Early Childhood Professions Concentration

The courses in the Early Childhood Professions Concentration prepare students for careers in early childhood education as well as professional work with children across a variety of settings, including working with children with special needs. This concentration is an ideal choice for first and second year HDFS majors who plan to apply to the competitive on-campus Early Childhood Education Major during their sophomore year. As well, this concentration is the preferred choice for students interested in early childhood education careers that do not require teacher licensure or for students who will pursue a graduate degree and licensure in childhood education. Students interested in working with children with special needs, those seeking director qualifications in early childhood education, and those seeking other relevant credentials would also benefit from choosing this concentration. The curriculum incorporates courses from several disciplines that focus on early child development, education, diversity, and professional skills.

Students must earn a “C” or higher in concentration courses.
Courses may NOT double count for courses fulfilling AUCC, other HDFS requirements, or a second concentration.

Students must complete a minimum of 15 credits from the course options below for the Early Childhood Professions Concentration; with at least 9 credits of HDFS prefix courses and 12 credits of upper division. * indicates the course is offered online

HDFS courses (at least 9 credits must be HDFS prefix courses)
- HDFS 217 (3) Creative Experiences with Children*
- HDFS 286 (3) Practicum at the Early Childhood Center *
- HDFS 317 (3) Special Needs in Early Childhood* (online delivery only)
- HDFS 318 (3) Infancy and Toddlerhood* (spring only course on campus)
- HDFS 320 (3) Cognitive and Language Development* (spring only course on campus)
- HDFS 351 (3) Promoting Early Socioemotional Competence* (online delivery only)
- HDFS 401 (3) Childhood Socialization *
- HDFS 439 (3) Administration of Early Childhood Programs* (fall only course on campus)
- HDFS/FSHN 445 (3) Early Childhood Health, Safety and Nutrition *(fall only course on campus)

Additional concentration courses (6 or less credits may be from the list below)
- D 324 (2) Teaching Creative Movement for Children (spring only- must request an override as HDFS major)
- EDUC 275 (3) Schooling in the United States*
- IE 471 (3) Children and Youth in Global Context* (online delivery only)
- PSY 460 (3) Childhood Exceptionality and Psychopathology *(spring only course on campus)
- SOWK 371A (3) Social Work with Selected Populations-Children and Families

See the back page of this document for additional credentials to explore
Additional credentials students are encouraged to explore with the Early Childhood Professions Concentration:

More courses may be needed to acquire the credential. Students should research the requirements before applying for the credential.

**Director Qualifications** (early childhood education credential within the state of Colorado)

Courses from this concentration’s list that can also be applied to this credential:

1. EDUC 275 (3) Schooling in the United States
2. HDFS 217 (3) Creative Experiences with Children
3. HDFS 286 (3) Practicum at the Early Childhood Center
4. HDFS 318 (3) Infancy and Toddlerhood
5. HDFS/FSHN 445 (3) Health, Safety & Nutrition in Early Childhood
6. HDFS 439 (3) Administration of Early Childhood Programs
7. Choose:
   - HDFS 317 (3) Special Needs in Early Childhood (online delivery only) OR
   - HDFS 375 (3) Programming for Children and Families OR
   - PSY 460 (3) Childhood Exceptionality and Psychopathology
8. Choose:
   - HDFS 351 (3) Promoting Early Socioemotional Competence (online delivery only) OR
   - HDFS 401 (3) Childhood Socialization

**Early Childhood Education Major** (offered on campus only and students must apply to the major in early February)

Courses from this concentration’s list that students can take in preparation for applying to the major:

1. EDUC 275 (3) Schooling in the United States
2. HDFS 217 (3) Creative Experiences with Children
3. Choose:
   - HDFS 317 (3) Special Needs in Early Childhood (online delivery only) OR
   - PSY 460 (3) Childhood Exceptionality and Psychopathology
4. HDFS 318 (3) Infancy and Toddlerhood
5. HDFS 320 (3) Cognitive and Language Development
6. HDFS 351 (3) Promoting Early Socioemotional Competence
7. HDFS 401 (3) Childhood Socialization
8. HDFS 439 (3) Administration of Early Childhood Programs
9. HDFS/FSHN 445 (3) Early Childhood Health, Safety and Nutrition