

# Early Childhood Education Master's Degree Program

## M.S. Ed.

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### *Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose*

#### **Institutional Mission Reference**

The Early Childhood MS program offers graduate students a high quality degree program in early childhood education that meets national and state standards of excellence. Program faculty are committed to quality teaching and the discovery of new knowledge. The Early Childhood MS program supports the University's mission of providing advanced professional education for the Hampton Roads area and the commonwealth. This mission prepares teachers to successfully meet the challenges of becoming reflective educators who model the principles of lifelong learning and demonstrate the ability to meet the educational, social, and emotional needs of a diverse learning population.

#### **Institutional Goal(s) Supported**

The Early Childhood MS program supports the University goals of 2) quality graduate academic programs, b) quality teaching, c) discovery of new knowledge, d) community service, e) lifelong learning and f) distance education

### *Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes, Methods for Assessment, Criteria for Success, Assessment Results, and Use of Results*

#### **Intended Outcome 1**

Students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood Education will have a knowledge of cognitive, physical, psychosocial, linguistic, and ethical aspects of child development and varied methods of instruction and assessment of learning in early childhood education.

**Method for Assessing Outcome 1 and Criterion for Success:** At least 90 percent of the students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood will pass the written comprehensive examination.

**Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 1:** 95% (52 out of 55 students) passed the written comprehensive examination for Summer 2002, Fall 2002, and Spring 2003.

**Intended Outcome 2:** Students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood Education will have a knowledge of current trends, issues, and research relevant to early childhood education.

**Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success:** At least 90% of the students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood will pass the written comprehensive examination.

**Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 2:** 95 % (52 out of 55 students) passed the written comprehensive examination for Summer 2002, Fall 2002, and Spring 2003.

#### **Intended Outcome 3**

Students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood Education will be capable of implementing developmentally appropriate practices for all children.

**Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success:** At least 90% of students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood will complete a portfolio which includes student-selected artifacts such as lesson plans, journal entries, essays, evaluations, audio-visual representations, and other documentation of completed research, reflective and creative thinking and developmentally appropriate practices in education. Supervisors and faculty will review portfolios. At least 90% will earn a mean score of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point portfolio checklist rubric.

**Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 3:** 100% of students completing the graduate program with licensure in Early Childhood completed a portfolio, all of which earned a mean score of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point portfolio checklist rubric.

**Intended Outcome 4**

Students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood Education with licensure, will successfully complete required educational and field-based experiences in early childhood settings (PK-3)

**Method for Assessing Outcome 4 and Criterion for Success:** At least 90% of students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood will complete a portfolio which includes student-selected artifacts such as lesson plans, journal entries, essays, evaluations, audio-visual representations, and other documentation or research, reflective and creative thinking, and best practices in early childhood education. At least 90% will earn a mean score of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 point portfolio checklist rubric.

**Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 4:** 100% of students completing portfolios during the Summer 2002, Fall 2002 and Spring 2003 sessions earned a score of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

**Intended Outcome 5**

Students completing the graduate program in Early Childhood Education will be prepared as professional educators to implement developmentally appropriate learning environments for children and continue as lifelong learners in professional settings.

**Method for Assessing Outcome 5 and Criterion for Success:** At least 90% of graduates who respond the ESSE Exit Survey for graduates will indicate that they rate their training at ODU as 4 or higher on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most positive.

**Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 5:** 92% of graduates who responded to the ESSE Exit survey indicated that they rate their training as 4 or higher on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most positive. Data collected covers Summer 2002, Fall 2002 and Spring 2003.