment appropriate for the needs of young children will be included. The interrelation of health, safety and nutrition is stressed, with emphasis on appraisal procedures, prevention and protection, services and educational experiences for young children and their families. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 260 Observing and Interacting with Young Children* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: EDUC 130 with a grade of "C" or higher

Prerequisites or corequisites: PSYC 215 or PSYC 218 or EDUC 270

This course is a study of the role of observation to assess and monitor the development and learning of children, birth through age 8, and the appropriate techniques for interacting with young children, considering their individual differences. Included will be the purposes and types of observation procedures, interpretation and use of findings, reporting techniques, and legal and ethical responsibilities. Expected age-related child behavior, fundamental principles of and theoretical approaches to child guidance, guidance techniques, working with families, and issues of diversity are presented. The laboratory will include demonstration of the subject matter. Enrollment in this course requires that you be current in payment of a professional liability fee of \$16.00. This fee is required once per calendar year based on enrollment in selected courses and must be in place prior to the start of classes. Students will be notified via their JCCC student email account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee. 2 hrs. lecture, 3 hrs. lab/wk.

EDUC 270 Early Childhood Development* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: RDG 126 or College Reading Readiness

This course is a comprehensive account of human development from conception through age 8. The course integrates genetic, biological, physical and social influences with psychological processes affecting the development of young children. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 280 Administration of Early Childhood Program* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: RDG 126 or College Reading Readiness

This course is a study of the organization and administration of early childhood programs. The topics include the skills and characteristics of effective administrators; types of programs; planning, implementing and evaluating programs; policy development; staff supervision and development; finances and budget; record keeping; relevant state regulations and laws; developing, equipping and maintaining a facility; organizing a developmentally appropriate environment; collaboration with family and community; public relations; and contributing to the profession. The lab will include demonstration of the subject matter. Enrollment in this course requires that you be current in payment of a professional liability fee of \$16.00. This fee is required once per calendar year based on enrollment in selected courses and must be in place prior to the start of classes. Students will be notified via their JCCC student email account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee. 2 hrs. lecture, 3 hrs. lab/wk.

EDUC 283 Professional Competencies: Early Childhood Education* (1 Hour)

Prerequisites: Department approval

This course focuses on the conduct and responsibilities of the early childhood professional. Topics include early childhood education codes, laws and regulations; child development; experience planning and curriculum development; observation and guidance of young children; authentic assessment; responsibilities to the young child's family, to the community, and to the teaching profession; employability skills; self-assessment; and job seeking skills. Completion of this course is required to obtain the One Year Post-Secondary Certificate in Early Childhood Education. 1hr. lecture/wk.

EDUC 284 Seminar: Early Childhood Education* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: Department approval

Corequisites: EDUC 285

The course will focus on conduct and responsibilities of the intern; early childhood codes, laws and regulations; child development; activity planning and curriculum development; observation and guidance of young children; authentic assessment; responsibilities to the young child's family and community and to the teaching profession; employability skills; self-assessment; and job-seeking skills. The student's practical application of information in the internship will be discussed, and a portfolio will be developed. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 285 Student Teaching: Early Childhood Education* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: EDUC 130 with a grade of "C" or higher, EDUC 250 with a grade of "C" or higher and EDUC 260 with a grade of "C" or higher

This supervised field experience in early childhood education is designed for students to apply their knowledge of teaching young children. The student will be participating in curriculum design and presentation; observing and interacting with young children; providing for the health, safety and nutrition of young children; managing the program setting; and working with families and the community. A self-assessment and a professional development plan are completed. The student will spend 20 hours a week (320 clock hours total) in at least two different early childhood settings, serving children of two different ages. Enrollment in this course requires that you be current in payment of a professional liability fee of \$16.00. This fee is required once per calendar year based on enrollment in selected courses and must be in place prior to the start of classes. Students will be notified via their JCCC student email account if they are required to pay a \$16 fee.

EDUC 290 Leadership in Early Childhood Education* (3 Hours)

Prerequisites: Program Facilitator Approval

The student will study how early childhood education program directors lead programs and create quality environments for children, families and staff. The leadership topics include: leadership styles; developing mission statements, program philosophies, procedures, manuals and handbooks; assessing and planning for program improvements; recruiting and retaining qualified early childhood teachers; creating professional growth opportunities; developing effective staff meetings; implementing a shared decision making process; utilizing conflict resolution strategies; and developing partnerships with families and community agencies. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

EDUC 291 Independent Study* (1-7 Hour)

Prerequisites: 2.0 GPA minimum and department approval

Independent study is a directed, structured learning experience offered as an extension of the regular curriculum. It is intended to allow individual students to broaden their comprehension of the principles of and competencies associated with the discipline or program. Its purpose is to supplement existing courses with individualized, in-depth learning experiences. Such learning experiences may be undertaken independent of the traditional classroom setting, but will be appropriately directed and supervised by regular instructional staff. Total contact hours vary based on the learning experience.