

Bachelor of Science Early Childhood Studies



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The importance of educating our young children cannot be overstated for both the present and the future. Whether you are already working in the field or are interested in pursuing a new career in early childhood settings, Union Institute & University's Early Childhood Studies major is designed to help you earn a relevant and marketable degree so you can help shape our children's futures. Advance your career as an education professional in the field of early childhood as a teacher, administrator or in other positions supporting center- and home-based environments such as Head Start.

Completion of the bachelor's degree with a major in Early Childhood Studies will provide both current and future professionals with an understanding of theory and practical application of nationally recognized competencies and standards for early childhood care and education. This knowledge impacts the daily work and interaction of early childhood education professionals who can make a difference by promoting the growth, development, and care of young children, and by enhancing communication, relationships, and collaboration with families and other professionals.

Benefits

- Earn up to eight credits in eight weeks.
- Learn from early care and education professionals who understand the challenges facing working adults.
- Work closely with a personal advisor and supportive staff who understand your academic and scheduling needs.
- Transfer in up to 90 previously earned college credits to accelerate your degree completion.
- Early Childhood courses may be used to obtain or renew the Child Development Associates certificate (CDA) and to renew the Early Childhood Director's Credential.
- Union grants eight credits for the Child Development Associates certificate (CDA) and three credits for the Early Childhood Director's Credential.
- Study totally online from wherever you live and work.
- Customize your degree with two optional areas of concentration to reflect your interests and enrich your personal development.
- Accelerate your completion by earning college credits through CLEP, DSST, prior learning assessment, certified learning, and credits recommended by ACE through military training.

Curriculum

The Early Childhood Studies degree program requires 120 credits, 48 in the major. The curriculum is guided by research and adherence to best practices in the field. Learning outcomes drive the direction of the curriculum and are adopted from the National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Optional Concentrations

Early Childhood Administrator This concentration may assist with the requisite courses needed to apply for the director's credential and/or to work as a director in an early learning program.

Teacher as Practitioner This program does not result in teacher certification, licensure or credentialing. However, it will potentially provide you with many of the requisite courses needed to apply for teacher licensure, if you choose that path.

Core Courses

- Professional Ethics for Early Childhood Studies
- Exceptional Children
- Curriculum Development for Early Childhood Programs
- Guiding & Counseling the Child
- Observation, Assessment, and Evaluation of the Child

Elective Courses Include:

- Understanding Health and Safety Issues in Young Children
- Multicultural Issues in Early Childhood Education
- Infant & Toddler Programming
- Early Language & Emergent Literacy in Early Childhood

*Financial Aid available to those who qualify
Recognized as a Military Friendly School*

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Our Mission

Union Institute & University educates highly motivated adults who seek academic programs to engage, enlighten, and empower them to pursue professional goals and a lifetime of learning, service, and social responsibility.



Union Institute & University provided me with an academic schedule that fit my work and family needs. Getting a customized education and earning a degree changed my life.



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Union Institute & University is a private, regionally accredited, non-profit university that has, since 1964, taken a different approach to higher education. Union is a nationally recognized university offering programs of study leading to degrees at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral level.

Union Institute & University began with a vision of being a "university without walls"—an institution where working adults could have the opportunity to pursue a degree regardless of where they lived and worked. Many of the most commonly used terms in higher education—nontraditional students, interdisciplinary study, distance learning, mentoring, and social relevance—refer to concepts pioneered by Union more than 50 years ago.

Union Institute & University is a private, non-profit university, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, www.ncahlc.org.

Union Institute & University does not discriminate in its admissions, employment or policy procedures on the basis of age, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, political party affiliation, or physical impairment. UI&U's policies and practices conform with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1975, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended. The 504 Coordinator for the Americans with Disabilities Act may be contacted at adacoordinator@myunion.edu, 800-861-6400 x1144 or 440 E McMillan Street, Cincinnati, OH 45206.