2015-2016 Early Childhood Course Descriptions

ECH 200  The Foundations and Management of the Early Childhood Classroom. A further study to the field of early childhood education, based on standards set by the National Association for Education of Young Children (NAEYC), includes: an in-depth study of developmentally appropriate practice (DAP) including how it is informed, implemented, and evaluated, and a review of the Code of Ethical Behavior. It also considers procedures of classroom structure and behavior management, including special education. Behavioral assessment, self-assessment, and self-control skills are emphasized and sensitivity to possible differences between classroom behavioral expectations and the home environment is developed. Field experience is required in order to complete course assignments. 4 Semester Hours.

ECH 320  Early Childhood Mathematics Practices and Curriculum. This course includes an exploration of number concepts and problem-solving strategies designed for prospective early childhood teachers. Real number concepts, operations, algebraic, and geometric properties are considered. Candidates will study the goals, content, material, technology, and methods of teaching mathematics to young children between the ages of 3 and 8. Emphasis is placed on the young child's natural mathematical development. Candidates will create lessons based on play-centered activities, student exploration, and ongoing assessment. Field experience is required in order to complete course assignments. Prerequisite: Admission into the Teacher Education Program. 4 Semester Hours.

ECH 325  Teaching Language Arts and Social Studies in the Elementary School. This course focuses on the integration of language arts and social studies in the elementary school (grades 4 and 5). Candidates will explore the dynamic context and needs of language arts and social studies classrooms and design engaging lessons that integrate language arts and social studies, including the use of literature and technology to meet the needs of diverse learners. Field experience is required in order to complete course assignments. Prerequisite: Admission into the Teacher Education Program. 3 Semester Hours.

ECH 330  Early Childhood Scientific and Social Studies Practices and Curriculum. This course includes an exploration of national and state standards-based study of objectives, content, materials, technology, and methods of instruction essential to the teaching of science and social studies to young children between the ages of 3 and 8. Emphasis is placed on lesson development based on play-centered activities, exploration, and hands-on experiences. Candidates will focus on the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) curriculum standards; these serve as guidelines for interdisciplinary and multicultural lesson design. The incorporation of history, civics, and geographical themes, in addition to appropriate use of children's literature and technological resources in the designing of units, lessons, and assessment to meet the needs of a variety of learners, will also be studied. Field experience is required in order to complete course assignments. Prerequisite: Admission into the Teacher Education Program. 4 Semester Hours.

ECH 360  Early Childhood Language Arts Practices and Curriculum. This course explores the scope, importance, and content of literature for children. Candidates will be exposed to the techniques of evaluating, presenting, and studying literature with children as an emerging process. Candidates will study theories of development of narrative and expository reading and writing. Attention is given to issues, purpose, materials, technology, and processes for teaching emergent and early reading and writing. A firm knowledge base and skills in planning, delivery, and assessment of content will also be emphasized. Field experience is required in order to complete course assignments. Prerequisite: Admission into the Teacher Education Program. 4 Semester Hours.

ECH 404  Early Childhood Professional Practices, Research and Preclinical Practice. This course focuses on professional, ethical, and professional practice (NAEYC) standards through professional activities, research, and scholarship. This course is also designed to initiate work that benefits individuals in an early childhood setting, their families, colleagues, and the professional growth of teacher candidates. Field experience is required in order to complete course assignments. Candidates spend 12-13 hours per week for 7-8 weeks (90 hours) in a preschool, kindergarten, or primary grade setting daily observing and applying theories, principles, and methods of teaching related to Early Childhood Education. The candidate is a teaching assistant and works closely with school personnel in instructional, clinical, and non-instructional activities designed to promote readiness for clinical practice. The completion of an Impact on Student Learning Unit is required. Group seminars are arranged by the field placement coordinator. Prerequisites: ECH 320, ECH 330, ECH 360 and Admission into the Teacher Education Program. 4 Semester Hours.

ECH 440  Early Childhood Assessment and Literacy Practices. This course explores theories of literacy and multiple forms of current literacy assessment and instruction for the PK-3 classroom and clinical situations. Emphasis is on assisting struggling readers and writers, including English language learners, through a variety of formal and informal assessments and instructional strategies. Candidates will develop an understanding of the following: processes and approaches, procedures useful in reading assessment and diagnosis, the remediation of reading, writing, and language, and the utilization of administration techniques. Special attention is given to the alignment of assessment with curriculum and instruction and the assessment to instruction link will be emphasized. This course provides a variety of strategies to address the literacy needs of a wide range of students. Field experience is required in order to complete course assignments. Prerequisite: ECH 360 and Admission into the Teacher Education Program. 4 Semester Hours.

ECH 470  Clinical Practice-Early Childhood. The candidate assumes all responsibilities of teaching in a preschool through 3rd grade setting. This course is graded S/U and is required for Ohio State Early Childhood teaching licensure. Group seminars to enable collaboration, evaluation, and reflection are arranged by the field placement coordinator. Prerequisite: Admission into Clinical Practice. 12 Semester Hours.