

## SPECIALIZATION

### Early Childhood (16 weeks)

Course ID	Course Title	Credits
ECEC 8601	Best Practices in Programs for Young Children: Edu. Appli.	3
ECEC 8602	Critical Issues in Early childhood Edu. in the Global Village	3
ECEC 8603	Families, Children & Comm. in a Multicultural & Diverse Society	3
ECEC 8604	Current Trends & Iss. in Curricular Theory in Early Childhood Edu.	3
ECEC 8605	Child Advocacy: Social Concerns in the Global Context	3
ECEC 8606	Cultural Perspectives & Influences on Child Development	3
<b>Total Specialization Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

#### **ECEC 8601 Best Practices in Programs for Young Children: Educational Applications (3 credits)**

This course will focus on current policies and practices for children from birth-age 8. Criteria for and issues on quality in early childhood services are examined from the perspective of local and international programs. Theoretical foundations for program development, curriculum, assessment, and individual interventions are discussed. Students engage in reviewing program policies and practices. Field experiences are integrated into the course.

#### **ECEC 8602 Critical Issues in Early Childhood Education in the Global Village (3 credits)**

This course examines current issues and trends impacting behavior, health and the development of children and youth within the national and global context. Social policies, programs, and support services for children are considered. Topics explored include prenatal services, educational programs, behavior, health, special needs, families and services. Field experiences are integrated into this course.

#### **ECEC 8603 Families, Children, and Communities in a Multicultural and Diverse Society (3 credits)**

This course focuses on the role of families on child development from the perspective of multicultures. Role of culture and how it shapes families' views on child rearing practices are investigated. Students will examine current situations faced by young children and their families from the prenatal stage through the early childhood years. Field experiences are integrated.

**ECEC 8604 Current Trends and Issues in Curricular Theory in Early Childhood Education (3 credits)**

This course will examine recent directions in curricular theory and programs for young children. Students engage in the analysis of what constitutes developmentally appropriate curriculum. Selected models and approaches appropriate for children from birth to age eight are investigated. Field experiences are integrated into this course.

**ECEC 8605 Child Advocacy: Social Concerns in the Global Context (3 credits)**

This course will examine the role of child advocacy from the perspective of local, national, and global communities. Rationale for advocacy efforts will be examined through selected case studies. Students engage in researching specific social issues (violence, poverty, health, diversity, disasters, and others), identifying, and proposing ways to respond and resolve the problems affecting children.

**ECEC 8606 Cultural Perspectives and Influences on Child Development (3 credits)**

This course examines the role and influence of cross-cultural characteristics on the development of young children. The influence of diversity during the early childhood years as well as influences from families, adults and communities will be studied as it affects young children. Field experiences are integrated into this course.