Customizing Your Associate of Science in Early Childhood Development Degree

Now that you have had the opportunity to explore aspects of the early childhood career and review some of the areas of specialization in the field, you will want to think more carefully about which elective courses will provide you with the optimum background for your career. In Unit 3 you had the opportunity to review your degree plan and browse through some course descriptions. Now you will want to make some decisions about how you will customize your degree plan. You will be submitting your customized degree plan in the Unit 4 Project. It is important to consider how you will apply your knowledge of the early childhood role and the program outcomes to creating a customized degree plan that will fulfill your professional goals. We have listed some examples below where you can cluster your elective courses to fit with your career goals. You are free to choose from the examples we have included and you can select other individual electives that reflect your personal or professional interests. Remember, you can select courses from the School of General Education’s website or courses you have explored in the online course catalog. Just be sure you don’t duplicate courses already listed in your degree plan under the “core” or “major” requirements and also pay attention to any prerequisites you may need to take first.

**Associate of Science in Early Childhood Development Degree Plan**

**Core Requirements: These courses are required for the Degree**

| Communication-CM107 College Composition I |
| Communication-CM220 College Composition II |
| Mathematics- MM150 Survey of Mathematics or MM212 College Algebra |

**Major Requirements: These courses are required for the Early Childhood Development area**

| Major Requirement = CE100 Preparing for a Career in Early Childhood Development |
| Major Requirement = CE101 Introduction to Early Childhood Education |
| Major Requirement = PS124 Introduction to Psychology or SS144 Sociology |
| Major Requirement = CE114 Early Childhood Development |
| Major Requirement = CE215 Early Childhood Curriculum Planning |
| Major Requirement = CE220 Child Safety, Nutrition and Health |
| Major Requirement = CM206 Interpersonal Communication |
| Major Requirement = CE230 Creative Activities for Young Children |
| Major Requirement = CE240 Young Children with Special Needs |
| Capstone = CE299 Associate’s Capstone in Early Childhood Development |
Electives: In your degree plan, you have 25 open elective credits total – (five 100/200 level courses). The following are some sample elective class clusters to consider. You may also browse through the course catalog to see if there are any other electives you would prefer and discuss these options with your advisor (remember to check prerequisites listed in the catalog for each course as you will be required to meet any of the requirements first). You may be bringing in transfer credit or planning to petition for experiential learning credit by taking EL203 Portfolio Development as an elective, so as with most plans, this will be open to revision along the way. We invite you to take advantage of the opportunities provided in elective courses from other Departments and Schools and want you to benefit from their knowledge of the field in planning your electives as well as taking their courses. However, it is important that you confirm the availability and purpose of elective courses by discussing your choices with your academic advisor. Note that EP courses (EP100, EP101, EP114, etc.) are no longer being offered to new students.

Cluster A

- SS216 Community Engagement
- HN144 Human Behavior and the Environment
- PS220 Child and Adolescent Psychology
- SC115 Principles of Nutrition
- HW215 Models for Health and Wellness

Cluster B

- CM115 Communication- Concepts and Skills
- CM214 Public Speaking for the Professional
- CM250 Fundamentals of Grammar and Editing
- HN144 Human Behavior and the Environment
- EL203 Portfolio Development

Cluster C

- SS260 Gender and Society
- HU245 Ethics
- PS220 Child and Adolescent Psychology
- SC115 Principles of Nutrition
- EL203 Portfolio Development

Create Your Own Cluster

1.

2.

3.
CE100 Unit 4 Reading: Elective Courses

4.

5.