

# Major in Early Childhood Education

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## Program in Early Childhood Education

The Early Childhood Education Program offers a course of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree. The major in Early Childhood Education consists of 51 credit hours, including two 100-hour clinical experiences at different age levels of early childhood. Each clinical includes a 3-credit weekly lecture to provide more in-depth examination of field experiences and on time field relevant topics.

In addition, students are required to pursue endorsement in TESL or BLBC (please contact the TESL program advisor or ECED program advisor for BLBC endorsement requirements)

Students who complete this program qualify for Early Childhood licensure. Upon licensure, they are eligible to teach early childhood (birth-2nd grade).

## University Core Curriculum Requirements

| General Education Distribution Area   | Cr. Hrs. |
|---|----------|
| <b>Fine Arts (FA)*</b><br>2 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: Art, CMT (Mass Media or Theatre), Music (includes Dance).   | 6        |
| <b>Humanities (HU)*</b><br>3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: CMT (Communication), English, Linguistics, Philosophy, Women's and Gender Studies, World Languages and Cultures, (Note: No more than two foreign language courses may be used to fulfill this requirement.)  | 9        |
| <b>Behavioral/Social Sciences (SB)*</b><br>3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: African & African American Studies, Anthropology, Computer Science, Economics, Geography & Environmental Studies, History, Justice Studies, Latino & Latin American Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work           | 9        |
| <b>Natural Sciences (NS and NSL)**</b><br>3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study; one course must have a laboratory component (NSL): Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Physics (Note: If an FYE ANTH that counts as Natural Science is taken, only one Biology course may be used for Natural Science). | 9        |

### Engaged Learning Experiences

Students must complete, at Northeastern, three courses designated as Engaged Learning Experiences courses. One of the Engaged Learning Experiences courses must be at the 300-level, and one Engaged Learning Experiences course must be designated as "Boundary Crossing".

### Discipline Specific (ELE-DS)

These courses have pre-requisites that are specific courses within a program of study. Discipline Specific courses give students a deeper understanding of how knowledge is created and applied in their field.

### Boundary Crossing (ELE-X)

These are courses that cross disciplinary boundaries and/or cross boundaries through engagements outside the classroom or University allowing students to see how knowledge gained in one field might inform other fields or other aspects of society.

### Math/Quantitative Reasoning (MA)

1 Math course, that has intermediate Algebra as prerequisite OR is a course listed on the General Education Distributive Learning List of Approved Courses. Any 3 hour college level math course, beyond Intermediate Algebra, meets this requirement.

\* Majors in Fine Arts, Humanities or Social/Behavioral Sciences, may waive up to 6 credit hours of General Education requirements in the corresponding distribution area.

\*\* Majors in Natural Sciences may waive up to 9 credit hours of General Education requirements in the Natural Sciences distribution area.

Students should also be aware of all other university requirements to obtain a degree - NEIU requirements (<http://catalog.neiu.edu/graduation-requirements/bachelors-degree/>)

## Major in Early Childhood Education for the Bachelor of Arts Degree

### Declaration of Major

In order to register for Block 2 courses, students must have declared their major and be admitted to the College of Education. Students should meet with the program Advisor (<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/college-of-education/goodwin-college-education-advisors/>) to plan their program in Block 1. Students should complete the necessary procedures to declare their major while they are enrolled in EDFN 302 and EDFN 303 (Block 1). Only students who have declared their major and are admitted to the Goodwin College of Education will be permitted to register for Early Childhood Education Professional Courses. An NEIU GPA of 2.5 is required to declare a major.

### MINOR AREA OF STUDY

### MINOR SUBJECT AREA – 18 CREDIT HOURS MINIMUM

Students are required to declare a minor in TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) or BLBC (Bilingual/Bicultural) and/or pursue an endorsement in either ESL or Bilingual Education. Please consult with the Early Childhood Program Advisor for more information.

