

# Childhood Development Associate Certification Program

*Division of Social Sciences - Curriculum Code 0204*

## ***Why enroll in the Childhood Development Associate Certification Program?***

This program offers three courses that will prepare students to take the national Childhood Development Certification (CDA) exam. The courses provide the theoretical and practical foundation for obtaining a CDA certification. The certification is necessary for working as paraprofessional teachers in an early childhood classroom.

## ***If I complete the Childhood Development Associate Certification Program, can I transfer to an upper-division college or university?***

This program is career-oriented and not designed for transfer.

## ***Are there any requirements I must satisfy before I start taking the program courses?***

You must be a high school graduate or possess a GED. You also need to have accumulated, or be in the process of accumulating within five years, a total of 480 hours of experience working with children from infancy through five years of age in a group setting.

## ***How long will it take for me to complete this program?***

Depending upon your prior education and work experience, the program may be completed within one year.

## ***Where should I direct specific questions about this program?***

Contact the Division at (973) 877-3250 for referral to a faculty advisor.

## ***Upon completion of this program, graduates will be able to:***

- ◆ Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the principles of instruction in an early childhood setting;
- ◆ Apply practical skills necessary for successful completion of the certification process;
- ◆ Prepare and complete professional resource files; and
- ◆ Demonstrate an understanding of professional standards and practice skills in a professional setting.

## Childhood Development Associate Certification Program

<p><b>GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:</b> None</p> <p><b>MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:</b> (11 credits)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">ECE</td> <td style="width: 10%;">101</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Early Care and Education I</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECE</td> <td>102</td> <td>Early Care and Education II</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECE</td> <td>103</td> <td>Early Care and Education Fieldwork</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Total Credits Required for Degree</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>11</b></td> </tr> </table>	ECE	101	Early Care and Education I	4	ECE	102	Early Care and Education II	4	ECE	103	Early Care and Education Fieldwork	3	<b>Total Credits Required for Degree</b>			<b>11</b>	<p><b>RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF COURSES:*</b></p> <p><b><u>First Semester</u></b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">ECE</td> <td style="width: 10%;">101</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Early Care and Education I</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">4</td> </tr> </table> <p><b><u>Second Semester</u></b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">ECE</td> <td style="width: 10%;">102</td> <td style="width: 70%;">Early Care and Education II</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECE</td> <td>103</td> <td>Early Care and Education Fieldwork</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3</td> </tr> </table>	ECE	101	Early Care and Education I	4	ECE	102	Early Care and Education II	4	ECE	103	Early Care and Education Fieldwork	3
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**\*NOTE:** This plan assumes the completion of all required developmental courses in reading, writing, and mathematics as well as other pre- and co-requisites for some of the courses, as listed in the Course Descriptions section.