Program Overview
The Early Childhood Education program will prepare you for a professional career in early childhood education. You will learn to plan developmentally appropriate environments and activities that will promote optimal growth and development in young children.

Special Features
All Early Childhood Education core courses are offered in an accelerated format:

**DAY CLASSES: New Richmond and Superior.**
Students have the opportunity to complete the degree in one calendar year.

**EVENING CLASSES: New Richmond and Rice Lake.**
Students complete the program by taking classes one to two nights per week and occasional Saturdays.

General Studies courses are offered in a variety of delivery methods including in person, online, ITV, or flex lab.

An agreement between the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) and the University of Wisconsin System (UWS) allows graduates to transfer credits to UW-Milwaukee, UW-Parkside, UW-Oshkosh, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, or UW-Whitewater and apply them toward a B.S. degree in Early Childhood Education or Elementary Education. Lakeland College and Northland College also allow the transfer of credits to their B.S. degrees. Contact the receiving institution for specific details.

Program-Specific Requirements
All program applicants must complete a "Background Character Verification Form" and have a physical as required by the state of Wisconsin.

There are four practicum experiences required in the Early Childhood Education program. Practicum 1 requires a minimum of 64 hours of off-campus field experience and Practicum 2, 3, and 4 require a minimum of 128 hours of off-campus field experience. In-class contact time is also required as part of the practicum experience.

Student Profile
As a student in the Early Childhood Education program, you should:

- Communicate effectively
- Be able to lift 50 pounds
- Be able to accept constructive feedback
- Enjoy and respect children
- Exhibit a caring attitude
- Learn to be flexible
- Use good judgment
- Be dependable
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Preparation for Admission
The following experiences will help you prepare for this program:

- **Applied Math**
- **Psychology**
- **Speech/Communications**
- **Parenting/Family Living**
- **English/Foreign Language**
- **Health/Food Choices**
- **Sociology**
- **Art**

**Program Outcomes**
As an Early Childhood Education graduate, employers will expect you to:

- Apply child development theory to practice.
- Observe, record, and assess child growth and development.
- Implement developmentally appropriate curriculum.
- Incorporate developmentally appropriate guidance strategies.
- Demonstrate professional and ethical standards.
- Advocate for children, families, and the profession.

Career Outlook
The demand for Early Childhood professionals continues to increase as parents look for providers who can guide their child's development. The typical careers that are available to you after graduation include:

- Early Childhood Teacher (Child Care)
- Early Childhood Assistant Teacher
- Family Child Care Provider
- Infant or Toddler Teacher
- Nanny
- Early Childhood Special Needs Aide/Assistant
- Program Director/Administrator
- Public School Teacher Aide/Assistant
- Head Start Teacher/Assistant

**Curriculum**

**Number** | **Course Title** | **Credits**
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10307148 | ECE: Foundations of Early Childhood Education (also available online) | 3
10307151 | ECE: Infant & Toddler Development | 3
10307166 | ECE: Curriculum Planning | 3
10307167 | ECE: Health, Safety, & Nutrition (also available online) | 3
10307174 | Practicum 1 | 2
10307178 | Art, Music, & Language Arts | 3
10307179 | Child Development | 3
10307187 | ECE: Children with Differing Abilities | 3
10307188 | ECE: Guiding Children's Behavior | 3
10307192 | Practicum 2 | 3
10307194 | ECE: Math, Science, & Social Studies | 3
10307195 | Family & Community Relationships | 3
10307197 | Practicum 3 | 3
10307198 | Administering an Early Childhood Education Program | 3
10307199 | Practicum 4 | 3

**General Studies Courses**

10801195 | Written Communication | 3
10801198 | Speech | 3
10804106 | Introduction to College Math or | 3
10804123 | Math with Business Applications or | 3
10806114 | General Biology | 4
10809172 | Race, Ethnic and Diversity Studies | 3
10809144 | Macroeconomics or | 3
10809122 | Introduction to American Government | 3
10809196 | Introduction to Sociology | 3
10809198 | Introduction to Psychology | 3

**ELECTIVES**

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

- This course requires a prerequisite and/or corequisite, and must be completed with a grade of “C-” or better.
- Appropriate placement score or Introduction to College Writing course required.
Course Descriptions

10307148
ECE: Foundations of Early Childhood Education - Credits: 3
This 3-credit course introduces you to the early childhood profession. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; analyze the historical perspectives of early childhood education; summarize types of early childhood education settings; identify the components of a quality early childhood education program; summarize responsibilities of early childhood education professionals; explore early childhood curriculum models.

10307151
ECE: Infant & Toddler Development - Credits: 3
In this 3-credit course you will study infant and toddler development as it applies to an early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; analyze development of infants and toddlers (conception to three years); correlate prenatal conditions with development; summarize child development theories; analyze the role of heredity and the environment; examine research-based models; examine culturally and developmentally appropriate environments for infants and toddlers.

10307166
ECE: Curriculum Planning - Credits: 3
This 3-credit course examines the components of curriculum planning in early childhood education. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; analyze development of social studies programs for young children; apply legal and ethical requirements including, but not limited to, ADA and IDEA; differentiate between typical and exceptional development; analyze the differing abilities of children with physical, cognitive, health/medical, communication, and/or behavioral/educational disorders; work collaboratively with community and professional resources; utilize an individual education plan (IEP/IFSP) for children with developmental differences; adapt curriculum to meet the needs of children with developmental differences; cultivate partnerships with families who have children with developmental differences.

10307174
ECE: Practicum 1 - Credits: 2
This 2-credit practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. The course competencies include: document children’s behavior; explore the standards for quality early childhood education; explore strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; implement activities developed by the co-op teacher/instructor; demonstrate professional behavior; practice caregiving routines with curriculum; practice positive interpersonal skills with children; practice positive interpersonal skills with adults.

Graduate Employment Information
(WITC Graduate Survey Responses 2005-2006)

| Number of graduates | 31 |
| Number of responses | 30 |
| Number available for employment | 26 |
| Number employed | 25 |
| Percent employed | 96% |
| Employed in related field | 22 |
| Percentage employed in WITC district | 77% |
| Range of yearly salary | $8,000-$33,602 |
| Average yearly salary | $19,231 |

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