

CHILDREN'S STUDIES *College of Social & Behavioral Sciences and Social Work*

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BA

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

The Interdisciplinary Children's Studies majors provide students a strong holistic background in the study of children (birth to adolescence) in a variety of social contexts. Theory and practice from the disciplines of Sociology, Psychology and Education form the basis for this integrated curriculum. The BA Options A, B and C provide an opportunity for all students to develop a foundational and global perspective of children and childhood. Included in the program requirements is the course SOCI 101, which must be taken as a prerequisite to the sociology courses found within the Children's Studies Major. This course may be used to fulfill the requirements for one General Education Course Requirement (GECR) but may not be counted twice toward the 180 credits required to graduate. In addition, EDUC 325, which makes up part of the Children's Studies core, may be used to fulfill the requirement for the Culture and Gender Diversity requirement.

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES – STUDENTS WILL:

- demonstrate knowledge in addressing children's lives and experiences from a variety of disciplines;
- demonstrate an understanding of children's diversity;
- critically evaluate a variety of approaches in working with children and reflect on their own practices and interactions with children;
- design curricula that addresses children's individuality in different types of interactions and contexts;
- demonstrate effective practices in working with children and child service organizations, which include knowledge of content area, problem solving, use of technology, opportunity for choice, motivation, collaboration, and respect for diversity;
- communicate effectively with all constituencies, including children, parents, colleagues, and community members; and demonstrate professional leadership in the field.

CHILDREN'S STUDIES MAJOR (60 CREDITS)

Note: two years of a single high school foreign language or one year of a single college level foreign language is required.

Required Core Courses (34-35 credits)

- CDST 301 Introduction to Children's Studies (2)
or EDUC 306 Introduction to Early Childhood Education (1)
- CDST 439 Topics in Children's Studies (5)
- CDST 492 Senior Portfolio (2)
- CEDP 313 Child and Adolescent Development (4)
- EDUC 325 Inequalities and Impacts on Educational Equity (4)
- GEOG 357 Geography of Childhood (3)
- SOCI 101 Introduction to Sociology (5)
- SOCI/WMST 370 Sociology of the Family (5)
- SOCI/WMST 483 Sociology of Children (5)

Choose one of the following Practicum/Internship/Seminar courses (3-4 credits)

- CDST 495 Internship (4)
- CEDP 495 Experiential Learning (4)
- EDUC 457 Collaborative Reflective Practice in Early Childhood Education (3)

Capstone (4 credits)

- ITGS 400 Interdisciplinary Senior Capstone (4)
or an approved department Senior Capstone course.

Total required core credits, including practicum/internship and capstone **41–43 credits**

DEGREE OPTIONS—CHOOSE ONE OF THE THREE OPTIONS FOR THE BA

OPTION A—RESEARCH IN CHILDREN'S STUDIES

The Research option is designed for those undergraduate students who plan to do graduate work or who wish to work in agencies or organizations that need data collection and assessment.

Required Courses (14–18 credits)

Theory—(5–8 credits)

- CEDP 315 Human Relations (4)
and CEDP 320 Developmental Theories and Applications (4)
or CSBS 310 Foundations of Social and Behavioral Science Theory (5)

Statistics—(4–5 credits)

- CEDP 319 Psychological and Behavioral Assessment (4)
or CSBS 320 Introductory Statistics for the Social Sciences (5)

Research Methods—(5–8 credits)

- CSBS 330 Integrated Social Science Methods (5)
or PSYC 313 Research Methods in Psychology (5)
or CEDP 321 Research Methods in Developmental Psychology (4)
and CEDP 322 Research Methods Laboratory (1)

Electives (1-5 credits)

Elective credits, including CDST 499, as approved by major advisor.

Required core credits **41–43 credits**

Required program credits **14–18 credits**

Elective credits **1-5 credits**

Minimum total credits for above major with option: **60 credits**

OPTION B—PROGRAMING IN CHILDREN'S STUDIES

The Program option allows students to develop an enhanced and broadened perspective about children so they can have the flexibility to work with children in social service agencies and other child focused programs.

Required Courses (8 credits)

- CEDP 315 Psychology of Human Relations (4)
- CEDP 324 Human Learning (4)

Electives: choose from the following (minimum of 9 credits)

- AAST 320 African American Family (5)
- CEDP 402 Behavior Modification (4)
- CEDP 476 Child and Family Guidance (4)
- EDUC 455 Perspectives of Early Childhood Education (3)
- EDUC 480 Educating Young Children with Diverse Backgrounds (3)
- ENGL/EDUC 323 A Global View through Children's Literature (5)
- MGMT 326 Organization Theory and Behavior (4)
- RCLS 260 Arts in Recreation (3)
- RCLS 385 Programming in Recreation and Leisure Services (3)
- SOCI 463 Complex Organizations (5)
- SOCI 452 Juvenile Delinquency (5)
- SOWK 471 Human Rights and Women's Rights (4)
- SOWK 492 Child Welfare Programs and Services (5)
- Or other elective credits approved by major advisor.

Required core credits **41–43 credits**

Required program credits **8 credits**

Elective credits **9–11 credits**

Minimum total credits for above major with option: **60 credits**

OPTION C—EARLY CHILDHOOD THROUGH CHILDREN'S STUDIES

The Early Childhood through Children's Studies option allows students to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Children's Studies with a focus on the development, learning and environments of young children.

Required Courses (19 credits)

- EDUC 455 Perspectives of Early Childhood Education (3)
- EDUC 456 Integrated Early Childhood Practices (5)
- EDUC 458 Learning Paradigm in Early Childhood Education (5)
- EDUC 479 Early Literacy (3)
- EDUC 480 Educating Young Children with Diverse Backgrounds (3)

Required core credits **41–43 credits**

Required program credits **19 credits**

Minimum total credits for above major **60 credits**

Children's Studies Courses

Terms offered: check with the department or EagleNET.

CDST 301 Introduction to Children's Studies (2)
Students will be introduced to the history of Children's Studies and the guiding framework or philosophy. They will also have the opportunity to learn how to develop a professional growth plan and to construct and assess their knowledge through the development of portfolios.

CDST 439 Topics in Children's Studies (5)
This variable topic class explores current issues and interests in the field of children's studies. Topics might include children's studies perspectives on contemporary issues, current research issues of specific faculty or deeper investigation of topics covered in core courses. Topics or issues that might be covered in this course range from play to children's activism. *This course can be repeated for credit, providing the title is different.*

CDST 490 Senior Capstone: Children's Studies (4)
[satisfies senior capstone university graduation requirement]

Prerequisite: senior standing or approval of instructor.
This course is designed to move from basic understandings of children's studies and the multiple disciplines from which it emerges to an integrated and unified interdisciplinary understanding. Integration of learning will be facilitated through service learning or community-based research projects in collaboration with local organizations that address children's issues.

CDST 492 Children's Studies Senior Portfolio (2)

Prerequisite: senior standing or approval of instructor.
Building on the portfolio process, students will develop and present an exit portfolio. This process will include identifying personal and career objectives; discussing content; developing themes; choosing formats; and revising personal statements, narrative and resumes. Exit portfolios will be used for program assessment.

CDST 495 Children's Studies Internship (1-10)

Prerequisite: senior standing or approval of instructor.
Students receive academic credit for internships supervised within organizations working with or for children. The internship is initiated by the student and facilitated by their academic advisor, their site supervisor and the Career Services Internship Office. Students complete a Learning Contract, which outlines expectations, roles and responsibilities, as well as the process of documentation and evaluation.



CHINESE

See MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES.