

# Early Childhood Education

10-307-1 Associate Degree

Financial Aid Eligible

## Program Overview

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

Campus:

**Ashland**  
**New Richmond**  
**Rice Lake**  
**Superior**



WISCONSIN  
INDIANHEAD  
TECHNICAL  
COLLEGE

## Special Features

Earn an Early Childhood Education degree in two years or less through online classes, daytime or evening classes, and some Saturdays.

**EVENING BLENDED PROGRAM:** Ashland and New Richmond. Students complete the program by taking classes one or two nights per week and occasional Saturdays.

General Studies courses are offered in a variety of delivery methods including in-person, online, or ITV (Interactive Television).

Agreements between the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) and the following baccalaureate degree-granting institutions allow graduates to transfer credits to:

- Cardinal Stritch University
- Lakeland College
- UW-La Crosse
- UW-Oshkosh
- UW-River Falls
- UW-Stevens Point
- UW-Stout
- UW-Superior
- UW-Whitewater

Contact the receiving institution for specific details.

## Admission Requirements

Students in this program must:

- Complete application form and submit with fee (fee waiver may apply if previously submitted)
- Complete Accuplacer entrance assessment to determine placement (waiver may apply with acceptable alternative test scores and/or postsecondary degree completion)
- Review and sign the Functional Abilities Statement of Understanding
- Submit signed Caregiver Background Check Statement of Understanding
- Complete admissions interview with a WITC counselor (above requirements should be completed prior to interview)

## Program-Specific Requirements

Students in this program must:

- Complete and sign Background Information Disclosure Form (BID)
  - Have an acceptable Wisconsin Caregiver Background Check or Minnesota Caregiver Background Check, as applicable
  - Information from the Caregiver Background Check may affect ability to secure fieldwork placement and the ability to find employment after graduation
  - Complete Staff Health Report - Child Care Provider form (physical form)
- 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

Students in the Early Childhood Education program should:

- Enjoy and respect children
- Exhibit a caring attitude
- Be flexible
- Use good judgment
- Be dependable
- Communicate effectively
- Be able to lift 50 pounds
- Be able to accept constructive feedback

## Preparation for Admission

Students should strive to reach a comfort level in the following courses or skills:

- Applied Math
- Psychology
- Speech/Communications
- Family and Consumer Education
- English/Foreign Language
- Health/Food Choices
- Sociology
- Art

## Program Outcomes

Employers will expect Early Childhood Education graduates to:

- Apply child development theory to practice
- Cultivate relationships with children, family, and the community
- Assess child growth and development
- Use best practices in teaching and learning
- Demonstrate professionalism
- Integrate health, safety, and nutrition practices

Collegewide outcomes and indicators will also be addressed to develop personal awareness, career effectiveness, and professionalism. See page 5 for a list of collegewide outcomes and indicators.

## 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 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
<b>Technical Studies Courses</b>		
10307148	ECE: Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
10307151	ECE: Infant & Toddler Development	3
10307166	ECE: Curriculum Planning	3
10307167	ECE: Health, Safety, & Nutrition	3
10307174	ECE: Practicum 1	3
10307178	ECE: Art, Music, & Language Arts	3
10307179	ECE: Child Development	3
10307187	ECE: Children with Differing Abilities	3
10307188	ECE: Guiding Children's Behavior	3
10307192	ECE: Practicum 2	3
10307194	ECE: Math, Science, & Social Studies	3
10307195	ECE: Family & Community Relationships	3
10307197	ECE: Practicum 3	3
10307198	ECE: Administering an Early Childhood Education Program	3
10307199	ECE: Practicum 4	3
		<b>45</b>
<b>General Studies Courses</b>		
10801195	Written Communication	3
10801198	Speech	3
10804123	Math with Business Applications	3
10804107	College Mathematics	3
10804189	Introductory Statistics	3
10806112	Principles of Sustainability	3
10806122	Natural Sciences in Society	3
10809172	Race, Ethnic, and Diversity Studies	3
10809195	Economics	3
10809122	Introduction to American Government	3
10809196	Introduction to Sociology	3
10809198	Introduction to Psychology	3
10809188	Developmental Psychology	3
		<b>21</b>
	<b>ELECTIVES</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>69</b>

## General Studies Courses

10801195	Written Communication	3
10801198	Speech	3
10804123	Math with Business Applications	3
10804107	College Mathematics	3
10804189	Introductory Statistics	3
10806112	Principles of Sustainability	3
10806122	Natural Sciences in Society	3
10809172	Race, Ethnic, and Diversity Studies	3
10809195	Economics	3
10809122	Introduction to American Government	3
10809196	Introduction to Sociology	3
10809198	Introduction to Psychology	3
10809188	Developmental Psychology	3

	<b>ELECTIVES</b>	<b>3</b>
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- ▲ Requires a prerequisite and/or corequisite that must be completed with a grade point of 2.0 or better.
- ▶ See page 40 for General Studies course descriptions.
- \* Credit for Prior Learning not applicable for this course
- Also available online.



WITC offers a wide array of credit-based early childhood education courses, credentials, and degree options that align with the Youngstar requirements.

For more information, go to [www.witc.edu/ece](http://www.witc.edu/ece).

# Course Descriptions

(See page 40 for General Studies 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; investigate the history 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, and analyze the principles of the WI Model Early Learning Standards.

## 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 culturally and developmentally appropriate environments for infants and toddlers, examine the role of brain development in early learning (conception through age three); examine caregiving routines as curriculum.

## 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; examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment; integrate Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) into curriculum; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; develop curriculum plans that promote child development and learning across all content areas; analyze early childhood curriculum models.

## 10307167

**ECE: Health, Safety, & Nutrition - Credits: 3**  
This 3-credit course examines the topics of health, safety, and nutrition within the context of the early childhood educational setting. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives, follow governmental regulations and professional standards as they apply to health, safety, and nutrition, provide a safe early childhood environment, provide a healthy early childhood environment, plan nutritionally sound menus, adhere to child abuse and neglect mandates, apply Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) risk reduction strategies, apply strategies to prevent the occurrence of Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS), incorporate health, safety, and nutrition concepts into the children's curriculum.

## 10307174

**ECE: Practicum 1 - Credits: 3**  
In this 3-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 behaviors; practice caregiving routines as curriculum; practice positive interpersonal skills with children and adults; analyze the guiding principles and the five developmental domains related to the WI Early Learning Standards; integrate the WI Early Learning Standards into the program's teaching cycle (ongoing assessment, planning and curriculum goals, and implementation); evaluate learning and assessment activities using the early learning standards for each individual child. Students must complete or have on file a Staff Health Report – Child Care Provider form (physical form) and current, valid Background Information Disclosure (BID) and Caregiver Background Check (annual Wisconsin and/or Minnesota as applicable) forms, as part of this course.

## 10307178

**ECE: Art, Music, & Language Arts - Credits: 3**  
This 3-credit course will focus on beginning level curriculum development in the specific content areas of art, music, and language arts. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment for art, music, and language arts; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; analyze caregiving routines as curriculum; create developmentally appropriate language, literature, and literacy activities; create developmentally appropriate art activities; create developmentally appropriate music and movement activities.

## 10307179

**ECE: Child Development - Credits: 3**  
The 3-credit course examines child development within the context of the early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: analyze social, cultural, and economic influences on child development; summarize child development theories; analyze development of children age three through age eight; summarize the methods and designs of child development research; analyze the role of heredity and the environment; examine the role of brain development in early learning (ages 3-8).

## 10307187

**ECE: Children with Differing Abilities - Credits: 3**  
This 3-credit course focuses on the child with differing abilities in an early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; provide inclusive programs for young children; apply legal and ethical requirements including, but not limited to, ADA and IDEA; work collaboratively through the consultation process to embed intervention in natural based settings; differentiate between typical and exceptional development; analyze the differing abilities of children with physical, cognitive, health/medical, communication, and/or behavioral/emotional disorders; work collaboratively with community and professional resources; utilize an individual educational 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.

