Early Childhood Family Studies (ECFS)

College of Indigenous Studies
Department of Social and Human Development (https://uaf.edu/rural/academics/departments/social-human-development.php)
907-474-7143

ECFS F301 Parents as Partners in Education
3 Credits
Offered Fall Odd-numbered Years
Study of strategies that will assist those who work with children and/or families to facilitate supportive partnerships with parents. Includes partnerships, contemporary issues, school and home-based programs, rights and responsibilities, professional ethics and parents with special or unique needs.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F302 Building Home Program Relationships: Prenatal to 3 Years
3 Credits
Offered Fall Even-numbered Years
Focuses on professionalism, family support, ethics, cultural continuity, child development, attachment and curriculum of home-based programs. Addresses the broad continuum of services across multiple domains and how staff that work in these programs can meet the needs of children prenatal to 3 and their families in the home setting.
Prerequisite: WRTG F211X.
Recommended: ECFS F342; WRTG F211X or WRTG F213X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F304 Attachment and Social Development (s)
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Principles and practices in understanding and supporting attachment and social development in conjunction to reciprocal communication streams and social interactions. Strategies working with families as continuum for each specific child's development.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X; WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F305 Social Emotional Development: Reflection and Practice
3 Credits
Offered Fall
Examination of the many ways teachers can help young children with their social development by addressing the common problems and situations that arise in teaching all children between the ages of 3 and 6 years. Development of strategies to improve teacher practices that will support social and emotional competence.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus
Repeatable for Credit: May be taken unlimited times for up to unlimited credits

ECFS F306 Building Bridges to Support Family Mental Health
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Understanding and providing assistance to families who live in environments with multi-risk factors requires professionals working together providing best possible interventions. Demonstration and examples of strategies that help multi-risk families that assists in bringing together most effective intervention techniques from a variety of theoretical approaches, parenting strategies and innovative programs.
Prerequisites: WRTG F111X; WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F310 Constructivist Curriculum
3 Credits
Offered As Demand Warrants
A focus on the issues involved in developing constructive curriculum for young children. Includes a foundation in the aims and assumptions of constructivist teaching and key components of this type of curriculum. Emphasis is on best practices for constructivist classrooms.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F311 Theories, Methodologies and Pedagogy for Early Childhood
3 Credits
Offered Fall
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F320 Environment and Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Roles and practices adults take for supporting learning and development in infants and toddlers (birth-3 years). Stresses the adoption of the child's individual abilities and interests while supporting their exploration, discovery, relationship building and problem solving through environment development. Prominence for family inclusion in curriculum development through reciprocal relationships.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 2.5 + 0 + 1.5
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F340 Financial Management of Early Childhood Programs
3 Credits
Offered Spring
The financial aspects of managing a child care center or preschool program. Includes budgeting, program resource management, marketing, purchasing, pay and compensation, and fee collection issues important to maintaining quality programs for young children.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus
ECFS F341  Personnel Management of Early Childhood Programs
3 Credits
Offered Fall
Management of personnel of child care programs, including recruitment,
hiring, in-service training, staff meetings and communication, supervision,
evaluation, motivation, burnout prevention and termination of employees.
Focus on maintaining quality programs for young children.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F342  Family Relationships
3 Credits
Offered Fall
Examination of relationships in contemporary family life. Focus on the
changing family, gender roles, living together, and relationships with children
and grandchildren. Includes current family research and issues within and
effect of public policy on families in our multicultural society.
Prerequisites: COM F131X or COM F141X; upper-division standing.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F345  Screening, Assessment and Data Collection Tools
3 Credits
Offered As Demand Warrants
Overview of the diversity of tools used for screening, ongoing child and
classroom assessment, data collection and reporting within early childhood
programs. Tools can be used individually or collectively to support the
development of a high quality early care and learning environment and
positive outcomes for young children.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F350  Play: Foundation for Development (s)
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Concepts, theories, and research in the development of children regarding
play; includes the effects of culture, media and technology. Roles of early
care professionals, early education curriculum and parent support. Ways of
self-expression through quality play experiences support communication
and friendships in relation to the whole child development examined.
Prerequisites: ECE F104X, ECE F107X or approved development class;
WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F360  Assessment in Early Childhood
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Examines policies and practices related to evaluation and assessment
of young children's progress. Includes legal, ethical and professional
responsibilities in assessment. Explores "what, when, why and how" to assess
young children. Practice and analysis of various assessment styles and tools
as well as how to use information gained through assessment.
Prerequisites: WRTG F111X; WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or
WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F365  Social Studies Pedagogy in Early Childhood
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Guidance on how to teach social studies to young children to cultivate bias
and discrimination-free learning communities. Emphasis on encouraging
development of teachers' pedagogical practices, and resources for building
positive social attitudes and dispositions that value the contributions of
young children as citizens of their living and learning communities.
Prerequisites: ECFS F311; WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or
WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 2.5 + 1 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F405  Seminar in Culture and Child-rearing Practices
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Seminar course providing opportunity for students, cross regionally
throughout Alaska and beyond, to engage in the comparative study of issues
associated with culture and child-rearing practices of families within Alaska
and throughout the world. Emphasis placed on the role of caregiver working
with children aged birth through three years old.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F410  Supporting Family Relationships through Mentoring
3 Credits
Offered Fall
Focus on policies, leadership and professional practices inherent of
successful relationships with parents. Consideration of individual
communication styles and cultural diversity emphasized in relation to best
mentoring practices.
Prerequisites: ECE F242; WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or
WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus
Repeatable for Credit: May be taken unlimited times for up to unlimited
credits

