

## **PROGRAM PLANNING GUIDE**

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION Associate in Technical Arts Certificates of Completion**

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** The Early Childhood Education Associate in Technical Arts degree is designed to provide persons interested in working with children a systematic study of the care, development and education of children from birth to age eight. Students gain the knowledge and competency necessary for a professional career working with young children. Men and women with an Associate in Technical Arts degree in Early Childhood Education can qualify for positions as preschool teacher, child care director, child care program supervisor, child care provider, non-certified early childhood teacher, or elementary school classroom aide. Graduates may be employed by child care centers, cooperative preschools, family child care homes, parks and recreation departments, private preschools, public schools and state and federally funded preschools.

**PROGRAM OUTCOMES:** South Puget Sound Community College believes that all students need to develop a broad range of abilities that will not only make them more effective in their professional pursuits but will enhance their capacity to relate well to others in their daily lives. Therefore students who complete an ATA in Early Childhood Education will:

- Demonstrate the following skill standards knowledge
  - Create and Maintain a Safe and Healthy Environment:
  - Meet Each Child's Individual Needs and Plan for Group Needs
  - Prepare and Evaluate the Learning Environment
  - Develop and Implement Curriculum
  - Support the Child and Family
  - Create and Maintain a Professional Team Environment
  - Develop Personally and Professionally
- Gather information about, understand and explain clearly to others concepts relevant to successful performance in the field of Early Childhood Education.
- Think logically and critically and apply these thinking skills to the Early Childhood Education field.
- Communicate effectively in oral, written and graphic form.
- Apply fundamental quantitative and computation skills.
- Understand themselves and others as they interact in a global environment.
- Demonstrate skills in dealing with differences and managing interpersonal relationships.
- Understand fundamental ethical issues and their related responsibilities and liabilities.

**PROGRAM INFORMATION AND CONTACTS:** The Early Childhood Education ATA degree can be completed in three years attending evenings only or in two years with a combination of day and evening courses. The majority of ECE courses meet in the evening. Practicums require daytime hours. Each of the 4 certificates in Early Childhood Education – Family Advocate, Lead Preschool, Infant-Toddler and School-Age can be obtained within one year. Students can enter the program any quarter but are strongly encouraged to meet with an ECE advisor and attend the first available ECE group advising for detailed information necessary for planning their degree. Contact (360) 596-5293 for advising day information.

1. Students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university should work closely with an advisor to ensure maximum transfer of credits.
2. To successfully complete the practicum experiences in ECE 115, 205 and 250, students will observe or work in a school or child care center which will require a Washington State Patrol background check. ECE 115 requires a tuberculosis test.
3. ECE courses may be taken in any order, except ECE 205, 240, 250 and EDUC 225. It is recommended but not necessary to take ECE 102 first.
4. Grades of "C" or better must be obtained in all courses with an ECE or EDUC prefix to apply to the ECE degree.
5. It is possible to receive up to 12 credits toward the degree for students having a Child Development Associate (C.D.A.) credential.

ECE Program Information 596-5293

ECE Advisor: Christine Moon, (360) 596-5378 [cmoon@spscc.ctc.edu](mailto:cmoon@spscc.ctc.edu)

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:****Basic Skills Requirements:**

May be waived based on testing or course work. If testing reveals basic skills deficiencies in reading or writing, the following courses must be completed before taking ECE/EDUC courses. College level reading and writing are necessary to successfully progress in ECE/EDUC courses.

ENGL	097	Basic Writing II	5
READ	097	Analytical Reading II	5
MATH	090	Basic Math II	5

**Associate Degree:**

An Associate of Technical Arts degree will be awarded upon successful completion of a minimum of 90 credits in courses numbered 100 or above. All core and general education list requirements must be met with any additional credits to be selected as electives.

