

# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

## Associate in Arts (A.A.)

Program Code: S.ECE.AA

Graduation requirement — 60 semester hours

To teach young children in Illinois public schools (birth to second grade), teachers must be certified by the state of Illinois. To transfer into an approved baccalaureate program in early childhood education as a junior, students must complete specific requirements and a minimum of 60 semester credits. Students are strongly encouraged to complete an A.A. degree prior to transfer. Since admission is competitive, completion of the recommended courses does not guarantee admission. A minimum grade point average for most universities is required for program admission.

Students planning to teach at the early childhood level in Illinois are advised to plan their transfer programs with a Parkland academic advisor or counselor to meet specific requirements of their preferred transfer college or university and the Illinois State Teachers Certification Board.

### Program Notes

- A criminal background investigation is required prior to field experience. Students are responsible for any fees.
- Licensure by the State of Illinois requires that all courses in program be passed with a grade of C or higher.
- Recommended courses are designed to facilitate completion of the A.A. degree and transfer into a four-year college or university with junior standing in a chosen academic path. Students are advised to follow the recommendations.
- EDU 101 and PSY 207 are required for transfer.
- The following universities have specific math requirements for education transfer students.  
 EIU: MAT 105–106 sequence recommended  
 ISU: Any IAI transfer math course  
 UIUC: MAT 105–106 sequence recommended

### Required General Education Core Courses (36–38 hours)

Cr. Hrs.

Communications (9)	
COM 103 Introduction to Public Speaking	3
ENG 101 Composition I	3
ENG 102 Composition II	3
Humanities/Fine Arts electives	9
• Choose at least one course from Humanities and one from Fine Arts	
Social/Behavioral Sciences electives	9
Recommended:	
HIS 104 History of the U.S. to 1877	(4)
or HIS 105 History of the U.S., 1877 to the Present	(4)
POS 122 American National Government	(3)
PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology	(4)
• Soc/Beh Sci courses must be from at least two disciplines	
• One course from Hum/Fine Arts or Soc/Beh Sci must fulfill the non-Western culture requirement	
Mathematics elective	3
Life Sciences (laboratory-based) elective	4
Recommended: BIO 101 General Biology	(4)
Physical Sciences (laboratory-based) elective	4

### A.A. Degree Requirement (3 hours)

LAS 188 Diverse U.S. Cultural Expression	
or LAS 189 Introduction to Liberal Arts and Sciences	3

### Recommended Courses (19 hours)

Students should select courses from the following recommendations to meet the minimum 60-hour degree requirement. They are advised to make course selections with an academic advisor as universities and the Illinois State Teachers Certification Board may have specific course requirements.

EDU 101 Introduction to Education	3
EDU 103 Introduction to Educational Technology	3
EDU 104 Introduction to Special Education	3
Science elective(s)	4
Foreign language requirements	4
GEO 140 World Geography	
or GEO 143 Geography of the United States	3
MUS 121 Music Appreciation	
or MUS 124 Introduction to Non-Western Music	3
MAT 105 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I	3
MAT 106 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers II	3
PSY 207 Introduction to Child Psychology	3

Total Semester Credit Hours Required 60