BKin Birth to Kindergarten

BKin 1200 Introduction to Early Childhood Education
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course serves as a comprehensive introduction for teacher candidates to the field of early childhood education covering the span of birth-age eight. Content will include an introduction to developmentally appropriate practices, various curricular approaches, and teaching strategies, the assessment of children’s learning, the importance of play in the lives of young children, as well as an examination of local and national early childhood standards. Candidates will be introduced to various professional organizations and the National Association of the Education of Young Children’s (NAEYC) Code of Ethical Conduct and Statement of Commitment.

BKin 2200 Health, Safety, and Wellness in Early Childhood
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course emphasizes the importance of a healthy and safe environment for young children. Attention will be paid to both the physical and psychological environments in which children engage. Topics discussed will include infectious disease control, injury and accident prevention, chronic health care conditions, child abuse and neglect, child/family stress, and proper meal planning and nutrition. Upon successful completion of this course, teacher candidates will have the opportunity for certification in Basic First Aid and CPR for infants and young children.

BKin 3140 International Approaches of Early Care & Learning
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
Utilizing a global view, this course examines early care and education for infants and young children in international settings including countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, Central and South America, Australia and North America. Candidates will explore the diversity of prenatal care, parenting, family practices, and international child welfare issues.
Prerequisite(s): Admission into Teacher Education Program.

BKin 3320 Social Studies and Social/Emotional Competence in Early Childhood Programs
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
In this course, teacher candidates will learn to plan and teach developmentally appropriate social studies activities for children in birth through kindergarten settings. An emphasis will be placed on foundational social studies concepts including the family, people and community, and history and events. Teacher candidates will also examine the social and emotional development of diverse children in birth through kindergarten settings. This content will include self-regulation, a sense of self, and a sense of self with others.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of “C” and prior or concurrent enrollment in BKin 3720 or BKin 3730.

BKin 3330 Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics in Early Childhood Programs
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course examines the content areas of science, engineering and mathematics and the developmentally appropriate planning and teaching of such curriculum to children in birth through kindergarten settings. Particular attention will be paid to the ways in which technology can enhance teaching and learning. Teacher candidates will be introduced to various standards related to the STEM content areas and issues of gender and racial equity in STEM content areas.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of “C” and prior or concurrent enrollment in BKin 3720 or BKin 3730 and Admission into Teacher Education Program.

BKin 3340 Art, Music & Motor Development in BK Programs
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
Teacher candidates will learn to plan developmentally appropriate art, music and movement activities for children in birth through kindergarten settings. Topics studied will include principles of physical development, the creative process, and movement exploration, and the ways in which culture influences art, music, and movement for young children.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of “C” and prior or concurrent enrollment in BKin 3720 or BKin 3730 and Admission into Teacher Education Program.

BKin 3710 Guiding Children’s Behavior and Practicum
4 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
Utilizing a developmental approach, this course serves as an in-depth study of children’s behavior, social/emotional development, and classroom management strategies useful to early childhood learning environments. Topics discussed include both direct and indirect strategies to appropriately manage behavior, models for understanding challenging behaviors, children’s motivation, and the impact of implicit bias on behavior management. Teacher candidates will also engage in self-reflection and will develop their own philosophy of child guidance.
Prerequisite(s): Admission into the Teacher Education Program.

BKin 3720 Infant & Toddler Methods and Practicum
4 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This class is designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to teach children ages six weeks through 36 months in developmentally appropriate and culturally responsive ways. Participation in an intensive 60-hour, hands-on field experience in selected infant/toddler classrooms is required. Lesson plan development, implementation, and assessment of infants and toddlers will be addressed. Candidates will learn how to effectively work with diverse infants and toddlers including those with developmental delays and English-language learners.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of “C” and prior or concurrent enrollment in BKin 3320 or BKin 3330 or BKin 3340 and Admission into the Teacher Education Program.

BKin 3730 Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten Methods and Practicum
4 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This class is designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to teach children ages 3 to 8 years of age in developmentally appropriate and culturally responsive ways. Participation in an intensive 60-hour, hands-on field experience in selected preschool, prekindergarten and kindergarten classrooms is required. Lesson plan development, implementation, and assessment of 3-8 year olds will be addressed. Candidates will learn how to effectively work with diverse groups of children including those with developmental delays and English-language learners.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of “C” and prior or concurrent enrollment in BKin 3320 or BKin 3330 or BKin 3340 and Admission into the Teacher Education Program.

BKin 4160 Organization and Administration of Early Childhood Programs
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course examines the organizational and management principles and practices of high quality early childhood environments. Particular attention will be paid to the state laws, rules, and regulations of early childhood programs and national accreditation standards affecting these programs.
Prerequisite(s): Admission into the Teacher Education Program.
BKin 4250 Assessment of Children in Early Childhood Programs
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course introduces students to the various forms of assessment in early childhood programs. Content includes assessments of the early childhood environment, teacher-child interactions, and children's development. Candidates will also be introduced to the process of observation, documentation and other assessment methods as well as the use of assistive technology, and the critical role of families in the assessment process.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" and prior or concurrent enrollment in BKin 3720 or BKin 3730 and Admission into the Teacher Education Program.

BKin 4710 Preplanning
0 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This practicum experience is designed to provide the teacher candidate with meaningful opportunities to observe, actively engage in classroom activities, and teach in a supervised PK-K setting. This experience builds upon prior content knowledge and requires the application of new knowledge of teaching, learning, and assessing through increased field hours.
Prerequisite(s): Admission into the Teacher Education Program.

BKin 4798 Year-Long Clinical Pt. 1 and seminar
3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This practicum experience is designed to provide the teacher candidate with meaningful opportunities to observe, actively engage in classroom activities in a supervised PK-K setting. This experience builds on prior content by further developing planning, instruction, and assessment of diverse learners through increased field hours. Candidates will meet as a class to unpack and reflect upon their classroom experiences.
Prerequisite(s): Admission into the Teacher Education Program.

BKin 4799 Year-Long Clinical Pt. 2 and seminar
12 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course serves as the semester-long student teaching experience. Teacher candidates are guided by a clinical supervisor as the candidate gradually assumes increasing responsibility for the classroom instruction and management. During this experience, candidates are expected to engage directly in many of the activities that constitute the wide range of teacher’s assigned duties. The candidate will also assume the full responsibility of the clinical supervisor for a minimum of four weeks. Candidates will meet as a class to unpack and reflect upon their classroom experiences.
Prerequisite(s): Admission into the Teacher Education Program.