

## 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, and local practicum sites.

Number	Suggested Course Order	Cr	Semester	Grade	Prerequisites/Notes
ECE101	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3			ENG100, RDG100, or placement
ENG101	English Composition I	3			ENG100, RDG100, or placement
PSY105	Introduction to Psychology	3			ENG100, RDG100, or placement
CIS127	Computer Technologies	3			ENG100, RDG100, or placement
BIO103	Human Health & Disease	3			ENG100, RDG100, or placement
ENG102	English Composition II	3			ENG101
PSY108	Child Development	3			ENG100, RDG100, or placement; PSY105
THE113	Speech	3			ENG101
SOC206	Marriage & Family	3			ENG100, RDG100, or placement
MAT126 <i>or</i> MAT143 <i>or</i> MAT160	Topics Mathematics <i>or</i> Statistics <i>or</i> College Math I	3			MAT096 or placement
ECE134	Guiding Children's Behavior	3			PSY108
ECE114	Early Childhood Practicum I	4			ECE102, PSY108; permission of instructor or dean
PSY244	Children With Special Needs	3			PSY108
ECE102	Early Childhood Curriculum & Program Planning	3			PSY108 or permission of division dean
ECE104 <i>or</i> ECE132 <i>or</i> ECE105	Infant & Toddler Development & Curriculum <i>or</i> Applying Theories of Curriculum <i>or</i> Day Care Administration	3			PSY108; ENG100, RDG100, or placement PSY108, ECE102 Lead Teacher certified or permission of instructor or division dean
ECE124	Early Childhood Practicum II	4			ECE114; permission of instructor or dean
ENG235	Children's Literature	3			ENG102; permission of instructor or dean
ECE103	Home, School, & Community Relations	3			ECE101; permission of instructor or dean
PER126/130	Health, Fitness, & Wellness Elective	2/3			<b>Prerequisites:</b> MAT092, RDG100, or placement <b>Note:</b> PER130 is recommended for transfer
ECE260	Leadership in Education Seminar	3			ECE101, 102, 103, 114, ENG101, 102, PSY108, 244. Co-requisite ECE124
<b>Total: 61/62 credits</b>					

See page105 of the college catalog for program competencies and technical standards.

**Campus/format:** 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 that require an associate's degree by 2010.

**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 planning services website: <http://transfer.mwcc.edu>.

3 Plus ONE eligible—go to: [www.mwcc.edu/3PlusONE](http://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:** \$24,157 to \$32,995 per year, according to a graduate survey.