

CHILDREN. FAMILIES. FUTURE

Our entire economic structure depends on the ability of the workforce to obtain quality education and child care for their children. Research shows that children who have high quality early education experiences have greater success in school and an education boost that continues into adulthood.

Research also shows that increasing family strengths and establishing protective factors in individuals, families, and the community promotes healthy outcomes for both children and families. When families have resources, supports and coping strategies they are better able to parent effectively, even under stress.

Working in programs that serve children and/or families can be a personally rewarding and satisfying career, and when well done in high-quality programs, this work contributes to the healthy growth of children and families.



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VENTURA COLLEGE

CHILD DEVELOPMENT



Growing children & families

SET YOUR COURSE



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The Child Development program provides a foundation for early childhood teacher preparation as well as preparation for working with children and families in various venues. Students may complete coursework for a Certificate of Achievement in Child Development which includes introductory studies in child development, early childhood curriculum and pedagogy, and student teaching experiences at the Orfalea Child Development Center at Ventura College.

Students may complete courses for two types of associate of science degrees. The A.S. degree in Child Development includes the child development courses that are required for the Certificate of Achievement in Child Development plus an array of general education classes. The A.S. degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE) for Transfer provides a clearly articulated curricular track for students who wish to transfer to a California State University.

*There can be no keener revelation
of a society's soul than the way in
which it treats its children.*

~ Nelson Mandela

OUR PROGRAM

The Child Development Program at Ventura College provides students with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be employed in local private- and state-funded childcare programs and community agencies while also preparing them for transfer to a CSU. Students learn about the California Early Learning System from the CA Department of Education while developing a strong understanding of ages and stages of child development and a variety of theories about how people grow and change over time. Many of the child development courses provide students with opportunities to observe live classrooms of children and to apply the content of the courses through hands-on experiences. Topics include an introduction to the profession, observation techniques, age-appropriate curriculum, the child in the context of family and culture, and health and safety practices for early childhood education.



REQUIRED COURSES

Required Course for the Certificate of Achievement and the Associate of Science Degrees.

- CD V01 Intro. to Careers in Child Development (1 unit) *Not required for A.S. for transfer in Early Childhood Education*
- CD V02 Child Growth and Development (3 units)
- CD V05 Teaching in a Diverse Society (3 units)
- CD V24 Child Nutrition, Health and Safety (3 units)
- CD V61 Child, Family and Community (3 units)
- CD V62 Principles and Practices in Early Childhood Education (3 units)
- CD V63 Introduction to Curriculum in Early Childhood Education (3 units)
- CD V64A Practicum in Early Childhood Education: Observation and Assessment (3 units)
- CD V64B Practicum in Early Childhood Education: Field Experience (3 units)



ADDITIONAL COURSES

Required additional Courses for the A.S. in Child Development and the Certificate of Achievement:

- Select one of the following courses;
- CD V11 Language and Literacy in Early Childhood Education
 - CD V14 Creative Arts in Early Childhood Education
 - CD V19 Math and Science in Early Childhood Education
 - CD V28 Programs for Infant and Toddler Care

Students completing A.S. degrees must also complete general education classes. Refer to the Ventura College catalog of classes for current course information and/or make an appointment with an academic counselor.

POTENTIAL JOB MARKET

Where there are children, there are employment opportunities such as Early Childhood Teacher, Recreational Leader, Child Development Specialist, Program Director, Family Child Care provider, and Child Life Specialist. Graduates of Child Development can be found doing a variety of things from teaching children in a childcare classroom, to designing and evaluating children's toys or television programming, to easing children's anxiety in hospital settings, to providing outreach services to families in need. Any employment that involves children is best approached with a solid educational background in how children develop physically, cognitively, emotionally, and creatively.

