



Early Childhood Education

One or two-year program offered to junior and senior students. This course is designed to provide students interested in the development of children and a career involving children with a basic knowledge and understanding of children and their physical, mental, and emotional development. Broad areas of emphasis include: development of the child from conception through preschool age, the family and its role, nutritional and emotional needs of the children, the role of parents, educational and creative activities for children, childhood illnesses, learning disabilities, and the exploration of human services and education-related careers.

First year students will work on a weekly basis with children at our on-site laboratory called "Kiddie Kampus Preschool"; earning a Level 1 Gateways Certification upon completion of course.

Second year students will work with a cooperating teacher at a work-based learning site for three days a week throughout the school year. This work-based learning site could be a daycare center, home day care, preschool program, elementary school, or a location specific to a students' career interest (i.e.: special education, speech teacher, reading specialist, social worker, child life specialist). Second year students will earn **1 Dual Credit available with SVCC – EDU105 - Clinical Experience in Elementary Education.**

Recommended Student Criteria: Students enrolled in Early Childhood Education will be required to work in the WACC preschool with young children ages three to five years old. Students should be able to sit on the floor with the preschool children, have the dexterity to perform crafts with the children, and have the strength to restrain a child if needed for the child's safety. (For example, prevent a child from running out the door.) Students should not have a history of violent behavior. Students should have the maturity and aptitude to work with young children. For example, a student who could not be recommended for a babysitting job should not be recommended for Early Childhood Education.

