

South Central College Program Design

AAS 3667/2550 Early Childhood Education - Mental Health

Program Information

Instructional Level Associate Degree
Career Cluster Human Services

Description

The Early Childhood Education Mental Health Associate Degree program equips aspiring educators with the essential skills to nurture the mental well-being of young children. Spanning 60 credit hours, this comprehensive curriculum blends foundational knowledge in early childhood development with cutting-edge mental health principles. Students will learn to identify emotional and behavioral challenges in children, implement evidence-based interventions, and foster a supportive classroom environment. Graduates will emerge as compassionate advocates, ready to address mental health concerns in diverse educational settings, empowering the next generation for a brighter future.

Background Check Requirements

Yes

Grade Policy

A grade lower than a C may not be accepted for transfer by the receiving institution

Program Admission Dates (Fall and/or Spring)

Fall

Program Location (North Mankato and/or Faribault)

Online NM and FBO

Program Student Learning Outcomes

- 1 Demonstrate understanding of early childhood development and its impact on mental health.
- 2 Apply evidence-based strategies for promoting positive mental health in early childhood settings.
- 3 Assess and identify early signs of mental health challenges in young children.
- 4 Develop individualized mental health support plans for young children.
- 5 Collaborate with families and interdisciplinary professionals to foster a holistic, culturally inclusive approach to early childhood mental health.

Program Configurations

Fall Start

Credits

Technical Course 40
Arts & Sciences 20

Total Credits

60

Semester One: This is a sample program plan based on full time enrollment.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
ECE 1220	Health, Wellness and Nutrition	3	Technical Course
ECE 1240	Diverse Children and Family Relations	3	Technical Course
ECE 1210	Child Growth and Development	3	Technical Course
ENGL 100	Composition	4	Arts & Sciences
ECE 1230	Behavior Guidance	3	Technical Course

Semester Two

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
HSER 1020	Behavioral Interventions	3	Technical Course
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology	4	Arts & Sciences
ECE 1311	Infant/Toddler Development and Mental Health	3	Technical Course
ECE 1205	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3	Technical Course
ECE 2590	Introduction to Children's Mental Health	3	Technical Course

Semester Three

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
ECE 2580	Observation and Assessment	3	Technical Course
PSYC	Elective	4	Arts & Sciences
ECE 1270	Creative Activities and Environments	3	Technical Course
HSER 1000	Introduction to Counseling	3	Technical Course

Semester Four

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
ECE 2570	Capstone	1	Technical Course
ECE 2310	Introduction to Special Education	3	Technical Course
ECE 2520	Children with Challenging Behaviors	3	Technical Course
PSYC 230	Abnormal Psychology	4	Arts & Sciences

SOWK 115	Social Welfare Services	4	Arts & Sciences
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Program Course List

Number	Title	Credits	Pre/Corequisites
ECE 1205	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3	None
ECE 1210	Child Growth and Development	3	None
ECE 1220	Health, Wellness and Nutrition	3	None
ECE 1230	Behavior Guidance	3	None
ECE 1240	Diverse Children and Family Relations	3	None
ECE 1270	Creative Activities and Environments	3	None
ECE 1311	Infant/Toddler Development and Mental Health	3	ECE 1210
ECE 2310	Introduction to Special Education	3	ECE 1210
ECE 2520	Children with Challenging Behaviors	3	ECE 1210 and ECE 1230
ECE 2570	Capstone	1	
ECE 2580	Observation and Assessment	3	ECE 1210 and ECE 1230
ECE 2590	Introduction to Children's Mental Health	3	ECE 1210 and ECE 1230
ENGL 100	Composition	4	Next-Generation Accuplacer Reading minimum score of 250 (Classic Accuplacer, minimum of 75) or completion of READ 0090 or EAP 0095 with a C (2.0) or higher.
HSER 1000	Introduction to Counseling	3	None
HSER 1020	Behavioral Interventions	3	None
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology	4	None
PSYC 230	Abnormal Psychology	4	PSYC 100 OR PSYC 110 OR PSYC 140 OR Instructor Approval
PSYC	Elective	4	
SOWK 115	Social Welfare Services	4	ENGL 100