**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECED)**

**ECED 5301** Involving Families and Communities in the Lives of Young Children  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
The course will encompass a study of the contributions of national, state, and local agencies, referral services, and family involvement as these relate to the lives of young children.

**ECED 5303** Graduate Studies in Early Childhood Education  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
An introduction to research studies in early childhood education and an analysis of their implications for the classroom teacher. Students will be able to engage in action research in early childhood classrooms.

**ECED 5334** Developmentally Appropriate Early Childhood Curriculum  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
An intensive study of the principles of curriculum, which includes philosophy, organization, recognition of diversity, selection and evaluation of curriculum materials, and development of an early childhood education program.

**ECED 5337** Cultural, Linguistic and Economic Diversity and the Effect on the Lives of Young Children  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
The course will address a study of the factors related to culturally, linguistically, and economically diverse young children. Issues related to these diverse issues will be explored and effective strategies for working with these children and their families will be explored.

**ECED 5340** Appropriate Formal and Informal Assessment of all Young Children  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
Formal and informal assessment strategies and tools used in the assessment of young children will be studied. Current recommended assessment practices and research in early childhood education will be examined.

**ECED 5346** Capstone Research Proposal in Early Childhood Education  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
The course will facilitate the development of the research based capstone experience proposal. The proposal must focus on some aspect of early childhood education.  
**Prerequisite:** EDFN 5301.

**ECED 5349** Capstone Research Project in Early Childhood Education  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
Students will implement and complete their capstone proposal. This may be a thesis or project, focus on some aspect of early childhood education and culminate in a formal written paper.

**ECED 5390** Professional Seminar  
1-3 Semester Credit Hours (1 Lecture Hour)  
Contemporary issues in Early Childhood Education: topics vary with professional identification of participants.

**ECED 5397** Practicum in Early Childhood Education  
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)  
An opportunity to secure practical experience in early childhood classrooms and analyze those programs in terms of available research. A personalized culminating experience for the early childhood specialist.