Early Childhood Education majors are encouraged to use the flexibility built into the Program to develop an individualized course of study. The degree is designed for individuals who have completed a degree in early childhood education or elementary education and who have a teaching license in early childhood education (preschool), elementary/primary grades (K-3), or elementary education (K-6). The program is oriented to the professional development of the diverse populations who teach children in educational settings. Thesis topics must be selected with the approval of your advisor. Practicums must extend over at least two semesters or one semester and a regular summer session. Six hours of coursework may be substituted in lieu of a thesis or practicum with the approval of your advisor.

1. **Major Course Work (15 hours):**
   - J500: Instruction in the Context of Curriculum
   - E505: Organization and Administration of Early Childhood Programs
   - E506: Curriculum in Early Childhood Education
   - E508: Seminar in Early Childhood Education
   - E525: Advanced Curriculum Study in Early Childhood Education

2. **Foundations (3-6 hours):** Education P515 is required. An additional course may be in the history or philosophy of education to be selected in consultation with a faculty advisor.
   - P515: Child Development

3. **Electives (9-12 hours):** Select courses from inside or outside the School of Education to complement your program. These courses must have a unified focus and the approval of an advisor. Course selections are open and may be taken in Sociology, Library Science, Psychology, Folklore, Language Education and other areas. Note: Up to six hours may be at the 300 or 400 level.

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