Early Childhood Education Major

Bachelor of Arts, BA

The early childhood major is a program for students interested in working with children in pre-kindergarten through third grade. This program leads to PK–3 certification in South Carolina. The early childhood major combines observations of young children, instructional methodology, program planning for PK–3 children, and information about the child's social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development. Beginning in Fall 2020, all early childhood majors are required to pass the PRAXIS Subject Assessments required for certification in their area of student teaching in order to be placed in a student teaching setting. Teacher candidates should verify the test code numbers of the South Carolina requirement PRAXIS requirements, because the codes are subject to change.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Candidates will analyze child development and learning.
2. Candidates will examine family and community relationships.
3. Candidates will observe, document, and assess to support young children and families.
4. Candidates will employ developmentally effective approaches.
5. Candidates will use content knowledge to build meaningful curriculum.

Required Courses

Teacher candidates may take courses only in Benchmark I before being admitted to the Teacher Education Program. See the departmental web page for a list of Benchmark courses and other important information.

Majors in early childhood must also complete two sequential, incremental clinicals. In the first clinical, EDU 101 they observe and work with an individual child in grades 1–2 on reading instruction. In the second clinical, EDU 102, the students work in an early childhood setting and plan, organize, and implement instruction with groups of young children. The students' transcripts will reflect the completion of these clinicals.

Item #	Title	Credits
EDU 101	CLINICAL I: LITERACY	3
EDU 102	CLINICAL II: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	3
EDU 203	TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION	3
EDU 303	MATHEMATICS FOR THE ELEMENTARY CHILD	3
EDU 305	BEHAVIOR AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE YOUNG CHILD	3
EDU 301	LITERACY FOUNDATIONS	3
EDU 309	LITERATURE FOR THE CHILD	3
EDU 360	INTRODUCTION TO EDUCATION	3
EDU 403	METHODS AND MATERIALS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD	3
EDU 405	CURRICULUM FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD	3
EDU 412b	DIRECTED STUDENT TEACHING: EARLY CHILDHOOD	12
SED 300	INTRODUCTION TO EXCEPTIONAL LEARNERS	3
HPE 393	HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR ELEMENTARY TEACHERS	3
ART 311	ART FOR THE CHILD	3
MUE 370	MUSIC FOR THE CHILD	3
	Total Credits	54