**Core Requirements: (60 Credits)**

ECE	102	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	5
ECE	110	Learning Environments for Children	3
ECE	115	Practicum I	3
ECE	131	Language Arts for Young Children	2
ECE	141	Math and Science for Young Children	4
ECE	150	Child Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
ECE	205	Practicum II	4
*ECE	235	Educating Young Children in a Diverse Society	3
ECE	238	Professionalism	3
ECE	240	Advanced Curriculum Development	5
ECE	250	Practicum III	5
EDUC&	115	Child Development (formerly EDUC 120)	5
EDUC&	203	Exceptional Child (formerly EDUC 215)	5
EDUC	225	Family and Community Relationship	5
EDUC	230	Guiding Children's Behavior	5

**Electives:** (Choose 10 credits from the following list)

ECE	100	Child Care Basics	2
ECE	104	Art for Young Children	2
ECE	120	Management of Early Childhood Programs	3
ECE	130	Physical Development for Young Children	2
ECE	132	Caring for School-Age Children	2
ECE	134	Caring for Infants and Toddlers	2
ECE	136	Cognitive Skill Development	2
ECE	138	Creative Dramatics for Young Children	2
ECE	142	Music for Young Children	2
ECE	180	Children's Literature	2
ECE	280	Teaching Adults	2
ECE	275	Current Issues in Brain Development	5
<b>OR</b>			
PSYC	275	Current Issues in Brain Development	
PEP	241	Parent-Child Communication	2
PEP	242	Family Dynamics	2
PSYC&	200	Lifespan Psychology (formerly PSYC 220)	5
*SOC	225	Sociology of the Family	5

Other courses may be considered as elective credits. Contact your advisor for approval. Up to 5 credits from credit bearing community based training, parent education or individual Building Bridges modules may be used toward elective credits with advisor approval.

**General Education Requirements:**

Complete a minimum of three credits from each of the four categories: Reading/Writing, Listening/Speaking, Computation, and Human Relations. Unless specific courses are listed below, refer to the General Education List for the Associate of Technical Arts/Associate Degree Nursing/Certificate of Completion available in Building 25 or at [www.spscc.ctc.edu](http://www.spscc.ctc.edu).

For an ATA, a single course may not be used to satisfy more than one category.

**Communication**

Reading/Writing

ENGL&amp; 101

English Composition I (formerly WRIT 101)

5

Speaking/Listening

CMST&amp; 220

Public Speaking (formerly SPCH 101)

5

OR

**CMST& 210**

Interpersonal communication (formerly SPCH 103)

5

OR

**CMST 240**

Intercultural Communication (formerly SPCH 105)

5

OR

CMST&amp; 230

Small Group Communication

5

**Computation**

MATH 101

Technical Mathematics I

5

OR

BUS 104

Business Math

5

OR

*any course listed under the Quantitative category on the General Education List for the Associate in Arts/Associate of General Studies*

5

**Human Relations****HUM 121**

Multicultural America, Past to Present

5

OR

**PSYC 116**

Psychology of Human Relations

5

OR

**CMST& 210**

Interpersonal Communication (formerly SPCH 103)

5

OR

**CMST 240**

Intercultural Communication (formerly SPCH 105)

5

OR

CMST&amp; 230

Small Group Communication (formerly SPCH 115)

5

**Electives:**

If any of the above courses have been waived, select courses with the assistance of an advisor to complete the 90-credit minimum requirement.

**DIVERSITY REQUIREMENT:** South Puget Sound Community College requires all new students seeking an Associate Degree to complete a "diversity" course which meets the college criteria for listing as a diversity course and has been approved for such listing by the college Instruction Council prior to the student enrolling in the class.

**ECE 235** fulfills this requirement.

**CERTIFICATE OPTIONS:** Four Early Childhood Education Certificates are available and can be obtained in one year.

**Family Advocate Certificate** will be awarded upon completion of EDUC 225, ECE 102, ECE 235 and ECE 275/PSYC 275.

**Lead Preschool Certificate** will be awarded upon completion of ECE 102, ECE 235, ECE 131, EDUC 225, ECE 180 and an ECE elective course.

**Infant-Toddler Certificate** will be awarded upon completion of ECE 134, ECE 235, ECE 102, ECE 275/PSYC 275, ECE 131 and ECE 180.

**School-Age Certificate** will be awarded upon completion of ECE 102, ECE 132, ECE 235, EDUC 225 and ECE 180.

**OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE STATEMENT:** South Puget Sound Community College's equal opportunity policy prohibits discrimination in our services and in employment against any person on the basis of race or ethnicity, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, age, religion, Vietnam-era or disabled veteran status, or the presence of any sensory, physical or mental disability except in the case of a bona fide occupation qualification. South Puget Sound Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**Effective:** Summer 2008

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