

CAREER STUDIES CERTIFICATE (221-636-04)

## Early Childhood Development

**Purpose:** This curriculum is an introduction to the field, designed to provide entry-level competencies documented by Virginia’s Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals. These competencies include health, safety and nutrition, understanding child growth and development, appropriate child observation and assessment, partnering with families and community, learning environment, effective interactions, program management, teacher qualifications and professional development curriculum.

**Program Objectives:** This certificate also meets the requirements for the Virginia Early Childhood Development Certificate (VECD); an alternative credential to the CDA designed to meet Head Start credentialing requirements. Students wishing to earn the VECD should speak with the Program Head in Early Childhood Development, as additional components and documentation are required, including completion of CHD 167: Resource File. CHD 167 will be offered as a spring semester course.

Employment opportunities include positions in childcare centers, family day care homes, preschool programs, centers for children with special needs, residential childcare facilities and industry associated centers.

**Admission Requirements:** Applicants must meet the requirements for admission to credit-level coursework established by the college.

**Program Notes:** All required courses also apply towards the AAS degree in Early Childhood Development.

Each student is responsible for transportation to and from field sites used for laboratory experience.

**CURRICULUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

| <b>GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES</b> |   | <b>CREDITS</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| SDV 100 .....                         | College Success Skills (or SDV 101) ..... | 1              |

**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED COURSES**

|                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| CHD 120 .....  | Intro to Early Childhood Education .....              | 3 |
| CHD 145 .....  | Teaching Art, Music and<br>Movement to Children ..... | 3 |
| CHD 165* ..... | Observation and Participation .....                   | 3 |
| CHD 205 .....  | Guiding the Behavior of Children .....                | 3 |
| HLT 135 .....  | Child, Health and Nutrition<br>(or EDU 235) .....     | 3 |

**Total Minimum Credits for Certificate ..... 16**

*\*This course has a requisite. Requisites for all courses are listed in the course description section at the back of the catalog.*

**SUGGESTED SCHEDULE**

| <b>FALL</b> | <b>SPRING</b> |
|-------------|---------------|
| CHD 120     | CHD 205       |
| CHD 145     | HLT 135       |
| CHD 165     | SDV 100       |