EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION, Associate in Applied Science Degree - 5506

Social Science Department
CIP Code: 13.1210

Graduates of the Early Care and Education AAS program are prepared to enter the workforce to care for and educate children ages birth – nine years within a variety of inclusive care and education programs. The following must be completed (at the student's expense) prior to enrolling in EDUC 110 or EDUC 111. They are also requirements for continuation in the program and field placements. Clearances will need to be updated every year per school district requirements. Requirements include three clearances (FBI Clearance, ACT 151: PA Child Abuse History Clearance, ACT 34: Request for Criminal Record Check - PA State Police) and TB testing. The student should consider these factors before enrolling. If the student has any questions regarding this, he or she should contact the program director. Students looking to obtain a Pennsylvania teaching certificate must first obtain a baccalaureate degree in order to become eligible to pursue that certification. This program may be completed at all of HACC's campuses through various modalities (e.g., hybrid, synchronous remote instruction and asynchronous instruction) in addition to on-campus/in-person instruction.

Career Opportunities

Graduates are prepared to enter the childcare workforce on Level V of the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) career lattice.

Competency Profile

In conjunction with National Association for the Education of Young Children's (NAEYC) standards, this curriculum is designed to prepare students to:

- Use the theories and principles of child development in order to promote healthy and challenging learning environments
- Observe and assess children's development and document their learning in order to develop appropriate curriculum and promote positive outcomes for each child
- Use content knowledge to build meaningful curriculum
- Use effective strategies to implement developmentally-appropriate teaching and learning
- Support and involve families and communities in their children's development and learning
- Practice the national standards for professionalism and ethics as well as participate in continuous professional growth
- Use legal and ethical standards to locate professional literature in print and/or electronic format in order to make research-based decisions that inform teaching practices
- Prepare and maintain an electronic portfolio that documents personal growth as well as scholastic and professional achievement throughout the course of the teaching preparation program from entry-point class to job search
- Appreciate accomplishments in the arts and sciences

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (TOTAL CREDITS = 60)

General Education		Major Requirements		Other Required Courses
ENGL 101 English Composition I	3	EDUC 120 Observation & Assessment of Young Children	3	
COMM 101 Effective Speaking	3	EDUC 135 Health, Safety & Nutrition	3	
Humanities & Arts Core Elective	3	EDUC 140 Integrating the Arts & Play as Educative Process	3	
Mathematics **or** Science Core Elective	3	EDUC 145 Infant & Toddler Care & Education	3	
Social & Behavioral Science Core Elective - *PSYC 101*	3	EDUC 180 Diversity & Partnerships in Family, Schools & Community	3	
First-Year-Seminar Elective - *EDUC 111*	4	EDUC 185 Development & Behavior in Children	3	
Wellness Elective	1	EDUC 211 Early Intervention: Exceptional Children	3	
	20	EDUC 221 Math & Science: Birth Through Kindergarten	3	
		EDUC 235 STEM for the Young Learner	3	
		EDUC 260 Social Studies for the Young Learner	3	
		EDUC 261 Integrating Curriculum in Early Childhood Classrooms	3	
		EDUC 271 Early Literacy: Birth Through Kindergarten	3	
		EDUC 291 Early Care & Education Practicum	4	
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RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

Part-time students can complete this program by taking one or more courses each semester.

Fall Semester I		Spring Semester I		Fall Semester II		Spring Semester II	
EDUC 111	4	EDUC 120	3	EDUC 135	3	EDUC 180	3
EDUC 185	3	EDUC 140	3	EDUC 145	3	EDUC 235	3
ENGL 101	3	EDUC 211	3	EDUC 261	3	EDUC 291	4
PSYC 101	3	EDUC 221	3	EDUC 271	3	Humanities/Arts Core Elective	3
Wellness Elective	1	EDUC 260	3	COMM 101	3	Math/Science Core Elective	3