

## **Yearly Leveled Advising Guide:** **Early Childhood Education** *(Transformed Curriculum)*

### **Freshman Year**

- Visit the advising center on the School of Education website and become familiar with the services that are available to you.
- You have been assigned both an advisor from Early Childhood Education and an advisor from your second major. These faculty members are available to serve as mentors for you. Become acquainted with your advisors and meet with them to review accomplishments and to discuss future plans and career goals. Check with your content advisor for guidance on coursework for your second major. If you do not know who your advisors are, look on TESS under personal information. (If they are not listed on TESS, contact the appropriate departments for assistance in finding your advisors).
- Enroll in ECE 102 (Multicultural Children's Literature).

### **Sophomore Year**

- Enroll in course series for sophomore professional experience. These include: RAL 222 (Literacy, Strategies, Assessment, and Instruction) which is recommended to be taken with ECE 201 (Child Development for Early Childhood Education); ECE 202 (Theory and Practice of Early Childhood Education); and MTT 202 (Math Methods) which must be taken with MST 202 (Science, Health, & Technology).  
\*\*Note: Due to certain second major requirements, MTT 202 and MST 202 will not be taken until the junior year. However, these courses must be taken prior to enrollment into ECE 301 (Advanced Core Block).
- Partake in weekly field experiences through the above courses. These include observation and participation in an elementary classroom. Teacher and student behaviors and interactions will be studied.
- Begin development of teaching portfolio by adding journals, learning centers, lesson plans, etc.
- Apply for admission into the Advanced Core Block (ACB). Admission will require meeting a number of criteria.

***Note: A cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 must be attained to enter the Advanced Core Block (ACB).***

### **Junior Year**

- Enroll in ECE 301 (Advanced Core Block: Integrating and Differentiating Instruction for All Learners). It is recommended for this course to be taken with SOM 203 (Social Studies & Multiculturalism) and RAL 322 (Literacy Learning Across and Curriculum – Early Childhood).
- Partake in a 14-week field experience, including 2 weeks full-time, pre-student teaching for nursery-kindergarten primary grades.
- Continue development of teaching portfolio with assessments, thematic units, etc.
- Attend department meeting to plan student teaching for the next academic year. During this meeting, applications, expectations, and policies are discussed.
- Complete application for student teaching and submit to the STEP Office for placement processing.

***\*\*Note: A cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 must be attained to enter the student teaching experience.***

### **Senior Year**

- Complete the student teaching experience, which incorporates a full semester of writing daily lesson plans and teaching at an off campus site. A cooperating teacher and supervisor will serve as mentors for this experience. Generally, students are placed in professional development school sites located a short distance from The College of New Jersey.
- Complete the ECE 498 (Inquiry into Learning) capstone course.
- Attend The Culminating Conference for Prospective Educators. The STEP Office will notify you with further information.
- Register for and take the required Praxis tests. For Early Childhood Education, the state of New Jersey does not require a separate exam. The required exam is Elementary Education: Content Knowledge, test code 10014.
- Complete development of teaching portfolio.
- Apply to graduate through the Office of Records and Registration at the start of (if not before) the final semester.
- Contact the Office of Career Services for information about your credentials file, job search, and on-campus interviews.
- Apply for NJ teacher certification through the STEP/Certification Office.

***\*\*Note: In order to receive NJ certification, it is required to have a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.75.***