



**Bachelor of Science**

**Major: Early Childhood Education**

**Specialization: Birth to Age 8**

**2021-2022 Sample 4-Year Plan**

**Total Degree Requirements: 120 credits**

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Student Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Minor/Career Interest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Students are not limited to this plan; it is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes in consultation with your advisor. The sample schedule is one possible path to completing your degree within four years. For official program requirements, please refer to the [Undergraduate Catalog](#).

**First Year**

**Fall**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
BIOL 101/L	Biology Survey I and Lab	SGR #6	3		
EHS 119	EHS Seminar		2		
ENGL 101	Composition I	p. Placement, SGR #1	3		
HDFS 210	Lifespan Development	SGR #3	3		
SGR #4	Arts and Humanities/Diversity	SGR #4	3		
Elective	Student choice	(or take 4 credit SGR #4 course)	1		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			15		

**Spring**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
ECE 150/L	Early Experience and Lab		2		
GEOG 131/L OR GEOG 132/L	Physical Geography: Weather & Climate and Lab OR Physical Geography: Natural Landscapes	SGR #6	4		
MATH 114 or MATH 103	College Algebra Mathematical Reasoning	SGR #5	3		
PSYC 101	General Psychology	SGR #3	3		
CMST 101	Fundamentals of Speech	SGR #2	3		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			15		

**Second Year**

**Fall**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
AIS 211	SD American Indian Culture and Education	Teacher certification requirement	3		
EDFN 475	Human Relations	Teacher certification requirement	3		
ENGL 201	Composition II	p. ENGL 101, SGR #1	3		
EPSY 201	The Science of Learning		3		
HDFS 241	Family Relations		3		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			15		

**Spring**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
ECE 196	Field Experience *	*Courses must be taken together	1		
ECE 240	Child Development I: Prenatal to 2*		3		
ECE 241	Child Development II: 3 to 8 Years *		3		
ECE 325	Inclusion and the Diverse Learner		3		
PHYS 216/L	Physical Science for Early Childhood and Lab	Spring Only	3	S	
MATH 245	Mathematics for Primary Grades I	Spring Only; MATH 103 or higher	3		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			16		

**Information Subject to Change. This is not a contract.**

p. = Course Prerequisite  
Semester: F = Fall, S = Spring, SU = Summer



**Third Year**

**Fall**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
ECE 320/L	Pedagogy and Curriculum and Lab*	*Courses must be taken together	4		
ECE 360/L	Play and Inquiry and Lab*		4		
ECE 455	Administration & Supervision of Early Childhood Settings		3		
ENGL 240	Juvenile Literature	SGR #4	3		
MATH 345	Mathematics for Primary Grades II	p. MATH 103 or higher	3		
		<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	17		

**Spring**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
ECE 321	Learner-Centered Assessment*	*Courses must be taken together	3		
ECE 322	Contemporary Curriculum Perspectives*		3		
ECE 412	Kindergarten Education*		2		
ECE 466	Literacy in ECE*		3		
ECE 495	Practicum (Kindergarten)*		1		
EHS 319	Life, Love and Money	Spring Only	2		
		<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	14		

**Fourth Year**

**Fall**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
ECE 470	Inclusion Strategies*	*Courses must be taken together	3		
ECE 475	Pedagogy and Guidance in ECE*		3		
ECE 488	Student Teaching (PreK-K) *		6		
ECE 471	Reading Diagnostics *		3		
		<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	15		

**Spring**

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
ECE 441	Professional Issues in ECE		2		
ECE 495	Field Experience (ECSE)		3		
ECE 488	Student Teaching (K-3)	Pass ECE Praxis Content Exam prior to placement	8		
		<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	13		

**Comments/Notes**

Students from all academic majors can pursue graduation with Fishback Honors College distinction. View the [Honors program requirements](#).

All semesters starting in Year 2 Spring Semester must follow one another in the sequence shown unless determined otherwise by advisor. ECE courses have to be taken together in the designated semester.

**Academic Requirements**

- A grade of "C" or better is required in CMST 101, ENGL 101, PSYC 101, and MATH 114/103 or higher, and all courses for the major (classes with department/program prefix).
- An overall GPA of 2.5 is required to enroll in any education courses.

**Early Childhood Education Notes**

- A pre-graduate check is required 2 semesters before graduation semester. At beginning of graduation semester, a graduation application must be completed.
- A grade of "C" or better is required in PSYC 101, ENGL 101, CMST 101, MATH 114/103, and all major courses with an EDFN, HDFS or ECE prefix.

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- Students must meet all GPA Requirements (2.6 for graduation, 2.8 in major courses including ECE, HDFS, and EDFN) and be accepted into the ECE Teacher Education program/ECE-PSI and ECE-PS II.
- Students will be required to pass the PRAXIS content and Principles of Teaching and Learning exams in order to be considered a Highly Qualified Teacher.

**South Dakota Certification [requirements](#)**

- Completion of an approved bachelor's Early Childhood Education Birth – Age 8 preparation program.
- Completion of an approved Indian Studies course.
- Pass the state designated content knowledge test.
- Pass the state designated pedagogy test.
- Completion of a Suicide Awareness and Prevention training, available free online through the South Dakota Department of Education.
- Apply online with the South Dakota Department of Education.
- Written recommendation from institution of higher education (SDSU) verifying program completion.