Program Descriptions and Outcomes

Let’s look at our program descriptions, shall we? Since this class is a mixed course of Associate and Bachelor Degree Students, please only read the description and outcomes for the degree program in which you are enrolled.

The Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Development is designed to provide you with the introductory knowledge and skills for working with young children (birth through age eight) and families in early childhood settings. Specific emphasis is placed on the young child’s growth and development, working with children in the inclusive classroom, health and nutrition needs, and lesson planning and implementation. This program is designed to meet the needs of students through the curriculum linking applied theory to practice, ethics, and professionalism. The degree provides a foundation in the critical thinking and communication skills needed to support the roles and responsibilities of early childcare professionals in diverse learning environments.

By the time, students complete the AAS they should be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge of child development and learning theory in early childhood settings;
- demonstrate an understanding of the development and implementation of strategies for building family and community relationships;
- identify developmentally appropriate observational and assessment techniques for informing instructional planning for children and their families;
- demonstrate the ability to use developmentally appropriate principles, tools and practices to create effective learning environments for young children;
- demonstrate use of professional standards, ethical values, critical inquiry and advocacy practices of the Early Childhood field; and,
- demonstrate an understanding of the importance of individuality and cultural diversity of children and their families to learning and development.

The Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Development is a non-licensure program designed to prepare students to work in early childhood settings with children from birth to age eight. Foundation coursework includes growth and development, applied theory, ethics and professionalism, children in the inclusive classroom, health and nutrition, and lesson planning and implementation. The Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Development adheres to the National Association of Young Children (NAEYC) standards.
Courses are designed to help meet the needs of students through the curriculum blending of theory and practice. The degree provides a general education foundation in ethics, critical thinking, and communication skills needed to support the roles and responsibilities in diverse learning environments.

By the time, students complete the BS they should be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge of child development and learning theory in early childhood settings;
- develop, plan, and implement strategies for building family and community relationships;
- evaluate developmentally appropriate observation and assessment to inform instructional planning for children and their families;
- evaluate developmentally appropriate principles, tools and practices to create effective learning environments for young children;
- demonstrate use of professional standards, ethical values, critical inquiry and advocacy practices of the Early Childhood field; and,
- demonstrate an understanding of the importance of individuality and cultural diversity of children and their families to learning and development.