### PROFESSIONAL SEQUENCE WITH ADMISSION AND RETENTION REQUIREMENTS

-- Consult the program for admission requirements

| Code                 | Title   | Hours     |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Requirements:</b> |   |           |
| <b>BLOCK 1</b>       |   |           |
| EDFN-302             | Philosophical And Historical Foundations Of Early Childhood Education                   | 3         |
| EDFN-303             | Early Childhood Development   | 3         |
| <b>BLOCK 2</b>       |   |           |
| ECED-301             | Curriculum And Instruction In Early Childhood Education                                 | 3         |
| ECED-313             | Writing Intensive Program: Language Development And Educational Implications            | 3         |
| ECED-316             | Child, Family And Community   | 3         |
| ECED-306             | Methods Of Teaching Reading In Early Childhood  | 3         |
| <b>BLOCK 3</b>       |   |           |
| ECED-338             | Developmental Assessment Of Young Children  | 3         |
| ECED-355             | Methods Of Teaching Mathematics, Science And Social Science In Early Childhood          | 3         |
| BLBC-340             | Teaching English Learners In Diverse Classrooms   | 3         |
| ECED-327A            | Clinical Experiences In Early Childhood Education: Infant To Preschool                  | 3         |
| <b>BLOCK 4</b>       |   |           |
| ECED-325             | Children's Literature Across The Curriculum   | 3         |
| ECED-352             | Methods Of Teaching Language Arts, Music And Art In Early Childhood                     | 3         |
| SPED-382             | Strategies For Differentiating Instruction For Students With Exceptional Learning Needs | 3         |
| ECED-327B            | Clinical Experiences In Early Childhood Education: Kindergarten To 2nd Grade            | 3         |
| <b>BLOCK 5</b>       |   |           |
| ECED-329             | Student Teaching In Early Childhood   | 9         |
| <b>Total Hours</b>   |   | <b>51</b> |

**BLOCK 1:** Do the following in this Block:

- Meet with ECED program Advisor.
- Complete and submit an application for admission to the College of Education (must have a minimum GPA of 2.5).
- Students must successfully complete Block 1 (EDFN 302 and EDFN 303) to be admitted to the GCOE and be eligible for Block 2 professional courses.

- Students must be admitted to the Goodwin College of Education prior to registration for professional education courses which begin in Block 2. See the Goodwin College of Education checklist for admission at the link below. [CLICK HERE \(https://www.neiu.edu/academics/daniel-l-goodwin-college-of-education/admission-requirements/gcoe-application-quick-checklist/\)](https://www.neiu.edu/academics/daniel-l-goodwin-college-of-education/admission-requirements/gcoe-application-quick-checklist/)
- Register for Block 2
- Attend mandatory clinical information meeting and apply for the first Clinical Experience (ECED-327A). See [clinical-experiences-and-student-teaching office information](#).

### Eligibility for the first Clinical Experience in Block 3

- In Block 1 students must consult with the Early Childhood program Advisor (<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/college-of-education/goodwin-college-education-advisors/>) to receive guidance about their application for the first clinical experience in Block 3.
- Student application for admission to the GCOE is processed by staff in the GCOE Dean's Office (LWH 4044) and the application for clinical experiences and student teaching is processed by staff in the Clinical Experiences and Student Teaching (CEST) Office (LWH 4023).
- Students must be admitted to the GCOE and must have completed an application for a clinical experience in order to be placed in a school by the CEST office.
- Students must have also completed the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) field experience online registration form as well as a CPS background check.

### BLOCK 2: Do the following:

- Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 and a GPA of 2.75 in professional courses.
- Complete ECED-301, ECED-313, ECED-316 and ECED 306
- Apply to the CEST (<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/college-of-education/clinical-experiences-and-student-teaching/>) office for the first clinical ECED-327A, if not already completed.

### BLOCK 3: Do the following:

- Complete ECED-355 concurrently with ECED-327A (with a grade of B or better), ECED-338, and BLBC 340
- Apply to the CEST (<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/college-of-education/clinical-experiences-and-student-teaching/>) office for the next clinical ECED-327B.
- Take and pass the ILTS Content Area test ([http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\\_FRAG/IL206\\_TestPage.html](http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/IL206_TestPage.html)) #206 (Early Childhood). Candidates must pass the State Content Area Test in order to be placed for student teaching.
- Apply to the CEST (<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/college-of-education/clinical-experiences-and-student-teaching/>) office for student teaching.
- Students must also maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 and a GPA of 2.75 in professional courses.