ECFS F420  Developing Literacy in the Early Years
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Principles and practices in understanding and supporting young children's
emerging literacy. Links importance of oral language and early exploration
with later reading and writing skills. Strategies for assisting emergent
readers and writers are included, as well as how to use play and children's
interests to assist in developing their literacy.
Prerequisites: ECFS F310; ECFS F380; WRTG F111X; WRTG F211X,
WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X; upper-division standing.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F421  From Babbling to Talking to Early Literacy
3 Credits
Offered As Demand Warrants
This course provides the opportunity for exploration and understanding
of infant-toddler beginning language and early literacy development as it
reflects on research from multiple fields. Looks at the importance of oral
language development and early explorations with literacy while considering
principles and practices that provide support for families and culture.
Prerequisites: ECE F214; WRTG F111X; WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X
or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 2.5 + 0 + 1.5
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus
Grading System: Lecture + Lab + Other:

Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.

Lecture + Lab + Other: 2.5 + 1 + 0

Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F440 Exploring Math and Science
3 Credits
Offered Fall
Constructivist teaching of math and science. Explores role of teachers in helping children become theory builders in an environment designed to promote learning in math and science. Specific examples in chemistry, biology, ecology, numbers, patterns, geometry, measurement and data analysis. Emphasizes teaching children interactive, analytic and reflective processes of inquiry.
Prerequisites: ECFS F310; ECFS F360; upper-division standing.
Recommended: Completion of at least one natural science course.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 2.5 + 1 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F442 Family Resource Management
3 Credits
Offered Fall
Management of resources which help families meet and alter the increasing complexities of life. Involves purposeful actions that affect the use of time, money, energy, skills, talents and knowledge. Explores roles, goals and decision-making within our multicultural society throughout the life cycle.
Prerequisites: ECE F242; WRTG F111X; WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F445 Adolescence Through the Lifespan
3 Credits
Offered Spring
Study of the inter-relationships between early childhood and future development from adolescence through adulthood. Achievement in school, anorexia, chemical dependency and other health issues, family happiness, personal confidence and career success have all been linked to the early years. This course helps students understand these vital connections.
Prerequisites: ECE F107X, ED F245 or PSY F245; WRTG F111X; WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 2.5 + 0 + 1.5
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F450 Leadership and Advocacy in the Early Childhood Field
3 Credits
Offered Spring Odd-numbered Years
An overview of the early childhood field as a profession, the history of policy changes and the origin of policy reform. Topics will include system building strategies and models, ways to promote advocacy in early childhood and leadership qualities necessary to be an advocate in the field.
Prerequisites: ECFS F340 or ECFS F341; WRTG F211X or WRTG F213X.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F470 Advanced Practicum
3 Credits
Offered As Demand Warrants
Advanced practicum requiring 200 hours of work in an early childhood program or family support agency as a teacher, curriculum specialist, family advocate or in another related position.
Prerequisites: Senior standing; permission of instructor.
Special Notes: A capstone course available only to those who have completed the other required course work for the B.A. in Child Development and Family Studies degree and their designated specialty.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 2.5 + 1 + 0
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F471 Clinical Practice: Organizational Action Research
3 Credits
Offered Fall and Spring
Supervised Field Practice: Theory and application of action research within an organization. Emphasis on use of personal reflection to understand practice and the development of a planned theory of action. Techniques for observing action through the use of examining the evidence are learned. Approximate project timeline is 10 weeks/200 hours.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X; completion of all CDFS core major and Administration or Family Support concentration coursework.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 1 + 0 + 14
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F472 Clinical Practice: Classroom Research
3 Credits
Offered Fall and Spring
Supervised Field Practice: Theory and application of classroom research, emphasizing the teacher as researcher. Techniques of classroom research will be studied and applied through the development and application of a relevant project; including observation, question posing, note-taking, data analysis/interpretation. Approximate project timeline is 10 weeks/200 hours.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X; completion of all CDFS core major and concentration coursework, excluding ECFS F473.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 1 + 0 + 14
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F473 Clinical Practice: Classroom Management
3 Credits
Offered Fall and Spring
Supervised Field Practice: Provides a capstone following completion of coursework within the Curriculum and Teaching or Infant and Toddler concentration of the CDFS B.A. program. Activity will demonstrate application of appropriate curriculum, and care enhancing the learning and development of young children. Approximate project timeline is 10 weeks/200 hours. This course may be taken in conjunction with ECFS F480.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X; completion of all CDFS core major and concentration coursework, excluding ECFS F472.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 1 + 0 + 14
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus

ECFS F474 Clinical Practice: Infant and Toddler Management
3 Credits
Offered Fall and Spring
Supervised Field Practice: Provides a capstone following completion of coursework within the Curriculum and Teaching or Infant and Toddler concentration of the CDFS B.A. program. Activity will demonstrate application of appropriate curriculum, and care enhancing the learning and development of young children. Approximate project timeline is 10 weeks/200 hours. This course may be taken in conjunction with ECFS F480.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X; completion of all CDFS core major and concentration coursework, excluding ECFS F472.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 1 + 0 + 14
Grading System: Letter Grades with option of Plus/Minus
ECFS F480  Child Development and Family Studies Portfolio
1 Credit
Offered Fall
This course introduces students to the portfolio process, which will be completed with the final assessment as the finishing piece of the CDFS program. The portfolio is required for final completion of the CDFS B.A. degree program in lieu of a written comprehensive exam or thesis.
Prerequisites: WRTG F211X, WRTG F212X, WRTG F213X or WRTG F214X; admittance to the CDFS B.A. program.
Lecture + Lab + Other: 0.5 + 0 + 1
Grading System: Pass/Fail Grades