



Bachelor of Science

Major: Early Childhood Education

Specialization: Birth to Age 8 (Grade 3)

2024-2025 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

Table with 6 columns: Prefix + Number, Course Title, Prerequisites/Comments, Credits, Semester, Grade. Rows include BIOL 101/L, ECE 150/L, EHS 119, ENGL 101, HDFS 210, SGR #4, and Total Credit Hours (16).

Spring

Table with 6 columns: Prefix + Number, Course Title, Prerequisites/Comments, Credits, Semester, Grade. Rows include CMST 101, EPSY 201, GEOG 131/L OR GEOG 132/L, MATH 114 or MATH 103, PSYC 101, and Total Credit Hours (16).

SECOND YEAR

Fall

Table with 6 columns: Prefix + Number, Course Title, Prerequisites/Comments, Credits, Semester, Grade. Rows include AIS 211, EDFN 475, ENGL 201, ENGL 240, HDFS 241, and Total Credit Hours (15).

Spring

Table with 6 columns: Prefix + Number, Course Title, Prerequisites/Comments, Credits, Semester, Grade. Rows include ECE 196, ECE 240, ECE 241, ECE 325, MATH 245, PHYS 216/L, and Total Credit Hours (16).



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/Summer Only	2		
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	Foundations of Reading*		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)*		10		
ECE 495	Practicum: SPED		1		
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/SGR #2, 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 (2.5 for graduation, 2.7 in major courses including ECE, HDFS, and EDFN) and pass the Praxis Core exam to 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.