

**EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**Advisement Guide for Undergraduate BS in Early Childhood Education (ECE) & Certification
(CT 113, Integrated Early Childhood/Special Ed., N - K - Elem. 1 – 3)**

This form supersedes catalog requirements and previous forms.

Standards for teaching are set by the profession and by the State of CT. and are outlined in the Connecticut Common Core of Teaching. Eastern Connecticut State University has a State-approved teacher education program designed to prepare students to be certified professionals in education. This plan of study is an outline of requirements set by the University and by the State of CT. for the teacher certification program. This outline represents minimum requirements. Each student is encouraged to take the initiative to exceed these requirements in preparing to be the best professionals possible. Students successfully completing the Early Childhood Education Teacher Certification Program will receive, from the State of CT., dual certification in general and special education for preschool and kindergarten, and general education for grades 1-3.

Academic Major: To be certified in the State of Connecticut, one must have a bachelor's degree from an approved institution. Early Childhood Education Certification at Eastern Connecticut State University requires a major in an academic subject other than Physical Education as well as completion of the Professional Preparation Courses listed in the following recommended course sequence. Undergrads must meet regularly with their academic advisors from their declared majors and meet all of the University and Departmental requirements.

Articulation with Community Colleges: If you wish to be considered for the articulation agreement with community colleges, you must have successfully completed an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education from a CONNCSU community college.

Entrance into the Teacher Education (CARE) Program:

Application deadline: February 15

1. Applications to the teacher education program can be accessed through the TK20 database (see: <https://tinyurl.com/TK20CARE>).
2. Application requirements, including a **minimum 2.70 cumulative grade point average** from all undergraduate coursework, are listed in the application. Average GPA of the admission cohort must be at least 3.00.
3. All applicants must demonstrate **basic competence in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics** by submitting an objective measure of these skills (*i.e.*, the Praxis I Core, SAT, ACT, or GRE test) and achieving a minimum score prescribed by Eastern's CARE (Committee for Admission and Retention in Education). The exam should be taken early enough so that scores will be available when application is made to the teacher education program. Applicants who do not meet the minimum competency can remediate by re-taking the tests or through select coursework; such remediation must be successfully completed prior to student teaching.
4. **Three recommendations** (forms).
5. Applicants must successfully complete an **interview with Education Department faculty**.
6. All applicants must provide evidence of **20 hours of service** working with pre-K through grade 3 learners in diverse settings and in an established educational organization.
7. Application to the certification program should be made during the semester prior to beginning Core I of the program, typically when the applicant has completed between 45 and 60 credits of college coursework.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION COURSES

***All teacher candidates must receive a grade of C or higher in all these courses ***

Prior to Admission (pre-requisite to admission to the ECE-UG CARE program)

Pre-requisite courses may be completed prior to admission into the Early Childhood Education Teacher Certification Program or may be "In Progress" during the semester of application deadline.

ECE 215	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3 credits
PSY 206 ¹	Psychology of Childhood	3 credits

CURRICULUM COURSES (after admission to the program):

The following courses are to be taken as a block or “Core” and are designed to be taken consecutively, one “Core” per semester, after admittance to the Undergraduate Early Childhood Education Teacher Certification Program. The Cores should be taken during the last four semesters of the candidate’s bachelor program when s/he has almost completed all major requirements as well as liberal arts core curriculum requirements.

CORE I (taken as a block—Fall only) 10 credits

ECE 315	Play and Social Development	4 credits
ECE 325	Language and Literacy	3 credits
ECE 455	Science Pedagogy in ECE	3 credits

CORE II (taken as a block—Spring only) 10 credits

ECE 355	Reading and Writing in the Primary Years	3 credits
ECE 400	Social Studies Pedagogy in ECE	3 credits
ECE 330	Math Pedagogy in ECE	3 credits
ECE 401	Field Experience in ECE	1 credit

CORE III (taken as a block—Fall only) 9 credits

ECE 420	Development of Young Children with Special Needs	3 credits
ECE 410	Families, Culture, and Child Development	3 credits
ECE 425	Practicum in Early Childhood Special Education	3 credits

CORE IV (taken as a block—Fall or Spring) 9-12 credits

ECE 405	Adapting Early Childhood Curriculum for the Inclusive Classroom	3 credits
ECE 445	Student Teaching in 1 st , 2 nd , or 3 rd grade	6-9 credits

Total: 38-41 credits

LICENSURE EXAM(S): For more information on these tests, see <http://www.ct.nesinc.com>.

1. The Connecticut Foundations of Reading Test
2. The CT-Early Childhood Test-002

LIBERAL ARTS/GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

The following courses may be met by courses in the Liberal Arts Curriculum (LAC). These courses are required before an individual is certified as an educator. All teacher candidates must receive a grade of “C” or higher in the following required courses

- Science (2 courses, 1 with lab, a total of 7 cr.)
- English (6 cr.)
- Math 139
- Social Science (3 cr.) (PSY, SOC, ECO, or PSC)
- Arts (3 cr.) Music, Theatre, Art History, Visual Arts
- Foreign Language (6 cr. if not met in high school)
- United States History (3 cr.) HIS 120 or HIS 121 or HIS 310, or other [approved courses](#) listed on CT State Department of education website
- HPE 201 (1 cr.) or HPE 210 (3 cr.)
- Human Growth and Development Coursework¹ (12 cr.) - (may include selected courses in psychology or early childhood education major)