Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education

Requirements for Program
Early Childhood Education is an interdisciplinary program which will prepare educators to work with children birth through age five, in public pre-primary classes and non-public institutions including day care, private preschool, and private kindergarten. The program is approved by the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board to prepare graduates to seek a state teaching certificate in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education. Graduates are awarded the B.S. degree in Education with a major in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education.

The faculty of the Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education program are associated with the Department of Family Studies and the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling. The faculty believe that teaching young children involves viewing children holistically, using structured behavioral approaches. They recognize that viewing children holistically requires considering all of the various settings of children’s environment (e.g., home, school, and neighborhood) as well as the reciprocal relationship between any two of the following variables: the immediate context the child is active in, the individual child, and all aspects of the child’s environment (including people). In the Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education program, students will learn to apply behavioral principles for purposes of developing curricula, assessing child behavior, planning, implementing, and monitoring interventions, and assisting families. The program is guided by the standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and the Division of Early Childhood of the Council For Exceptional Children.

To be state-certified, candidates must also successfully complete all state-mandated testing requirements.

Continuous Assessment
1. All students in the interdisciplinary early childhood education program are expected to meet the standards and rules for Admission, Retention, and Exit from Teacher Education Programs as set forth in the section “Admission, Retention and Exit from Teacher Education Programs” on page 177 of the 2009-2010 UK Bulletin.

2. Assessment at the Point of Entry to the IECE Program. The admission process provides the first point for formal assessment of the competencies outlined in the Initial Certification Program Folio for the program. Students who apply for admission must (a) meet the requirements for admission to the Teacher Education Program, and (b) be able to articulate their philosophy of teaching and document their experiences with young children in an initial portfolio and an entrance interview.

3. On-going Assessment. Once a student is admitted to the program, he/she meets with an advisor to plan the remainder of the program. Prior to the student teaching semester, the student must present a portfolio that documents his/her progress toward meeting program competencies.

4. Exit Assessment. At the exit assessment, students must document that they have met all program competencies through a final review of their portfolio and the successful completion of student teaching in an appropriate school placement for young children with and without disabilities.

Statement on Student Teaching
Student teaching in the Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education program is 16 weeks. Students will enroll in:

IEC 411 Student Teaching in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education .................................................. 12

Students in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education must complete the following:

1. Complete University Studies requirements.
2. Complete 128 credit hours with a minimum grade-point average of 2.5 (required for teacher certification).
3. Complete the required curriculum in the major program.
4. All students majoring in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education must apply and be admitted to the professional Teacher Education Program in order to complete the program.

University Studies Requirements
See “University Studies Program” on pages 83-87 of the 2009-2010 UK Bulletin for the complete University Studies requirements. The courses listed below are (a) recommended by the college, or (b) required courses that also fulfill University Studies areas. Students should work closely with their advisor to complete the University Studies Program requirements.

Courses marked with an asterisk (*) may also be used to satisfy University Studies requirements.

Math
MA 109 College Algebra
or
MA 110 Analytic Geometry and Trigonometry
or
Math ACT of 26 or above .............................................................. 0-4

Natural Sciences
BIO 102 Human Ecology .............................................................. 3
BIO 103 Basic Ideas of Biology ...................................................... 3
BIO 111 General Biology Laboratory ............................................. 1

Social Sciences
PSY 100 Introduction to Psychology .............................................. 4
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology ............................................... 3

Humanities
HIS 104/105 A History of Europe through the Mid Seventeenth Century/From the Mid- Seventeenth Century to the Present
or
HIS 108/109 History of the United States
Through 1865/Since 1865 .............................................................. 6

Premajor Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*COM 181 Basic Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*PSY 100 Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC 120 Introduction to Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>*STA 200 Statistics: A Force in Human Judgment</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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Subtotal: Premajor Hours .................................................................... 16
All students in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education must apply, and be admitted to, and be retained in a Teacher Education Program (TEP), and complete a state approved university teacher training program in Early Childhood Education to be able to apply for certification. Students who are interested in certification in Early Childhood Education need to meet with a certification officer in the College of Education prior to completing 60 semester hours to discuss state certification and TEP requirements. A minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA is required to be eligible to apply for admission to TEP. TEP applications will be reviewed for students who have completed, or will complete during the semester in which they apply, 60 semester hours, including EDP 202, EDS 375, FAM 255, and FAM 256 with a grade of C or better.

### Major Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IEC 255 Child Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC 256 Guidance Strategies for Working with Young Children</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC 260 Curriculum Planning in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC 507 Assessment of Young Children</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAM 544 Cultural Diversity in American Children and Families or Cultural Diversity Course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPE 301 Education in American Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC 552 Administration and Supervision in Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal: Major Hours**

71

### Free Electives

Electives should be selected by the student to lead to the minimum total of 128 hours required for graduation.

**Minimum Elective Hours**

8

**TOTAL HOURS**

128