# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (B.S.)

https://cps.unh.edu/online/program/bs/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 child care 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 certification 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 | |
| **Total Credits** | | **40** |

## 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 |
|---|---|---|
| **Major in Early Childhood Education** | | |
| *Foundational Courses* | | |
| 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 |
| EDC 506 | Young Children with Exceptionalities in Early Childhood Settings | 4 |
| EDC 507 | Early Childhood Program Administration | 4 |
| *Intermediate Courses* | | |
| 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 |
| *Advanced Courses* | | |
| EDC 712 | Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Education | 4 |
| EDC 713 | Family and Community Relations in Early Childhood Education | 4 |
| SOCI 675 | Child Abuse and Neglect | 4 |
| *Integrative Capstone* | | |
| EDC 797 | Practicum: Professionalism in Early Childhood Education | 4 |
| **Total Credits** | | **60** |

## 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 |
| | **Credits** | **16** |

**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 or MTH 504 or MTH 510 | Math for Our World or Statistics or Pre-Calculus | 4 |
| | **Credits** | **16** |

### 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 |
| | **Credits** | **16** |

**Spring**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| EDC 505 | Mathematics and Science in Early Childhood Education | 4 |
| EDC 506 | Young Children with Exceptionalities in Early Childhood Settings | 4 |
| EDC 507 | Early Childhood Program Administration | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| | **Credits** | **16** |

### Third Year

**Fall**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| CRIT 602 | Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking | 4 |
| EDC 601 | Positive Behavior Guidance in Early Childhood Education | 4 |
| PSY 480 | Infant and Toddler Development | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| | **Credits** | **16** |

**Spring**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| EDC 602 | Learning and Early Childhood Environments | 4 |
| SOCI 675 | Child Abuse and Neglect | 4 |
| General Education Course | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| | **Credits** | **16** |

### 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 |
| | **Credits** | **16** |

**Spring**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| EDC 797 | Practicum: Professionalism in Early Childhood Education | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| | **Credits** | **8** |
| | **Total Credits** | **120** |

# Student Learning Outcomes

## Program Learning Outcomes

- Develop knowledge and skills in promoting child development with an understanding and application of developmentally appropriate practice.
- Develop knowledge and skills to develop, implement, and evaluate meaningful curriculum for all children.
- Develop knowledge and skills to communicate and collaborate with children, families, and professionals.