EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - ASSOCIATE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

68 credits

The Early Childhood Education associate degree program is designed to prepare students to become highly qualified teachers, assistant teachers, or family day care providers in professional child-care for children ages birth through eight years. Students will gain a broad understanding of the specific needs of young children and develop strategies for meeting those needs. Students may choose to continue their education at any four-year institution in New Mexico. The NMSU Grants program includes the lower division courses required for entry into the Teacher Education Program (TEP), a baccalaureate program at New Mexico State University. Completion of this program does NOT guarantee admission into a Teacher Education Program at a four-year institution. Early in their second year of study at NMSU Grants, students should contact the four-year institution they have chosen to obtain application information.

Requirements and Limitations

1. Students in the Early Childhood Education Program are required to complete and pass a security background check in order to take practicum courses and field experiences. Practicum Courses ECED 2121 and 2131 require a Criminal Background Clearance in order to complete 60 hours of practicum per course. Past criminal violations may prevent a student from completing the degree and from being hired by school systems or other child care facilities upon graduation.
2. Students must complete all technical requirement courses as well as the following courses with a grade of C or better.

Prefix	Title	Credits
CEPY 1120G	Human Growth and Behavior	3
ENGL 1110G	Composition I	4
ENGL 2221G	Writing in the Humanities and Social Science	3
MATH 1215	Intermediate Algebra	3
MATH 1134	Fundamentals of Elementary Mathematics I	3
MATH 2134G	Fundamentals of Elementary Math II	3

3. Students must have a 2.0 GPA to graduate from this program. However, because a **2.75** GPA is required for acceptance into the Teacher Education Program at NMSU, it is highly recommended that Grants students complete the Early Childhood Education program with a 2.5 cumulative GPA.
4. Any education course more than seven years old taken at NMSU, NMSU community colleges or other institutions will not be counted toward the student's baccalaureate program. It is highly recommended that students request a review of their cumulative coursework by the appropriate department at NMSU. The student must repeat any course not approved.
5. Completion of all requirements does not guarantee acceptance in the NMSU Teacher Education Program. Please see the NMSU College of Education Advising Center for more information.

Students must complete all University degree requirements, which include: General Education requirements and elective credits to total at least 68 credits. Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits, but may be needed in order to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

Prefix	Title	Credits
General Education		
Area I: Communications		
English Composition - Level 1		
ENGL 1110G	Composition I	4
English Composition - Level 2		
ENGL 2221G	Writing in the Humanities and Social Science	3
Oral Communication		
COMM 1130G	Public Speaking	3
or COMM 1115G	Introduction to Communication	
Area II: Mathematics		
MATH 2134G	Fundamentals of Elementary Math II [1]	3
Area III: Laboratory Sciences		
Choose two courses from two different departments from the following recommended course list (8 credits):		8
ASTR 1120G	The Planets Lecture & Laboratory	
or ASTR 1115G	Introduction to Astronomy Lecture & Laboratory	
BIOL 1120G & BIOL 1120L	Human Biology and Human Biology Laboratory	
BIOL 2110G & BIOL 2110L	Principles of Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology and Principles of Biology: Cellular and Molecular Biology Laboratory	
CHEM 1120G	Introduction to Chemistry Lecture and Laboratory (non majors)	
CHEM 1215G	General Chemistry I Lecture and Laboratory for STEM Majors	
ENVS 1110G	Environmental Science I	
GEOL 1110G	Physical Geology	
GEOG 1110G	Physical Geography	
Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences		
CEPY 1120G	Human Growth and Behavior	3
Area V: Humanities		
Choose one of the following		3
HIST 1130G	World History I	
HIST 1140G	World History II	
HIST 1150G	Western Civilization I	
HIST 1160G	Western Civilization II	
Area VI: Creative and Fine Arts		
Choose one from the following:		3
ARTH 1115G	Orientation in Art	
THEA 1110G	Introduction to Theatre	
General Education Elective		
HIST 1110G	United States History I	3
or HIST 1120G	United States History II	
Non-departmental Requirements		
MATH 1134	Fundamentals of Elementary Mathematics I	3
Choose one from the following:		3
ANTH 1115G	Introduction to Anthropology	
ECON 2110G	Macroeconomic Principles	
ECON 2120G	Principles of Microeconomics Honors	
GEOG 1120G	World Regional Geography	
or GEOG 1130G	Human Geography	
POLS 1120G	American National Government	

or POLS 1110G	Introduction to Political Science	
SOCI 1110G	Introduction to Sociology	
Major Requirements		
ECED 1110	Child Growth, Development, and Learning	3
ECED 1115	Health, Safety, and Nutrition	2
ECED 1120	Guiding Young Children	3
ECED 1125	Assessment of Children and Evaluation of Programs	3
ECED 1130	Family and Community Collaboration	3
ECED 2110	Professionalism	2
ECED 2115	Introduction to Language, Literacy, and Reading	3
ECED 2120	Curriculum Development through Play Birth through Age 4 (PreK)	3
ECED 2121	Curriculum Development through Play Birth through Age 4 (PreK) Practicum	2
ECED 2130	Curriculum Development and Implementation Age 3 (PreK) through Grade 3	3
ECED 2131	Curriculum Development and Implementation Age 3 (PreK) through Grade 3 Practicum	2
Total Credits		**68**

[1] MATH 2134G Fundamentals of Elementary Math II requires a prerequisite of a grade of C or better in MATH 1134 Fundamentals of Elementary Mathematics I. MATH 1134 requires a placement into this course, or a C or better in MATH 1215.

Additional courses may be needed based on placement test results and/or course prerequisites. Visit with your Program Manager or advisor for help in creating a customized plan.