



This program roadmap represents one possible pathway to complete the program. **Please see a counselor** to create an education plan that is customized to meet your needs. This roadmap is not a guarantee of course availability or financial aid applicability.

Catalog: 2026-27

Total Units: 45

First Year

Semester 1

15 Units

| CAT. | COURSE | UNIT | PREREQUISITES |
|------|---|------|---------------|
| Req | ECE 300 Introduction to Principles and Practices in Early Childhood Education | 3 | |
| Req | ECE 312 Child Development or PSYC 372 Child Development | 3 | |
| Req | ECE 430 Culture and Diversity in Early Childhood Education | 3 | |
| RE | ENGL C1000 College Composition or ENGL C1000H ^H Honors College Composition | 3 | |
| RE | ART 430 Art and Children | 3 | |

^H honors courses

Semester 2

16 Units

| CAT. | COURSE | UNIT | PREREQUISITES |
|------|--|------|-----------------|
| Req | ECE 314 The Child, the Family and the Community | 3 | |
| Req | ECE 320 Curriculum and Interactions in Early Childhood Education | 4 | ECE 300 and 312 |
| Req | ECE 331 Care and Education of Infants and Toddlers | 3 | |
| Req | ECE 415 Children's Health, Safety and Nutrition or NUTRI 320 Children's Health, Safety and Nutrition | 3 | |
| RE | COMM 361 The Communication Experience | 3 | |

ZTC

CAREER PATH

Career Options:

- Teacher in a privately funded (Title 22) early care and education program (center based & family childcare).
- Associate Teacher in a publicly funded (Title 5) early care and education program.
- Teacher in a publicly funded (Title 5) early care and education program, with 175 days of experience.

Advising Notes:

- 16 units of general education courses must include at least one course from each of the following four areas: Natural Science or Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning, English Composition or Oral Communication & Critical Thinking, Arts & Humanities, and Social & Behavioral Sciences. A course cannot be used in the 16 units if already used in the 24 units of ECE core.
- ECE 320 and 321 both have a lab and a lecture component. Each course requires students to complete 108 hours in an approved early education classroom. Students taking these courses will have the option of completing their practicum experience at the ARC Child Development Center (CDC), at their worksite (if it meets required lab placement

Second Year

Semester 3

14 Units

| CAT. | COURSE | UNIT | PREREQUISITES |
|------|--|------------|-----------------|
| Req | ECE 321 Advanced Practicum in Early Childhood Education | 4 | ECE 320 |
| Req | ECE 326 Making Learning Visible Through Observation and Documentation | 3 | ECE 300 and 312 |
| RE | BIOL C1000 Survey of Biology | 4 | |
| RE | PSYC 365 Issues of Diverse Populations or SWCD 330 Issues of Diverse Populations | 3 3 | |

Associate Teacher Permit: Once students have completed ECE 300, 312, 314 and 320, and completed 50 days of teaching experience (3 hours minimum per day) they can apply for an Associate Teacher Permit through the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). Students finishing both ECE 320 and 321 practicum classes will have completed 50-60 days of experience. Because the experience is valid for two years, it is a good idea to take ECE 320 and 321 within that period. Students working in a licensed early childhood program are already completing those days of experience. Full-time faculty are trained to provide support with the application process. We hold a permit session in the fall and spring, as well as by appointment.

Teacher Permit: Once students have completed this certificate and 175 days of teaching experience they can apply for a Teacher Permit through the CTC.

criteria), or from a department-approved community placement site.

- Placements at community sites and the ARC CDC will require the following immunizations: a current TB test (0-12 months), T-DAP (within 10 years), and MMR. Students may sign a waiver for the flu vaccine.
- Students must complete both ECE 300 and ECE 312/PSYC 372 with a "C" or better before taking ECE 320.

Other Notes:

- **ZTC:** With the proper selection of courses, this program can be completed without paying for any textbooks. Look for the ZTC symbol in the class schedule. Learn more on the [ZTC page](#) of the college website.
- While working on this certificate, students will qualify for the **Associate Teacher certificate**. See ECE maps and meet with a counselor for guidance.

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES

| | | |
|------------|---------------------|--|
| Req | Required Core | A course that is required for this program |
| RE | Restricted Elective | A course selected from a list of elective courses specified for this program in the course list in the catalog, which can be replaced with another course from the same list |