

B.S. IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (EC: PREK-3)

Web Site: <https://twu.edu/education/early-childhood-education/bs-in-early-childhood-education/>

Students completing the Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education take courses in early childhood development and methods to prepare for educational careers in a variety of early childhood settings. The course of study includes the requisites for seeking certification in the State of Texas as a highly qualified educator of young children. Students can choose an emphasis on special education or English as a Second Language for additional certification as part of the 120 semester credit hour program.

EC: PK-3

Students selecting this degree plan will take courses to prepare them to be elementary school educators who can teach all subjects in prekindergarten through 3rd-grade classrooms.

Undergraduate Student Advising

College of Professional Education undergraduate students seeking a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education receive academic advising from the Office of Educator Preparation Services (OEPS). The OEPS provides advising in creating and following academic plans and supports students in their pursuit of academic success. Students should schedule regular appointments with an OEPS advisor (Stoddard Hall, Room 211) to create or edit a degree plan, to receive current information regarding specific degree or certification requirements, or to receive academic guidance and help. Because OEPS advising is by appointment only, appointment times fill quickly, and students are encouraged to schedule advising appointments at least two weeks in advance. See the Office of Educator Preparation Services website (<http://www.twu.edu/teacher-certification>) for additional degree and other OEPS information.

Marketable Skills

Marketable skills prepare students for success in a variety of professional settings. Developed through academic coursework, co-curricular engagement, and extracurricular involvement, these skills include communication, critical thinking, teamwork, ethical reasoning, adaptability, and digital literacy. Whether directly related to a student's major or serving as complementary strengths, marketable skills enhance career readiness and reflect TWU's commitment to producing graduates who are prepared to thrive in today's dynamic workforce.

1. **Child Development-** Utilize foundational theories, constructs, context, influencing factors, and characteristics of the development of children from birth to age eight as part of a framework for applying developmentally appropriate decision-making.
2. **Family and Community Engagement-** Understand and appreciate diversity in families and the role and importance of the family on young children's development. Collaborate with families and create community partnerships to support young children's learning and development.
3. **Instructional Setting-** Apply a developmentally appropriate framework to design positive learning environments that support all PK-3 children's learning trajectories. Create classroom climates that

promote positive, caring relationships and contribute to the emotional development of interpersonal skills, autonomy, and initiative.

4. **Educating All Learners-** Implement strategies and practices that are developmentally appropriate while being culturally and linguistically responsive in order to effectively teach young learners in PK-3 classrooms in all pedagogy and content knowledge.
5. **Data-Driven Practice and Formal/Informal Assessment-** Select and design assessments that are ethically grounded and developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate. Use those assessments to design instruction, monitor, and evaluate young learners in PK-3 classrooms. Collaborate with families and professionals to develop assessment partnerships.
6. **Learning Across the Curriculum -** Understand the foundational principles, concepts, and methods related to specific content knowledge, including Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Fine Arts, Physical Education, and Health. Use developmentally appropriate practices and strategies as a framework to design and modify instruction.
7. **Professionalism -** As reflective practitioners, intentionally engage in ethical practices and collaborate with other professionals and learning communities. Advocate and promote best practices for the education of the young child and the discipline of early childhood.

Teacher Certification Skills

1. Appropriately explain the impact of effective planning and communication (within the chosen area of concentration) to relevant internal and external stakeholders in an education or community setting.
2. Identify, select, and implement entry-level instructional plans when serving as an instructor in the school setting.
3. Successfully manage organizational and student behavior when teaching in the school setting.
4. Efficiently and accurately assess student progress and use data to develop and modify instruction for K-12 students.
5. Work effectively and collaboratively with students and families from diverse backgrounds.

Admissions

All applicants must meet the general undergraduate admission requirements (<https://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/admission-information/>).

Teacher Certification

Application Deadlines

There are three application periods per year (Fall, Spring, and Summer). Students must have their applications in by the deadline the semester before they intend to take ECE 3223 (EC-3 only), EDUC 3003, EDUC 3482, or READ 4223 (EC-3 only). (see schedule below).

Spring Application Deadlines* (Admission to the EDUC 3000s Summer)

- May 1 - Deadline to apply for Summer admission
- May 31 - Deadline for Transfer Grades, Grade Changes, or Any Other Requirement

Summer Application Deadlines (Admission to the EDUC 3000s Fall)

- July 1 - Deadline to apply for Fall admission
- July 31 - Deadline for Transfer Grades, Grade Changes, or Any Other Requirement

Fall Application Deadlines* (Admission to the EDUC 3000s Spring)

- December 1 - Deadline to apply for Spring admission
- December 21 - Deadline for Transfer Grades, Grade Changes, or Any Other Requirement

Guidelines

Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- We recommend preparing your application well in advance of the deadline. That way you will be able to identify and resolve any potential issues before the deadline date.
- If you intend to register early for ECE 3223 (EC-3 only), EDUC 3003, EDUC 3482, or READ 4223 (EC-3 only) for the Summer or Fall semesters and have met all admission requirements, it is recommended that you apply to the EPP by December 1.
- If you apply for admission to the Educator Preparation Program while enrolled in EDUC 2003 or are taking coursework to increase your GPA to a 2.75, the Office of Educator Preparation Services will process your application. If the GPA requirement, along with all other admission requirements are met at the end of the semester, an admission decision will be made at that time.
- No late applications will be accepted. If the deadline date falls on a weekend or a day that TWU is closed, applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on the next day that TWU is open after the deadline day.