## 10307188

**ECE: Guiding Children's Behavior - Credits: 3**  
This 3-credit course examines positive strategies to guide children's behavior in the early childhood education setting. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; summarize early childhood guidance principles; analyze factors that affect the behavior of children; practice positive guidance strategies; develop guidance strategies to meet individual needs; create a guidance philosophy.

## 10307192

**ECE: Practicum 2 - Credits: 3**  
In this 3-credit practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. The course competencies include: identify children's growth and development; maintain the standards for quality early childhood education; practice strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; implement student teacher-developed activity plans; identify the elements of a developmentally appropriate environment; implement positive guidance strategies; demonstrate professional behaviors; utilize caregiving routines as curriculum; utilize positive interpersonal skills with children; utilize positive interpersonal skills with adults. Students must complete or have on file a Staff Health Report – Child Care Provider form (physical form) and current, valid Background Information Disclosure (BID) and Caregiver Background Check (annual Wisconsin and/or Minnesota as applicable) forms, as part of this course. COREQUISITE: 10307174 ECE: Practicum 1.

## 10307194

**ECE: Math, Science, & Social Studies - Credits: 3**  
This 3-credit course will focus on beginning level curriculum development in the specific content areas of math, science and social studies. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; examine the critical role of play; establish a developmentally appropriate environment for math, science, and social studies; develop activity plans that promote child development and learning; create developmentally appropriate science activities; create developmentally appropriate math activities; create developmentally appropriate social studies activities.

## 10307195

**ECE: Family & Community Relationships - Credits: 3**  
In this 3-credit course you will examine the role of relationships with family and community in early childhood education. Course competencies include: implement strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives when working with families and community; analyze contemporary family patterns, trends, and relationships; utilize effective communication strategies; establish ongoing relationships with families; advocate for children and families; work collaboratively with community resources.

## 10307197

**ECE: Practicum 3 - Credits: 3**  
In this 3-credit practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. The course competencies include: assess children's growth and development; implement the standards for quality early childhood education; integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; build meaningful curriculum; provide a developmentally appropriate environment; facilitate positive guidance strategies; evaluate one's own professional behaviors and practices; lead caregiving routines as curriculum; utilize positive interpersonal skills with children; utilize positive interpersonal skills with adults. Students must complete or have on file a Staff Health Report – Child Care Provider form (physical form) and current, valid Background Information Disclosure (BID) and Caregiver Background Check (annual Wisconsin and/or Minnesota as applicable) forms, as part of this course. COREQUISITE: 10307192 ECE: Practicum 2.

## 10307198

**ECE: Administering an Early Childhood Education Program - Credits: 3**  
This 3-credit course focuses on the administration of an early childhood education program. Course competencies include: integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; analyze the components of an ECE facility; design an ECE program; analyze the aspects of personnel supervision; outline financial components of an ECE program; apply laws and regulations related to an ECE facility; advocate for the early childhood profession.

## 10307199

**ECE: Practicum 4 - Credits: 3**  
In this 3-credit practicum course you will learn about and apply the course competencies in an actual child care setting. Course competencies include: analyze children's growth and development based on assessment; integrate strategies that support diversity and anti-bias perspectives; promote professional behaviors and practices; implement meaningful curriculum; create respectful, reciprocal relationships; evaluate early childhood education programs for quality; explore professional options in early childhood education. Students must complete or have on file a Staff Health Report – Child Care Provider form (physical form) and current, valid Background Information Disclosure (BID) and Caregiver Background Check (annual Wisconsin and/or Minnesota as applicable) forms, as part of this course. COREQUISITE: 10307197 ECE: Practicum 3.

## 10307129

**ECE: Ethics, Advocacy, and Leadership - Credits: 3**  
This course will develop an understanding of the relationship between the Code of Ethical Conduct, child advocacy, and leadership in an early childhood setting.

## Graduate Employment Information

(WITC Graduate Survey Responses 2009-2010; for most recent data, go to [witic.edu](http://witic.edu))

Number of graduates	22	Number employed	18	% employed in WITC district	63%
Number of responses	21	Percent employed	100%	Range of yearly salary	\$16,639-\$30,594
Number available for employment	18	Employed in related field	17	Average yearly salary	\$20,494

*career vision*