

# Early Childhood Education and Care Degree

**Degree:** Associate in Applied Science

**Total Required Credits for Degree:** minimum of 60

*Program Requirements:* 34

*Program Electives:* 4

*Electives:* 2 to 6

*General Education Credits:* 20 to 24

**Code:** 3623

## About the Program

The Early Childhood Education and Care program prepares students to enter the early childhood education and care field. Students acquire the skills, knowledge and attitudes to work with infants, toddlers, preschool-age and school-age children. Jobs for degree and certificate graduates are available in child care centers, preschools and park district programs.

Program web site: [www.cod.edu/ecec](http://www.cod.edu/ecec)

## Key First Semester Courses

ECEC 1100	Introduction to the Early Childhood Profession .....	3
ECEC 1101	Growth and Development of the Young Child .....	3
ECEC 2211	Child Health, Safety and Nutrition .....	3
Engli 1101	English Composition I .....	3
Psych 1100	General Psychology .....	3

## Program Requirements

ECEC 1100	Introduction to the Early Childhood Profession .....	3
ECEC 1101	Growth and Development of the Young Child .....	3
ECEC 1102	Child Guidance Practices .....	3
ECEC 1130	Methods: Discovery and the Physical World .....	3
ECEC 1140	Methods: Self-Expression and the Social World .....	3
ECEC 1151	Language and Literacy Development of the Young Child .....	3
ECEC 2211	Child Health, Safety and Nutrition .....	3
ECEC 2220	Child Care Practicum .....	4
ECEC 2251	Curriculum Planning for the Young Child ...	3
ECEC 2252	Child/Family/Community Relations and Resources .....	3
ECEC 2260	Early Childhood Professional .....	3
<b>Total</b> .....		<b>34</b>

## Program Electives

Select 4 credits from Early Childhood Education and Care courses not listed under Program Requirements.

ECEC 1110	Parenting and the Young Child .....	2
ECEC 1116	Care of the Infant, Toddler, and Two-Year Old Child I .....	3
ECEC 1117	Care of the Infant, Toddler, and Two-Year Old Child II .....	3
ECEC 1120	Family Child Care Management .....	2
ECEC 1121	Family Child Care Curriculum and Guidance .....	2
ECEC 1161	Multicultural Curriculum for the Young Child .....	2
ECEC 1162	Multicultural Perspectives in Child Development and Education .....	2
ECEC 1163	Practicum: At-Risk Early Childhood Programs .....	1
ECEC 1820	Selected Topics in Early Childhood Education and Care I .....	1
ECEC 1840	Independent Study — Individualized .....	1 to 4
ECEC 2201	Creative Art Activities for the Young Child .....	2
ECEC 2203	Music and Movement for the Young Child .....	2
ECEC 2204	Child Care Environment .....	2
ECEC 2206	Science and Nature for the Young Child .....	2
ECEC 2208	Mathematics Activities for the Young Child .....	2
ECEC 2210	The Young Child with Special Needs .....	2
ECEC 2226	Development of the School-Age Child .....	2
ECEC 2227	Guidance of the School-Age Child .....	2
ECEC 2228	Activities for School-Age Children .....	2
ECEC 2230	Foundations of Early Childhood Education .....	3
ECEC 2250	Play and Learning of the Young Child .....	3
ECEC 2254	Administration of an Early Childhood Center — Program Operations .....	3
ECEC 2255	Administration of an Early Childhood Center — Practices and Procedures .....	3
ECEC 2256	Administration of an Early Childhood Center — Staff, Families and Children .....	3

## Electives

Select 2 to 6 credits from any 1000- or 2000- level courses.

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# Early Childhood Education and Care Degree

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## Program Notes

1. Each course in the Early Childhood Education and Care program includes an additional 30 hours of observation and/or participation.
2. Courses in education, human services and recreational leadership are recommended for students seeking employment with children beyond 5 years of age.
3. Students who plan to transfer to a baccalaureate-granting school should seek advising as soon as possible.
4. Seek faculty advising each semester to select courses to best meet your needs.
5. Some early childhood employers require six semester hours of early childhood/child care classes as a minimum job requirement. Early Childhood Education and Care 1101 and 1102 are recommended to meet that requirement. Certificates and degrees include these classes.

## General Education Requirements

Each candidate for an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree shall satisfactorily complete a minimum of 18 credits in General Education.

Use the *Student Planning Worksheet* or consult a list of General Education categories and courses for the A.A.S. degree to decide what needs to be taken. Links can be found on the Early Childhood Education and Care online program guide (go to [www.cod.edu/ecec](http://www.cod.edu/ecec)).

Under the specified General Education headings below, the following courses are recommended for the Early Childhood Education and Care degree:

**Communications:** 6 credits required  
*Recommended courses:* English 1101, Speech 1100

**Physical/Life Sciences:** 3 to 5 credits required  
Select at least one course with a lab component.  
*Recommended course:* Biology 1110

**Mathematics:** 3 to 5 credits required  
*Recommended course:* Mathematics 1100

**Humanities and Fine Arts:** 3 credits required  
*Recommended course:* Based on personal interest. Select one Humanities or Fine Arts course.

**Social and Behavioral Sciences:** 3 credits required  
*Recommended course:* Psychology 1100

## Additional A.A.S. Degree Requirements

A minimum of 2 credits must be completed from the list of courses in the Global/Multicultural Studies or Contemporary Life Skills category.  
*Recommended course:* Early Childhood Education and Care 1110

## Advisers

If you are considering this program as an area of study, consult with an adviser in this field:

	Location	Phone
Diane Kubetz	EC 1001	(630) 942-2704
E-mail: <a href="mailto:kubetz@cod.edu">kubetz@cod.edu</a>		
Sarah Patton	EC 1002	(630) 942-3419
E-mail: <a href="mailto:patton@cod.edu">patton@cod.edu</a>		
Cynthia Rice,	EC 1003	(630) 942-2388
coordinator		
E-mail: <a href="mailto:ricecyn@cod.edu">ricecyn@cod.edu</a>		

## For More Information

Check with the Health, Social and Behavioral Sciences Division, Berg Instructional Center (IC), Room 1028, or the program web site at: [www.cod.edu/ecec](http://www.cod.edu/ecec) for program-specific information.