

## **CHILD DEVELOPMENT COURSE OFFERINGS 2025-2026**

Prepare for further education and careers in early childhood education and care. Learn about the preschool learning environment, establishing a purposeful preschool child-care program and participate in internship experiences at licensed facilities. Program of study completers will be prepared to pass the Child Development Associate (CDA) examination, be ready for a verification visit conducted by an employee of the Council of Professional Recognition credentialing agency and possess a complete CDA professional portfolio.

### **CHILD GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT EDU2029A/EDU2029B (0.5 credit per semester)**

This course focuses on child development birth through adolescence with emphasis on preschool development. Theories of development, the role of caregivers, family, health, safety, and contemporary issues will be introduced. Students will explore special challenges to growth and development and will have opportunities for guided observation of children in a variety of settings. Students will begin to compile artifacts and written competency statements that are aligned with the required Child Development Associate portfolio guidelines for preschool. Students will explore career pathways in Early Childhood Education and Child Care.

### **LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR PRESCHOOLERS EDU2031A/EDU2031B (0.5 credit per semester)**

This course focuses on learning environments for preschool care. Students will explore the relationship of health, nutrition and safety to learning. Students will establish strategies to support a safe, healthy learning environment that provides appropriate mealtime experience and promotes good nutrition for preschool care while meeting best practice and regulated requirements for quality learning environments. Students will continue to explore physical and cognitive development and provide opportunities for positive guidance. Students will continue to develop components of a professional Child Development Associate Preschool portfolio.

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Child Growth & Development*

**CDA PORTFOLIO/INTERNSHIP EDU2032A/EDU2032B (0.5 credit per semester)**

Students enhance development of higher-level teaching and observation skills through independent study, research, advocacy projects and field experiences. Students analyze current research-based instructional practices, as well as identify career goals. Students mentor a group of Child Growth & Development students as they plan and teach the children in the Walter Johnson Preschool.

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Child Growth & Development and Learning Environment for Preschoolers*

**CDA INTERNSHIP EDU2028**

Students apply knowledge and skill sets acquired in previous Child Development courses. Collaborating with mentor teachers and other professionals, students participate in program specific learning and relevant workplace experiences. Students analyze current trends, professional ethics and the impact that parents, community and government organizations have on contemporary education. Students continue to complete a professional portfolio. Five student service learning hours are given each semester.

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Child Growth & Development and Learning Environment for Preschoolers (can be taken concurrently with Learning Environment for Preschoolers)*