Early Childhood Education, Infant Specialist Certificate

This certificate provides the educational coursework that serves as the core curriculum for the early childhood education field. Topics include an introduction to the profession, observation techniques, and age-appropriate care and education. Additionally, it focuses on infant development and the care of education of infants/toddlers in group settings. The Infant Specialist Certificate is designed to prepare students to work with children ages 0-3 in a variety of early care and education settings. Completion of the Certificate fulfills the child development coursework requirement, combined with experience, for the California Child Development Permit at the Teacher level. Students meet the minimum requirements for employment in an infant care program.

Total Units: 22

First Year

Semester 1

9 Units

COURSE	UNITS	PRE-REQS^	SEMESTERS OFFERED*
ECE 300 Z Introduction to Principles and Practices in Early Childhood Education	3		F, S
ECE 312[1] Z Child Development	3	Advisory: ENGL C1000	F, S, Su
ECE 314[2] Z The Child, the Family and the Community	3		F, S, Su

Z At least one section of this course is offered with free textbooks and is labeled as zero textbook costs (ZTC). If it is a GE area class or elective, there may be several ZTC offerings to fulfill the GE requirement. Use the Free Textbook filter to find these courses. Learn more on the ZTC page of the college website.

[1] Course also offered during summer term. Must be completed before semester 2.

[2] Course also offered during summer term

Semester 2

13 Units

Career Options/Outlook:

The Infant Specialist Certificate prepares students for careers working with infants and toddlers in a variety of early care and education settings. With increasing recognition of the importance of early brain development and high-quality infant-toddler care, the demand for skilled professionals in this field continues to grow.

A sample of reported job titles:

Career Opportunities with an Infant Specialist Certificate:

Infant/Toddler Teacher

Infant Caregiver in Family Child Care Homes

Early Head Start Educator

Nanny or Private Infant Care Provider

Infant/Toddler Program Assistant

Parent Educator or Family Support Specialist

COURSE	UNITS	PRE-REQS^	SEMESTERS OFFERED*
ECE 320[1] Z Curriculum and Interactions in Early Childhood Education	4	ECE 300 & 312 & Co-req: ECE 326; TB clearance & proof of immunization.	F, S
ECE 326 Z Making Learning Visible Through Observation and Documentation	3	ECE 312	F, S
ECE 330 Z Infant and Toddler Development	3		F, S
ECE 331 Z Care and Education of Infants and Toddlers	3	ECE 312 or 330	F, S

Z At least one section of this course is offered with free textbooks and is labeled as zero textbook costs (ZTC). If it is a GE area class or elective, there may be several ZTC offerings to fulfill the GE requirement. Use the Free Textbook filter to find these courses. Learn more on the ZTC page of the college website.

^You must have passed the prerequisite course(s) with a “C” or better; Corequisite must be taken during the same semester; Advisory means it is recommended but not required to enroll in the course.

*(O) = online available (P) = partially online

[1] 102-108 in-person lab hours at qualifying site. Under California law (Title 22) any persons working directly with children must provide proof of current Tuberculosis clearance and provide any required proof of immunizations (currently: measles, pertussis, and influenza/influenza waiver).

Projected job openings in California (2020-2030):

76,820

Projected growth in California (2020-2030):

22% growth

Median Salary in California with advanced degree (2021):

$37,080/yr

Source:

https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/25-2011.00

Transfer notes:

Please meet with a counselor for specific transfer course evaluation or transferring to a specific 4-year institution.

Program Notes:

Students must complete 16 units in general education (GE) categories to be eligible for the Child Development Permit (Teacher Leve) through California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. At least one course in each of the following GE areas must be completed: English, Math/Science, Social Science, Humanities/Fine Arts.

See ECE Department for information on expertise requirements for the Child Development Permits.

Field Experience

Please note that ECE 320 has a 102-108 supervised field experience lab requirement per course. This is an approved program/curriculum course required by the California Code of Regulations Title 22 and Title 5. Under the supervision of a qualified Mentor Teacher, students will complete 3.5 in-person scheduled lab hours twice a week at the CRC Child Development Center or an instructor-approved early learning and care setting. Up to 50 days of experience can be applied to California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) Child Development Permits for students completing ECE 320 & 321. Up to 100 hours of supervised clinical practice equivalency (in-person lab hours) may be applied to a PK-3 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Specialist Instruction Credential Program (CCTC). The college requires all lab students to complete a lab waiver within the learning management system. Students must show current proof of tuberculosis clearance, pertussis immunization, and measles immunization. Additionally, students enrolled in the fall semester must be immunized against influenza, or submit an influenza waiver.

About this program map:

This program map represents one possible pathway to complete the program. Please see a counselor to create an education plan customized to meet your needs. This map is not a guarantee of course

availability or financial aid applicability.

Zero Textbook Costs (ZTC):

The Zero Textbook Costs designation and logo are added to any course that provides free access to all required instructional materials. These are typically shared with students through Canvas. Courses that are designated as ZTC may still require students to purchase supplemental materials such as lab coats, a calculator, art supplies, etc. See full definitions and searching tips on the Zero Textbook Costs page of the college website.

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