### BLOCK 4: Do the following:

- Complete ECED-325, ECED-352, SPED-382 and ECED-327B (with a grade of B or better).
- Attend mandatory CEST office student teaching orientation meeting.
- Pass the ILTS Content Area test ([http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\\_FRAG/IL206\\_TestPage.html](http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/IL206_TestPage.html)) #206 (Early Childhood) if not completed or passed in Block 3.
- Meet with the program Advisor (<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/college-of-education/goodwin-college-education-advisors/>) for an academic record review and obtain information on how to be authorized for student teaching.
- Must meet all Blocks 1, 2, 3 and 4 requirements before proceeding to student teaching.

### BLOCK 5: Do the following:

- Complete Student teaching – ECED-329
- Complete and pass edTPA in ECED-329 during Student Teaching (to be eligible for Licensure).

### LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

- In order to be entitled by NEIU for the Illinois Professional Educator License (early childhood-birth to 2nd grade), students must have received a "B" or better in student teaching and have passed the ILTS Content Area Test #206 ([http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\\_FRAG/IL206\\_TestPage.html](http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/IL206_TestPage.html)).
- In order to be licensed by the Illinois State Board of Education, students must have passed the Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA).

### EXIT REQUIREMENTS FOR DEGREE COMPLETION

- Successful completion of all NEIU and ECED General Education Requirements
- Successful completion of Block 1 through Block 5 Courses
- Must earn a B or better in all Clinical Experiences and Student Teaching

- Must provide evidence of passing ILTS Content Area test ([http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\\_FRAG/IL206\\_TestPage.html](http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/IL206_TestPage.html)) #206 (Early Childhood)
- Must successfully complete the required minor
- Must have the minimum credit hours for degree: 120 credit hours
- Must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5
- Must maintain an overall GPA of 2.75 in professional sequence courses.

In addition to the successful completion of the Early Childhood Education major and the required minor, students must complete the **general education** requirements for the College of Education. These requirements overlap with NEIU's General Education Requirements:

| Code   | Title  | Hours |
|--|--|-------|
| Fine Arts (6 credit hours)   |  | 6     |
| Any Music or Dance Course  |  |       |
| Humanities (9 credit hours)  |  | 9     |
| Select one of the following:   |  |       |
| ENGL-201   | The World Of Poetry                                |       |
| or ENGL-202  | The World Of Drama                                 |       |
| or ENGL-203  | The World Of Fiction                               |       |
| And choose two courses from Limited List in: English, Foreign Language, Linguistics, Philosophy  |  |       |
| Behavioral and Social Science (12 credit hours)  |  | 12    |
| PSCI-216   | American National Government                       |       |
| HIST-214   | United States History 1607-1877                    |       |
| or HIST-215  | United States History 1877-Present                 |       |
| Select one of the following:   |  |       |
| HIST-111C  | World History: East Asia (Non-Western/Third World) |       |
| or HIST-111D   | World History: Latin America                       |       |
| or HIST-111E   | World History: Africa                              |       |
| or HIST-111F   | World History: Islam                               |       |
| or ANTH-212  | Introduction To Cultural Anthropology              |       |
| Elective   |  |       |
| Biological & Physical Sciences (12 credit hours)   |  | 12    |
| Coursework must include Biological, Earth and Space, & Physical Science (include one lab course) |  |       |
| ENGL-101   | Writing I  | 6     |
| & ENGL-102   | and Writing II <sup>1</sup>                        |       |
| Select one of the following:   |  | 3     |
| CMTC-101   | Public Speaking <sup>1</sup>                       |       |
| or CMTC-202  | Voice and Diction                                  |       |
| HSCI-107   | Health For Effective Living                        | 3     |
| College-level Mathematics Course (approved by ECED advisor). <sup>1</sup>                        |  | 3     |
| Physical Education Elective  |  | 1     |
| Total Credit Hours Required for Graduation   |  | 120   |

<sup>1</sup> Students must receive a grade of "C" or higher.

**It is recommended to consult with your advisor at least once each semester.**

This sample curricular map is provided to guide you in the planning of your progression for this major. This guide should not replace regular consultations with your program advisor. For specific recommendations of courses not identified, please consult your program advisor.

In order to register for Block 2 courses, you must have declared a major and be admitted to the College of Education.

