

Early Childhood Education—Career Degree (ECC)

In addition to attending to children's basic needs, early childhood education professionals organize activities that stimulate children's physical, emotional, intellectual, and social growth. They help children explore interests, develop independence, foster creativity, build self-esteem, and learn how to behave with others. MWCC's program will prepare you to begin a career working with children ages 0-5. Benefits of MWCC's program include a great job placement rate (90 percent of students find jobs), the option of both day and evening classes, day classes scheduled conveniently for parents of school-age children, opportunities to gain real world experience, and many excellent, local practicum sites.

Number	Suggested Course Order	Cr	Semester	Grade	Prerequisites/Notes
ECE101	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3			ENG100, RDG100, FYE101, or placement
ENG101	English Composition I	3			ENG100, RDG100, FYE101, or placement
PSY105	Introduction to Psychology	3			ENG100, RDG100, FYE101, or placement
CIS127	Computer Technologies	3			ENG100, RDG100, FYE101, or placement
BIO103	Human Health and Disease	3			ENG100, RDG100, FYE101, or placement
ENG102	English Composition II	3			ENG101
PSY108	Child Development	3			PSY105
THE113	Speech	3			ENG101
SOC206	Marriage and the Family	3			ENG100, RDG100, FYE101, or placement
MAT140	Elements of Mathematics I	3			MAT096 or placement
ECE134	Guiding Children's Behavior	3			PSY108
ECE114	Early Childhood Education Practicum I	4			PSY108, ECE102 co-requisite or prerequisite, or permission of division dean
PSY244	Children With Special Needs	3			PSY108 or PSY110
ECE102	Early Childhood Curriculum and Program Planning	3			PSY108 or permission of division dean
ECE104 or ECE132 or ECE105 or ECE 250	Infant and Toddler Development and Curriculum or Observation and Assessment or Applying Theories of Curriculum or Day Care Administration	3			PSY108 PSY108, ECE102 Lead Teacher certified or permission of division dean
ECE124	Early Childhood Education Practicum II	4			ECE114 or permission of division dean
ENG235	Children's Literature	3			ENG102 or permission of division dean
ECE103	Home, School, and Community Relations	3			ECE101 or permission of division dean
PER126/130	Health, Fitness, and Wellness Elective	2/3			Prerequisites: MAT092, RDG100, or placement Note: PER130 is recommended for transfer
ECE260	Leadership in Education Seminar	3			Prerequisites: ECE101, ECE102, ECE103, ECE114, ENG101, ENG102, PSY108, 244 Co-requisite: ECE124
Total: 61/62 credits					

See page 112 of the college catalog for program competencies and technical standards.

Campus/format: A majority of this program can be completed during the day or evening at the Gardner Campus.

State certification: After completing the degree, students can apply for Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) Lead Teacher certification. Lead Teachers must be age 21 or over (those under 21 can receive Teacher certification). EEC certification indicates that students are qualified to work in childcare facilities. The program helps students meet the new Massachusetts state guidelines requiring an associate's degree.

Helpful hints: To meet Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) requirements, students should attain First Aid certification. Childcare facilities are required to have one CPR certified professional always present, therefore, students who attain certification will be even more marketable.

Transfer options: This concentration is designed for immediate career entry. However, transfer agreements exist with Becker College, Charter Oak State College and the University of Phoenix.

Visit MWCC's transfer services website:
<http://transfer.mwcc.edu>.

3 Plus ONE eligible—go to:
www.mwcc.edu/3PlusONE.

Special requirements: Technical standards must be met with or without accommodations.

Career options: Graduates can work with children ages 0-5 in Head Start, preschool, daycare programs, or as classroom aides. They can also work toward becoming a center director or administrator.

Earning potential: \$16,320 to \$35,380.