

## Master of Education - Early Childhood Education

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### Plan Description

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The Master of Education – Early Childhood Education is designed to provide a comprehensive contemporary program of teacher preparation and education for early childhood settings (e.g., day care, preschool education, hospitals, community education, early intervention programs, agencies, infant/toddler education and prek-2nd grade teaching license. In addition, the program provides course work beyond and above the requirements of the State of Nevada's Licensure requirements). Students will learn about the typically developing children and children with special needs and participate in field work. The program has two tracks, birth through 3 years and birth through 8 years. In the Early Childhood Education Program, students gain knowledge and skills for a variety of careers in educational and intervention programs for young children.

For more information about your program, including your graduate program handbook and learning outcomes please visit the [Degree Directory](#).

### Plan Admission Requirements

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#### [Application deadlines](#)

Applications available on the [UNLV Graduate College website](#).

In addition to meeting the admission requirements of the Graduate College, as outlined in the front of this catalog, applicants must also meet the requirements established by the Department of Educational and Clinical Studies. They are:

1. A minimum grade point average of 2.75 for all undergraduate work or a 3.00 grade point average for the last two years of undergraduate work; and
2. A letter of application/intent.

Applications are processed when all credentials required by both the Graduate College and the Department of Educational and Clinical Studies have been received by the Graduate Coordinator. The Graduate Coordinator evaluates the applicant's credentials and recommends either 1) admission to full, contingency, or provisional graduate standing (depending on the strength of the applicant's academic credentials); or 2) denial. Those who wish to begin studies but who miss the application deadline may enroll as a non-degree graduate student. However, since there is no guarantee that courses taken as a non-degree student will count toward a degree, and since a maximum of 15 hours taken prior to admission to the program may be used to meet degree requirements, candidates are urged to seek advisement prior to registering for any course(s).

Applicants should log back into their online applications to monitor the status of the application. Official decision letters will be posted in the online application once a decision has been made. Hard-copy letters are not issued. The online decision letter will include the name of the student's advisor. Students are responsible for contacting their advisors.

All domestic and international applicants must review and follow the [Graduate College Admission and Registration Requirements](#).

## Plan Requirements

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Total Credits Required: 36



## Course Requirements

### Required Courses – Credits: 6

[EPY 702 - Research Methods](#)

[ESP 722 - Multicultural Perspectives in Special Education](#)

### Early Childhood Education Courses – Credits: 18

Complete 18 credits from the following list of courses:

[ECE 706 - Planning Curriculum for Young Children](#)

[ECE 707 - Programs in Early Childhood Education](#)

[ECE 709 - Investigations in Early Childhood Education](#)

[ECE 711 - Science and Math for Young Children](#)

[ESP 719B - Advanced Oral and Written Instruction Early Childhood](#)

[ECE 722 - Theoretical Bases for Early Childhood Education](#)

[ECE 726 - Early Education for Infants and Toddlers](#)

OR

[ESP 728 - Theory of Play Development](#)

### Early Childhood Special Education Courses – Credits: 9

[ESP 772 - Family Education in Early Childhood Special Education](#)

[ESP 773 - Assessment for Young Children with Disabilities](#)

[ESP 775 - Strategies for Early Childhood Special Education](#)

### Field Experience Course – Credits: 3

[ECE 781 - Early Childhood Education Field Experience](#)

## Degree Requirements

[See Plan Degree Requirements below.](#)

## Graduation Requirements

[See Plan Graduation Requirements below.](#)

## Plan Degree Requirements

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1. Students must complete a minimum of 36 credit hours with a minimum GPA of 3.00.
2. For Nevada state licensure, students must complete a total of 8 credits of fieldwork; these additional credits will not count towards the degree program.
3. Previous course work included in submitted graduate plans of study must have a grade of B or better. Only two subsequent grades of less than B- (one with an ESP or ECE prefix and one with any other prefix) will be permitted in a submitted plan of study. Under no circumstances will a Grade Point Average (GPA) of less than 3.00 be allowed on a finished plan of study. Failure to meet these standards will result in suspension from the degree program.
4. In order to be endorsed in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) the following four courses must be completed in addition to the courses required as part of the degree program:
  - TESL 651 – Theories of second language acquisition
  - TESL 652 – TESL Methods and Materials
  - TESL 653 – TESL curriculum
  - TESL 654 – TESL Assessment Procedures
5. Students must successfully complete and pass a comprehensive examination.
  - a. The comprehensive examination is taken during the student’s last semester of coursework or in the semester immediately following completion of coursework listed on the student’s Program of Studies. If student(s) do not pass the exam they will receive only one additional opportunity to take a 2nd comprehensive examination. If students opt to take the comprehensive exam the semester after completion of the coursework listed on their Program of Studies, they must enroll in ESP 766 or another graduate course. Per Graduate College Guidelines, students must be enrolled in a minimum of 3 hours of coursework the semester they graduate.
  - b. Students must apply to take comprehensive examinations. Specific application deadlines are available in the Department of Educational and Clinical Studies.
6. Master’s degrees must be completed within a six-year period and continuous enrollment must be maintained throughout the six years, unless a formal request for a leave of absence is approved by the department and Graduate College.

## **Plan Graduation Requirements**

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The student must submit all required forms to the Graduate College and then apply for graduation up to two semesters prior to completing his/her degree requirements for the program.

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