



Early Childhood Education

■ What Is Early Childhood Education?

Early childhood education is teaching that concentrates on the preschool, kindergarten and first three grades of elementary school.

Preschool children learn mainly through play and interactive activities. Their teachers capitalize on play to further language and vocabulary development, improve social skills, and introduce scientific and mathematical concepts. Thus, a less structured approach, including small-group lessons, one-on-one instruction, and learning through creative activities such as art, dance, and music, is adopted to teach preschool children.

Play and hands-on teaching are also used by kindergarten teachers, but academics begin to take priority in kindergarten. Letter recognition, phonics, numbers, and awareness of nature and science, introduced at the preschool level, are taught primarily in kindergarten.

Primary school teachers continue the academics to give students a good foundation for future studies.

Preschool, kindergarten, and primary school teachers introduce children to mathematics, language, science, and social studies. They use games, music, artwork, films, books, computers, and other tools to teach basic skills. They play a vital role in their students' development. What children learn and experience during their early years will shape their views of themselves and the world, and can affect their later success or failure in school, work, and their personal lives.

A bachelor's degree in education is the minimum educational requirement for entering the teaching profession. This program provides you with the first 2 years toward completion of your bachelor's degree.

■ Success Factors

You must have the ability to communicate, inspire trust and confidence, and motivate students, as well as understand their educational and emotional needs. You must be able to recognize and respond to individual and cultural differences in students. Flexibility and adaptability are important. You should also be organized, dependable, patient, and creative. You must be able to work cooperatively and communicate effectively with other teachers, support staff, parents, and members of the community. You must enjoy play. Respect for children and patience are crucial characteristics.

■ Career Possibilities

With your bachelor's degree and proper licensing, your employment opportunities include preschool teacher, kindergarten teacher, primary grade school teacher and daycare director.

■ Majoring In Early Childhood Education

This program provides the first 2 years of study for a baccalaureate degree in education.

Our program transfers to bachelor's degree programs at the University of Cincinnati College of Education-Clermont Cohort and Northern Kentucky University. If you plan to transfer to another college, you should coordinate with your chosen institution and its advisors to be sure you take coursework appropriate for that institution's degree requirements.

Early Childhood Education prepares you to complete requirements to teach pre-kindergarten through third grade in the state of Ohio.

We are actively involved in implementing new courses to meet the needs of future teachers. You will receive much more in-depth training than students of education in the past. In addition, field experiences have been greatly expanded to guarantee that you will begin your career with the professional background and skills needed for success, as well as a thorough knowledge of standards and age-appropriate practices.

You will begin classroom interaction at local schools early in your studies. Observations and field experiences form a central component in the study and evaluation of your work.

You should be able to complete this program in 2 years, attending full-time fall, winter and spring quarters. It will take you another 2 years to complete your bachelor's degree in education.

■ Program Requirements

You should check with your academic advisor every quarter *before* you register for classes. Two years is really a short time to squeeze in all of your degree requirements. We cannot offer every course every quarter. If you miss taking a prerequisite for a required course, or don't take a particular course the only quarter it is offered during the year, you can jeopardize your ability to complete your degree on time.

CORE COURSES	Cr. Hrs.
Effective Public Speaking	3
Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
Developmentally Appropriate Reading Practices for Early Childhood Education	3
Schooling and Teaching in American Society	4
Human Diversity	3
Classroom Management and Learning	3
Education Capstone	3
Computer Tools for Teachers.....	4
Educational Psychology.....	4
English Composition I, II.....	6
Intermediate Composition.....	3
Introduction to Psychology I	3
Child Development	3
Adolescent Development	3
Introduction to Sociology I.....	3
Foundations and History of Special Education.....	4
Effective Teaming in Education.....	3
American History Elective	3
Literature Elective	3
Mathematics electives	12
Natural Science electives	12
Fine Arts elective.....	3
TOTAL.....	96

■ Advantages & Special Opportunities

The Clermont campus is on 92 wooded acres located in Batavia, Ohio, in the heart of Clermont County. We are relatively small and our faculty to student ratio is low. You will find our small class size and personal interaction with your instructors create the ideal learning environment. Parking is convenient and at no additional charge. Plus, our tuition is the lowest of the UC colleges.

We also maintain close ties with area school administrators through the Educational Advisory Committee (representatives from the classroom, pupil personnel, counselors, and county board of education offices).

Ties to our local community are also strengthened by the service learning component we recently added to all education courses. You will provide valued assistance in area schools, as you connect learned academic theory to real-world experiences.

■ Admissions

UC Clermont College is an open admissions campus. If you have your high school diploma, GED, or its equivalent, we will admit you. We accept applications all year long and you may start any quarter. Financial aid takes 6-8 weeks to process. We recommend that you apply at least 10 weeks prior to your desired attendance.

■ For More Information, Contact:

Enrollment & Student Services
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Batavia OH 45103

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We are converting to semesters in fall 2012. For complete details on how this may affect you, visit www.uc.edu/conversion.