Requirements

In addition to the general undergraduate admissions requirements (<https://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/admission-information/>), to obtain acceptance into the undergraduate Educator Preparation Program (<https://twu.edu/epp/>) (and prior to taking ECE 3223 (EC-3 only), EDUC 3003, EDUC 3482, EDUC 4113, EDUC 4243, READ 4223 (EC-3 only), and Clinical Student Teaching) students must have:

- A cumulative GPA of 2.75 (includes **all** courses, whether posted to TWU transcript or used on a degree plan. Excludes developmental and repeated courses);
- Demonstrated basic skills in reading, written communication, and mathematics by meeting the requirements of the Texas Success Initiative;
- A minimum of 12 to 15 semester credit hours in the subject-specific content area for the certification sought;
- Completed EDUC 2003 with a C or higher;
- Completed department application for admission to the Educator Preparation Program in Tk20;
 - **Important:** Purchase and creation of a Tk20 account is required (<https://twu.edu/epp/tk20/>)
- Completed the Digital Literacy Pre-assessment;
- Submitted a non-refundable Texas Education Agency Fee;
- Completed a Commitment Contract acknowledging awareness and understanding of the Professional Dispositions Policy and Educators' Code of Ethics;
- Successfully completed a pre-admission departmental interview with an interview panel; and
- Acknowledged and accepted admission to the Educator Preparation Program.

Please note:

- All accepted students must maintain the admission requirements to remain in the TWU Education Preparation Program.
- Admission requirements are determined by Texas Education Agency policies and are subject to change without notice.
- Students seeking Bilingual certification must meet minimum proficiency in Spanish.
- Students seeking Deaf/Hard of Hearing certification must meet minimum proficiency in sign.

All admission decisions are based on the successful completion of the above requirements. Conviction of a felony or misdemeanor other than a minor traffic violation may affect certification. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Texas Education Agency (<http://www.tea.texas.gov/>). Any previous or current issues of academic dishonesty, disruptive behavior, or professional dispositions infractions at TWU, another university, or another Educator Preparation Program may result in denial of admission. Any decision may be appealed by contacting the Office of Educator Preparation Services at 940-898-2829.

Contact the Office of Educator Preparation Services (<https://twu.edu/epp/>) (OEPS) at copeadvising@twu.edu or 940-898-2829 with any questions.

Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Requirements

- Candidates must undergo a criminal history background check prior to employment as an educator. [19 TAC §227.1(b)(1)]
- Candidates must undergo a criminal history background check prior to clinical teaching. [19 TAC §227.1(b)(2)]
- The potential ineligibility of an individual who has been convicted of an offense for issuance of a certificate. [19 TAC §227.1(d)(1)]
- The right to request a preliminary criminal history evaluation from TEA. [19 TAC §227.1(d)(3)]

Degree Requirements

Total Semester Credit Hours (SCH): 120

Major: 78 SCH

Program Code: EARLYCHILDED.BS ; **CIP Code:** 13.1210.00

Texas Core Curriculum

Course	Title	Credits
ENG 1013	Composition I (10)	3
ENG 1023	Composition II (10)	3
Mathematics (20)		3
Life & Physical Sciences (30)		6
Language, Philosophy, & Culture (40)		3
Creative Arts (50)		3
HIST 1013	History of the United States, 1492-1865 (60)	3
HIST 1023	History of the United States, 1865 to the Present (60)	3
POLS 2013	U.S. National Government (70)	3
POLS 2023	Texas Government (70)	3
Social & Behavioral Sciences (80)		3
CAO: Multicultural-Women's Studies (90)		3

CAO: First Year Seminar, Wellness or Mathematics (91) 3

Total SCHs 42

Courses Required for Major

Course	Title	Credits
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Recommended Core Courses

Please speak with your advisor.

