Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education

This program offers coursework that will develop or enhance a student’s knowledge as an Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (IECE) instructor. Those who successfully complete an Associate in Applied Science degree in IECE can work as lead teacher in federally funded Head Start programs. Degree graduates can also transfer to public or private universities and complete the IECE Certification program. Students with this certification can teach in public school, preschool, and kindergarten classes, or work as a Developmental Interventionist for the First Steps program in Kentucky. Courses in the program offer insight into the theories of early childhood education and teach students the practical application of these theories. Students are taught developmentally appropriate practices and learn an understanding of the whole child. IECE graduates are qualified to open their own early childhood education program. Most courses in the IECE program are available online.

Job Outlook

The field of IECE offers a growing number of career opportunities for graduates. In the past, early childhood education has not always been viewed as a “true” profession; however, this outdated thinking has changed. Research with children, including those with special needs, shows that youngsters receiving instruction in their formative years will be more successful in all areas of their education. They are more successful in elementary school, middle school and high school. IECE graduates understand that they are working with students during the most important period of their development. As a result, early childhood education has a lifelong impact on children. The IECE program at HCTC is an exciting area of study and we welcome your interest.

Revised: 10/2016
INTERDISCIPLINARY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

REQUIRED COURSES/GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS
ENG101 Writing I ................................................................. 3
ENG102 Writing II ............................................................. 3
COM181 Basic Public Speaking OR ........................................ 3
COM252 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication .......... (3)
PSY110 General Psychology ................................................ 3
Heritage/Humanities/Foreign Language .................................. 3 - 4
Science .................................................................................... 3
Mathematics .......................................................................... 3
Computer literacy .................................................................. 0 - 3
Computer literacy must be demonstrated either by competency exam or by completing a computer literacy course.
Sub-Total: ............................................................................ 21-25

TECHNICAL CORE COURSES
IEC 101 Orientation to Early Childhood Education................. 3
IEC 102 Foundations of Early Childhood Education ............... 3
IEC 120 Health, Safety, & Nutrition OR .................................. 3
KHP 230 Human Health & Wellness OR ................................ (3)
NFS 101 Human Nutrition and Wellness .............................. 3
IEC 130 Early Childhood Development ................................... 3
IEC 170 Observation & Assessment OR ................................. 3
IEC 190 Applied Experiences in ECE ................................. (3)
IEC 180 Approaches to ECE Curriculum .............................. 3
IEC 200 Child Guidance ....................................................... 3
IEC 216 Literacy and Language in IEC ................................. 3
IEC 221 Creative Expression in IEC ................................. 3
IEC 246 Sciences and Mathematics for IEC ....................... 3
IEC 235 Introduction to Inclusive Education ...................... 3
IEC 260 Infant and Toddler Ed and Programming ............... 3
IEC 291 IEC Practicum/Cooperative Education ................. 3
Sub-Total: ............................................................................. 39

Choose one course from the following approved technical support elective courses:
IEC 210 Families & Communities in ECE .............................. 3
IEC 240 Administration of Early Childhood Education ........ 3
IEC 250 School Age Child Care ........................................... 3
Sub-Total: ............................................................................. 3
Total Credits: ................................................................. 63-67
*Students may take IEC 299 - Special Topics in IEC for 1 - 3 hours.

DEGREE/DIPLOMA/ CERTIFICATE OPTIONS
AAS—Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education .............. 63-67 Hours
Diploma—IECE ..................................................................... 48-51 Hours
Certificate—IEC Technical ................................................. 42 Hours
Certificate—Child Care Assistant ....................................... 9 Hours
Certificate—Kentucky Child Care Provider ....................... 3 Hours
Certificate—Early Childhood Administrator ...................... 9-12 Hours
Certificate—School Age Childcare .................................... 15 Hours

ADDITIONAL ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS
In addition to completing HCTC’s Admissions Process, all students enrolled in IEC courses must submit the material below for the Observation File that is required by all KCTCS IEC Programs.

- A negative TB skin test: Student must provide proof of negative TB skin test. Student can obtain this from any local health department, a family doctor, or provide a statement on doctor’s letterhead with doctor’s signature.
- CAN Check ($10) and Criminal background check ($20), both are required. Forms and instructions are obtained from IEC Program Coordinator.
- Confidentiality Statement: This must be signed, dated and provided to Program Coordinator.
- NAECY Code of Ethical Conduct: This must be signed and provided to Program Coordinator.
- Statement of Understanding: This statement agreeing to the rules, regulations, policies and procedures as stated must be signed, dated and provided to Program Coordinator.

All the above information must be sent to the Program Coordinator by date set by IEC Faculty. Coordinator will keep the information on file as long as the student is continuously enrolled. It is the responsibility of the student to keep their information up-to-date.

CLASSES IN IEC CAN BECOME STATE AND NATIONAL CERTIFICATES
Early Childhood Programs that are working on STARS Ratings can utilize these certificates to increase your program’s STAR level.

- Students completing IEC 101 with a passing grade can apply for Commonwealth Child Care Credential.
- Students completing any three courses with a passing grade in IEC (except IEC 190/291) can use the hours of study in order to complete the coursework required by the Council for Professional Recognition for the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential.
- Students with a current CDA can receive up to nine hours of credit (IEC 101, IEC 102 & IEC 190) toward a degree/certificate/diploma once the student has successfully completed an IEC course at HCTC with a passing grade.
- Students completing IEC 101/102/240 with a passing grade can apply for the Director’s Credential by contacting the IEC Coordinator.
- Students that currently work in an Early Childhood Program can use course work as training hours required by the Licensing and Regulations System that currently requires up to 15 hours of training each year.
- Students in IEC courses must complete the course with a C or better to receive credit for the course and to be a candidate for all of these certificates.
- Requirements can change for these programs; always verify information with IEC Program Coordinator.

Contact Information: Penny Whitaker Smith, IEC Program Coordinator
(606) 487-3160 or (800) 246-7521, Ext. 73160 | psmith0091@kctcs.edu

One Community College Drive | Hazard, KY 41701 | (606) 436-5721 | hazard.kctcs.edu