

# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, AA

The Associate of Arts, Early Childhood Education is designed to serve students either as a stand-alone associate degree, or as a university transfer degree. The transfer option allows students to complete specific lower division courses at TMCC and obtain an Associate of Arts degree in early childhood education; and then transfer to UNR as a junior to complete a bachelor of science degree in human development and family studies. Students are encouraged to obtain academic advisement from early childhood education faculty to facilitate the university transfer process.

## Outcomes

Students completing these degrees will:

- Demonstrate competence in the knowledge and skills defined in the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation (ECADA) Standards for Initial and Advanced Early Childhood Professional Preparation Programs.
  - a. Promoting Child Development and Learning
  - b. Building Family and Community Relationships
  - c. Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Young Children and Families
  - d. Using Developmentally Effective Approaches
  - e. Using Content Knowledge to Build Meaningful Curriculum
  - f. Becoming a Professional
- Demonstrate proficiency as a preschool teacher in an early childhood program.
- Demonstrate the scope of knowledge and skills required to gain entry into a baccalaureate degree program.

## Field Experience and Practicum Experience:

All ECE degrees require courses with field experience and practicum experience in early childhood classrooms with young children (birth to age five). Field experiences and practicum experiences are focused student teaching experiences that require the student to demonstrate specific skills in an early childhood classroom with young children.

- Students must complete the practicum experience through TMCC.
- Students are required to have fingerprints, an approved background check, and a clear TB test prior to enrolling in courses with field experience or practicum experience. If a student fails to meet these requirements, or if the background check is not approved, the student will not be permitted to participate in courses with field experience or practicum experience.
- Students must meet all of the prerequisite/corequisite requirements, as well as have the practicum instructor's approval prior to enrolling in a practicum course.
- Two semesters of practicum are required. Students must complete the practicum courses in two, consecutive fall and spring semesters, during the final year of the ECE program of study.
- Students must work with the practicum instructor to arrange a practicum schedule and placement site.

## Accreditation

The Early Childhood Education, AA is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation (ECADA).

NAEYC/ECADA  
1313 L St. N.W. Suite 500  
Washington DC 20005  
800-424-2460, Extension 8007

AA/AS degrees are designed for students who plan to transfer to a four-year college or university.

To earn an AA/AS degree, students must:

1. Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 (see requirements for graduation.)
2. Complete a minimum of 15 units within the college.
3. Satisfy General Education requirements for the AA/AS (<http://catalog.tmcc.edu/degrees-certificates/general-education/aa-as>).
4. Have no financial or library obligation to the college.

Code	Title	Units
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
<i>English</i>		3-6
Must include ENG 102 or ENG 114 <sup>1</sup>		
<i>Fine Arts</i>		3
<i>Humanities</i>		3
Recommended:		
CH 203	American Experiences and Constitutional Change	
<i>Mathematics</i>		3
Required:		
MATH 120	Fundamentals of College Mathematics (or higher)	
<i>Science</i>		6
Required:		
NUTR 121	Human Nutrition	
<i>Social Science</i>		3
Required:		
PSY 101	General Psychology	
<b>Additional College Requirements</b>		
<i>Diversity</i>		
Required:		
HDFS 232	Diversity in Children	[3]
<i>Foreign Language</i>		0
<i>U.S. and Nevada Constitutions</i> <sup>3</sup>		[3]
Recommended:		
CH 203	American Experiences and Constitutional Change	
<b>Degree Requirements</b> <sup>2</sup>		
ECE 204	Principles of Child Guidance	3
ECE 250	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
HDFS 201	Lifespan Human Development	3
HDFS 202	Introduction to Families	3
HDFS 232	Diversity in Children	3
SOC 101	Principles of Sociology	3

ECE 231 & 231	Preschool Practicum: Early Childhood Lab and Preschool Practicum: Early Childhood Lab <sup>4</sup>	4
<b>Emphasis Requirements:</b>		
ECE 130	Infancy	3
ECE 190	Professionalism in Early Care and Education	3
ECE 200	The Exceptional Child	3
ECE 210	Observation, Documentation and Assessment of Young Children	3
ECE 245	Practicum Seminar <sup>4</sup>	2
ECE 251	Curriculum in Early Childhood Education	3
Total Units		60-63

- <sup>5</sup> See approved General Education list for the AA/AS Degree. (<http://catalog.tmcc.edu/degrees-certificates/general-education/aa-as>)
- <sup>6</sup> See program recommendations or requirements.

- <sup>1</sup> If you do not place into ENG 102 or ENG 114 you will complete the degree with three additional units (63 units overall.)
- <sup>2</sup> Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (C) or better, and a minimum grade of "C" must be earned in each degree and emphasis requirement.
- <sup>3</sup> Course may also count toward degree requirements. Please consult with Academic Advisement.
- <sup>4</sup> Students must complete the practicum experience through TMCC.

1st semester		Units
ECE 190	Professionalism in Early Care and Education	3
ECE 250	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ENG 101 or ENG 113	Composition I or Composition I for International Students	3
HDFS 201	Lifespan Human Development	3
Mathematics <sup>6</sup>		3
Semester Total		15
2nd semester		Units
ECE 130	Infancy	3
ECE 204	Principles of Child Guidance	3
ECE 210	Observation, Documentation and Assessment of Young Children	3
HDFS 232	Diversity in Children	3
SOC 101	Principles of Sociology	3
Semester Total		15
3rd semester		Units
ECE 200	The Exceptional Child	3
ECE 231	Preschool Practicum: Early Childhood Lab	2
ECE 251	Curriculum in Early Childhood Education	3
HDFS 202	Introduction to Families	3
NUTR 121	Human Nutrition	3
PSY 101	General Psychology	3
Semester Total		17
4th semester		Units
ECE 231	Preschool Practicum: Early Childhood Lab	2
ECE 245	Practicum Seminar	2
Fine Arts <sup>5</sup>		3
Humanities/U.S. and Nevada Constitutions <sup>6</sup>		3
Science <sup>5</sup>		3
Semester Total		13
Total Units		60