

# EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (B.S.)

<https://www.unh.edu/program/bachelor-science/early-childhood-education>

## Description

This program is designed for individuals seeking career options in early childhood care settings. Courses in this program prepare individuals to be qualified early childhood education and childcare providers. This major offers a model curriculum which addresses standards set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The completion of this degree qualifies individuals for the Early Childhood credential through the New Hampshire Child Development Bureau, Department of Health and Human Services. This degree does not lead to public school teacher licensure through the Department of Education.

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

**Minimum Credit Requirement:** 120 credits

**Minimum Residency Requirement:** 30 credits must be taken at UNH

**Minimum Cumulative GPA:** 2.0 is required for conferral\*

**Core Curriculum Required:** General Education Program

Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

\*GPA: Major and any state certification GPA requirements may be higher and are indicated in program details.

A minimum grade of C- is required in all Major coursework. Some programs may have higher grade requirements for Major coursework as noted in the Major requirements section below. Students are allowed a maximum of two course overlaps. Overlaps can be used between Major, Minor, and General Education requirements with only 8 credits overlapped between the Major and Minor. Please note that Option requirements are considered part of the Major. Students must complete 16 upper-level credits in majors within the College of Professional Studies, Online.

### General Education Program Requirements

A minimum grade of D- is required in all General Education coursework. Students are allowed a maximum of two course overlaps. Overlaps can be used between Major, Minor and General Education requirements with only 8 credits overlapped between the Major and Minor.

All General Education requirements must be taken prior to the capstone.

Code	Title	Credits
ENG 420	The Writing Process	4
COM 460	Interpersonal Communication and Group Dynamics	4
COM 480	Visual Communication	4
CRIT 501	Introduction to Critical Inquiry	4
Select one of the following:		4
MTH 402	Math for Our World	
MTH 504	Statistics	
MTH 510	Pre-Calculus	

Knowledge of Human Behavior & Social Systems	4	
Knowledge of the Physical & Natural World	4	
Knowledge of Human Thought & Expression	4	
CRIT 602	Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking	4
IDIS 601A	Interdisciplinary Seminar: Being Happy	4
or IDIS 601B	Interdisciplinary Seminar: Business of Beer	
or IDIS 601C	Interdisciplinary Seminar: Paranormal Activities	
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>40</b>	

## Writing Program Requirements

All bachelor's degree candidates are required to complete four writing intensive courses as part of the University [Writing Program Requirements](#) as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
ENG 420	The Writing Process	
One Writing Intensive course in the Major		
One Writing Intensive course at the 600-level or above		
One Additional Writing Intensive Course		

Writing Intensive courses are identified with the label "Writing Intensive Course" in the "Attributes" section of the course description and/or a W following the course number.

## Major Requirements

Prior to capstone enrollment, students are expected to complete all General Education program requirements. Students should consult with their advisor regarding specific major courses that may be completed with their capstone. Refer to the Degree Plan for a sample course sequence. Academic Advisor approval is required for registration to be processed.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Major in Early Childhood Development</b>		
<i>Foundational Courses</i>		
PSY 470	Child Development	4
EDC 501	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	4
EDC 502	Creative Arts in Early Childhood Education	4
EDC 503	Language and Literacy Development	4
EDC 504	Health, Safety & Nutrition in Early Childhood Settings	4
EDC 505	Mathematics and Science in Early Childhood Education	4
<i>Intermediate Courses</i>		
PSY 480	Infant and Toddler Development	4
EDC 601	Positive Behavior Guidance in Early Childhood Education	4
EDC 602	Learning and Early Childhood Environments	4
EDC 606	Young Children with Exceptionalities in Early Childhood Settings	4
EDC 607	Early Childhood Program Administration	4
<i>Advanced Courses</i>		
EDC 712	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Education	4
EDC 713	Family and Community Relations in Early Childhood Education	4
EDC 715W	Enhancing Supervision through Mentoring	4
<i>Integrative Capstone</i>		
EDC 797	Practicum: Professionalism in Early Childhood Education	4
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

## Electives

Open electives are courses students will need to take in addition to their general education and major requirements in order to satisfy the remaining credit totals for their programs. Open electives are defined as any credit course offered by the College not already included in the student's general education, major, option or minor. Students will need 120 credits total to graduate with a bachelor's degree from the Online Division of the College of Professional Studies.

## Degree Plan

This degree plan is a sample and does not reflect the impact of transfer credit or current course offerings. UNH CPS Online undergraduate students should develop individual academic plans with their academic advisor during their first year at UNH.

## Sample Course Sequence

### First Year

Fall		Credits
EDC 501	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	4
ENG 420	The Writing Process	4
PSY 470	Child Development	4
General Education Course		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
Spring		
COM 460	Interpersonal Communication and Group Dynamics	4
CRIT 501	Introduction to Critical Inquiry	4
EDC 502	Creative Arts in Early Childhood Education	4
MTH 402	Math for Our World	4
or MTH 504	or Statistics	
or MTH 510	or Pre-Calculus	
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>

### Second Year

Fall		
COM 480	Visual Communication	4
EDC 503	Language and Literacy Development	4
EDC 504	Health, Safety & Nutrition in Early Childhood Settings	4
General Education Course		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
Spring		
EDC 505	Mathematics and Science in Early Childhood Education	4
Elective		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>8</b>

### Third Year

Fall		
PSY 480	Infant and Toddler Development	4
CRIT 602	Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking	4
EDC 601	Positive Behavior Guidance in Early Childhood Education	4
EDC 602	Learning and Early Childhood Environments	4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
Spring		
EDC 606	Young Children with Exceptionalities in Early Childhood Settings	4
General Education Course		4
EDC 607	Early Childhood Program Administration	4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

### Fourth Year

Fall		
IDIS 601A or IDIS 601B or IDIS 601C	Interdisciplinary Seminar: Being Happy or Interdisciplinary Seminar: Business of Beer or Interdisciplinary Seminar: Paranormal Activities	4
EDC 712	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Education	4
EDC 713	Family and Community Relations in Early Childhood Education	4
Elective		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
Spring		
EDC 715	Enhancing Supervision through Mentoring	4
EDC 797	Practicum: Professionalism in Early Childhood Education	4
Elective		4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>112</b>

## Student Learning Outcomes

### Program Learning Outcomes

- Create inclusive, nurturing, and culturally responsive learning environments aligned with the developmentally appropriate practices framework.
- Analyze strategies for building and sustaining respectful, reciprocal partnerships with families and communities.
- Compare and analyze various assessment strategies to understand and support each child's development and learning, inform instruction, and engage families in the assessment process.
- Plan, implement, and evaluate equitable, engaging curriculum and teaching practices that promote progress across developmental domains and reflect children's diverse needs, interests, and cultural contexts.
- Integrate knowledge of academic content areas (language, literacy, math, science, social studies, arts, physical development) into meaningful, interdisciplinary learning experiences for young children.
- Plan for continuous professional development in the field of early childhood education to create equitable, high quality learning experiences for birth to age 8 children.