MATH 1303	College Algebra	
EDUC 2303	Introduction to Special Populations	
EDUC 2703	Gender and Education	

Content Areas

HIST 2713	History of Texas	3
SCI 2113	Earth Science: Global Perspectives	3
or HDF5 2003	Diversity in Contemporary Families: A Global Perspective	
MATH 1523	Mathematics Concepts I	3
or HDF5 2403	Concept Development in Early Childhood	
MATH 1533	Mathematics Concepts II	3
or ECE 2983	Practical Field Experience in the Early Childhood Classroom	
KINS 3583	Health and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents	3
or HDF5 2523	Wellness of the Young Child	

Early Literacy

READ 3223	Early Literacy Foundations	3
READ 4383	Phonological and Orthographic Principles in Literacy	3
READ 4223	Early Literacy Assessment and Instruction	3
READ 4393	Oral Language and Early Literacy Development	3

Early Childhood Development and Learning

HDFS 1603	Child in the Family and Community	3
HDFS 2513	Early Childhood Development	3
HDFS 2563	Childhood Guidance	3
EDSP 3203	Learners with Exceptionalities	3
ECE 3203	Developmentally Appropriate Practices and Strategies in the Early Childhood Classroom	3
ECE 3213	Social-Emotional Learning and Prosocial Skill Development in Early Childhood	3

Early Childhood Methods

ECE 2663	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
ECE 3223	Methods of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education (STEM) in the Early Childhood Classroom	3
ECE 3573	Creative Arts for Elementary School Aged Children	3
or HDF5 2573	Creative Arts and Literature for Young Children	
ECE 4213	Methods for Interdisciplinary Language Arts and Social Studies Education in the Early Childhood Classroom	3

Pedagogies and Professional Responsibilities (PPR EC-12 exam)

EDUC 2003	Schools and Society	3
ECE 2613	Program Planning and Administration of Programs for Young Children	3

ECE 4203	Observation, Assessment, and Developmental Learning Theory in the Early Childhood Classroom	3
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EDUC 4113	Design and Implementation of Instruction and Assessment	3
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EDUC 4243	Classroom Environment and Management	3
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EDUC 4946	Clinical Student Teaching	6
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Total SCHs 78

Plan of Study

First Year

Fall	TCCN	SCHs
ENG 1013	Composition I	ENGL 1301 3
HDFS 2513	Early Childhood Development	TECA 1354 3
MATH 1303	College Algebra (Recommended Life & Physical Sciences Core)	MATH 1314 3
UNIV 1231	First-Year Seminar: Learning Frameworks	EDUC 1100, EDUC 1200, EDUC 1300 1
CAO Core Mathematics or Wellness		2
Life & Physical Sciences Core		3

SCHs 15

Spring	TCCN	
ECE 2663	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	TECA 1311 3
EDUC 2003	Schools and Society	EDUC 1301 3
ENG 1023	Composition II	ENGL 1302 3
HIST 1013	History of the United States, 1492-1865	HIST 1301 3
Creative Arts Core		3
Life & Physical Sciences Core		3

SCHs 18

Second Year

Fall	TCCN	
ECE 3203	Developmentally Appropriate Practices and Strategies in the Early Childhood Classroom	3
EDUC 2303	Introduction to Special Populations	EDUC 2301 3
HIST 1023	History of the United States, 1865 to the Present	HIST 1302 3
MATH 1523 or HDF5 2403	Mathematics Concepts I or Concept Development in Early Childhood	MATH 1350 3
Language, Philosophy & Culture Core		3

SCHs 15

Spring	TCCN	
EDUC 2703	Gender and Education	3
HIST 2713	History of Texas	HIST 2301 3
MATH 1533 or ECE 2983	Mathematics Concepts II or Practical Field Experience in the Early Childhood Classroom	MATH 1351 3
POLS 2013	U.S. National Government	GOVT 2305 3
READ 3223	Early Literacy Foundations	3

SCI 2113 or HDFS 2003	Earth Science: Global Perspectives or Diversity in Contemporary Families: A Global Perspective	GEOL 1401	3
SCHs			18
Third Year			
Fall		TCCN	
ECE 3223	Methods of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education (STEM) in the Early Childhood Classroom		3
EDSP 3203	Learners with Exceptionalities		3
POLS 2023	Texas Government	GOVT 2306	3
KINS 3583 or HDFS 2523	Health and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents or Wellness of the Young Child	TECA 1318	3
HDFS 1603	Child in the Family and Community	TECA 1303	3
SCHs			15
Spring		TCCN	
ECE 3213	Social-Emotional Learning and Prosocial Skill Development in Early Childhood		3
ECE 3573 or HDFS 2573	Creative Arts for Elementary School Aged Children or Creative Arts and Literature for Young Children		3
READ 4223	Early Literacy Assessment and Instruction		3
READ 4383	Phonological and Orthographic Principles in Literacy		3
ECE 2613	Program Planning and Administration of Programs for Young Children		3
HDFS 2563	Childhood Guidance		3
SCHs			18
Fourth Year			
Fall		TCCN	
ECE 4203	Observation, Assessment, and Developmental Learning Theory in the Early Childhood Classroom		3
ECE 4213	Methods for Interdisciplinary Language Arts and Social Studies Education in the Early Childhood Classroom		3
EDUC 4113	Design and Implementation of Instruction and Assessment		3
EDUC 4243	Classroom Environment and Management		3
READ 4393	Oral Language and Early Literacy Development		3
SCHs			15
Spring		TCCN	
EDUC 4946	Clinical Student Teaching		6
SCHs			6
Total SCHs:			120