SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Science
Major: Early Childhood Education
Specialization: Birth to Age 8 (Grade 3)
2023-2024 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		
ECE 150/L	Early Experience and Lab		2		
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		
		Total Credit Hours	16		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
CMST 101	Foundations of Communication	SGR #2	3		
EPSY 201	The Science of Learning		3		
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		
		Total Credit Hours	16		

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		
ENGL 240	Juvenile Literature	SGR #4	3		
HDFS 241	Family Relations		3		
		Total Credit Hours	15		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
ECE 196	Field Experience: Infants/Toddlers *	*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		
MATH 245	Mathematics for Primary Grades I	Spring Only; MATH 103 or higher	3		
PHYS 216/L	Physical Science for Early Childhood and Lab	Spring Only	3	S	
	ECE program application - Praxis Core, 2.5 GPA Required	**Total Credit Hours**	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		
MATH 345/L	Mathematics for Primary Grades II	p. MATH 103 or higher	4		
		Total Credit Hours	15		

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		
	Take Praxis ECE Content Exam – end of semester	**Total Credit Hours**	14		

Fourth Year

Fall

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

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
ECE 441	Professional Issues in ECE*		2		
ECE 488	Student Teaching (K-3)*		8		
ECE 495	Practicum: ECSE*		3		
	Take Praxis PLT Exam	**Total Credit Hours**	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.

*Courses must be taken concurrently in the semester chosen.

Early Childhood Education Notes
- 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. An overall GPA of 2.5 is required to enroll in any education courses.
- 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.
- Students will be required to pass the PRAXIS content and Principles of Teaching and Learning exams to be eligible for teacher certification/educator licensing.
- At beginning of graduation semester, a graduation application must be completed.

South Dakota Certification requirements
- Completion of an approved bachelor's Early Childhood Education Birth – Age 8 preparation program.
- Completion of an approved South Dakota Indian Studies course with a C letter grade or better (i.e. AIS 211 or equivalent)
- 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.
- Verification of program completion by SDSU Certifying Officer.

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