#### First Year

| Term 1          | Hours             |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| ENGL-101        | Writing I 3       |
| CMTC-101 or 202 | Public Speaking 3 |
| Math Course     | 3                 |

|   |  |           |
|---|--|-----------|
| Non-Western/Third World course          |  | 3         |
| HSCI-107                                | Health For Effective Living  | 3         |
| <b>Term Hours</b>                       |  | <b>15</b> |
| <b>Term 2</b>                           |  |           |
| ENGL-102                                | Writing II   | 3         |
| HIST-214 or 215                         | United States History 1607-1877  | 3         |
| 1 elective - Social Behavioral Sciences |  | 3         |
| 1 Music or Dance class                  |  | 3         |
| Fine Arts Course                        |  | 3         |
| <b>Term Hours</b>                       |  | <b>15</b> |
| <b>Term 3</b>                           |  |           |
| Earth Science course                    |  | 3         |
| <b>Term Hours</b>                       |  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Second Year</b>                      |  |           |
| <b>Term 1</b>                           |  |           |
| Block 1A                                |  |           |
| EDFN-302                                | Philosophical And Historical Foundations Of Early Childhood Education          | 3         |
| ENGL-201 or ENGL-202 or ENGL-203        |  | 3         |
| 1 Phys Ed Course                        |  | 1         |
| BIO-100                                 | Introduction To Biology  | 3         |
| 1 Course in Minor                       |  | 3         |
| <b>Term Hours</b>                       |  | <b>13</b> |
| <b>Term 2</b>                           |  |           |
| Block 1B                                |  |           |
| EDFN-303                                | Early Childhood Development  | 3         |
| PSCI-216                                | American National Government   | 3         |
| 2 Humanities courses                    |  | 6         |
| Any Natural Science Course              |  | 3         |
| <b>Term Hours</b>                       |  | <b>15</b> |
| <b>Term 3</b>                           |  |           |
| One Physical Science course             |  | 3         |
| <b>Term Hours</b>                       |  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Third Year</b>                       |  |           |
| <b>Term 1</b>                           |  |           |
| Block 2                                 |  |           |
| ECED-301                                | Curriculum And Instruction In Early Childhood Education                        | 3         |
| ECED-313                                | Writing Intensive Program: Language Development And Educational Implications   | 3         |
| ECED-316                                | Child, Family And Community  | 3         |
| 2 Courses from Minor                    |  | 6         |
| <b>Term Hours</b>                       |  | <b>15</b> |
| <b>Term 2</b>                           |  |           |
| Block 3                                 |  |           |
| ECED-306                                | Methods Of Teaching Reading In Early Childhood                                 | 3         |
| ECED-338                                | Developmental Assessment Of Young Children                                     | 3         |
| ECED-355                                | Methods Of Teaching Mathematics, Science And Social Science In Early Childhood | 3         |

|                        |   |            |
|------------------------|---|------------|
| ECED-327A              | Clinical Experiences<br>In Early Childhood<br>Education: Infant To<br>Preschool                     | 3          |
| 1 Course from Minor    |   | 3          |
| <b>Term Hours</b>      |   | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>Term 3</b>          |   |            |
| Two courses from minor |   | 6          |
| Floating Course        |   |            |
| BLBC-340               | Teaching English<br>Learners In Diverse<br>Classrooms   | 3          |
| <b>Term Hours</b>      |   | <b>9</b>   |
| <b>Fourth Year</b>     |   |            |
| <b>Term 1</b>          |   |            |
| Block 4                |   |            |
| ECED-325               | Children's Literature<br>Across The Curriculum  | 3          |
| ECED-352               | Methods Of Teaching<br>Language Arts, Music<br>And Art In Early<br>Childhood                        | 3          |
| SPED-382               | Strategies For<br>Differentiating Instruction<br>For Students With<br>Exceptional Learning<br>Needs | 3          |
| ECED-327B              | Clinical Experiences<br>In Early Childhood<br>Education: Kindergarten<br>To 2nd Grade               | 3          |
| <b>Term Hours</b>      |   | <b>12</b>  |
| <b>Term 2</b>          |   |            |
| Block 5                |   |            |
| ECED-329               | Student Teaching In<br>Early Childhood  | 9          |
| <b>Term Hours</b>      |   | <b>9</b>   |
| <b>Total Hours:</b>    |   | <b>124</b> |