

Childcare Specialist Certificate

The Childcare Specialist Certificate is an in-depth credential for the current or aspiring early childhood professional. It is designed to accommodate the new high school graduate as well as those who may be returning to school after a period of time. Students in this program have found careers in the private and public sectors of education relating to children ages birth through eight. Many of them are teaching in childcare centers and preschool settings.

This 34 credit certificate meets the educational requirements to be a group teacher in a childcare program and is also a great foundation for other child-related careers. Candidates study a variety of topics related to developmentally appropriate practice such as child psychology, guidance, curriculum, and instruction. The student may choose to begin their studies with the certificate program, and then continue on to complete their associate degree.

Completing the Childcare Specialist Certificate is the first step toward a career as an early childhood professional, as well as many other child-related careers.

Certificates

CDA Education Certificate of Achievement

(P0331)

CDC-110	Early Childhood Development	3
CDC-210	Curriculum, Teaching and Learning in Early Childhood Education	3
CDC-220	CDA Capstone: Effective Preschool Practices	3

Childcare Specialist Certificate (P5134)

Communications		3
ENG-111	English Composition I	
Social Science		9
PSY-113	General Psychology	
SOC-120	Principles of Sociology	
PSY-213	Child Psychology	
General Education Diversity Elective (Choose two of the following)		6
ENG-118	Children's Literature	
SOC-209	The Family	
PSY-116	Psychology and Education of the Disabled	
Childcare Specialist Core		15
MUS-129	Music in Early Childhood	
	or PSY-217 Educational Psychology	
CDC-110	Early Childhood Development	
CDC-210	Curriculum, Teaching and Learning in Early Childhood Education	
CDC-220	CDA Capstone: Effective Preschool Practices	

CDC-228	Internship Experience - Education (135-300 hours) ¹
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Total Credits

33

¹ Students should consult their academic advisors when selecting these courses.

Faculty

Dr. Melissa Kasmin
Associate Professor, Psychology and Education
Ph.D, Rutgers University
MSW, University of Michigan
BA, Kenyon College
DH323 973-328-5612, mkasmin@ccm.edu

Courses

CDC-110. Early Childhood Development. 3 Credits.

LECT 45 hrs

This course studies the growth and development of the child from birth through age eight. It will cover a variety of factors that influence child development such as diversity, culture, health, economic and family environment. Also it provides an overview of the major theorists in the field of human development. There will be discussion regarding these theorists' contributions to understanding how children grow and learn. Students will have the opportunity to observe and report on a variety of teaching and learning venues.

Additional Fees: Course fee applies.

CDC-210. Curriculum, Teaching and Learning in Early Childhood Education. 3 Credits.

LECT 45 hrs

This course studies designing, implementing, and evaluating developmentally appropriate curriculum for children birth through age eight with a focus on language and literacy, social and emotional learning, creative arts, and social studies, math, science and technology. It will cover practical applications of theories and current research in early childhood education, methods of observing children's behavior and progress, and strategies for developing and using curriculum in all aspects of the daily routine. Attention will be given to anti-bias curriculum and elements of diversity that can influence learning including cultural backgrounds, gender, sexual orientation, religion, English language learners, socio-economic status, family circumstances, and children with special needs. A field work component includes observation of curriculum and teaching and learning in an Early Childhood Education setting.

Prerequisites: CDC-110 is a pre and/or co-requisite

Corequisites: CDC-110 is a pre and/or co-requisite

Additional Fees: Course fee applies.

CDC-220. CDA Capstone: Effective Preschool Practices. 3

Credits.

LECT 45 hrs

This course studies effective, practical, research-based methods for developing preschool teachers. Course content is aligned with the national competency standards for the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential. It will cover the essentials of planning a safe environment, advancing children's development, building family partnerships, program operations, professional development, authentic assessment, and principles of developmentally appropriate learning. Attention will also be given to current research on brain development in young children, designing the learning environment, professional ethics, and cultural competence.

Corequisites: CDC-210 is a pre and/or co-requisite

Additional Fees: Course fee applies.

CDC-228. Cooperative Work Experience- Child Care. 3 Credits.

COOP 45 hrs

This course provides selected students in the Early Childhood programs with job-oriented training and practical experience in a work environment. Students desiring to participate in this experience should make this intention known to the Faculty Special Projects person at the beginning of their third semester.

Prerequisites: Permission of department chair

Corequisites: CDC-229.