Lower Division

CAFS 1050 Practicum in Early Childhood Education (3)
In this course the student will practice and demonstrate developmentally appropriate early childhood program planning and teaching competencies under the supervision of ECE/CD faculty and other qualified early education professionals. Students will utilize practical classroom experiences to make connections between theory and practice, develop professional behaviors, and build a comprehensive understanding of children and families. Child centered, play-oriented approaches to teaching, learning, and assessment; and knowledge of curriculum content areas will be emphasized as student teachers design, implement and evaluate experiences that promote positive development and learning for all young children.

CAFS 1100 Introduction to Child, Adolescent and Family Studies (3)
An examination of the underlying theoretical principles of developmentally appropriate practices applied to programs, environments, emphasizing the key role of relationships, constructive adult-child interactions, and teaching strategies in supporting physical, social, creative and intellectual development for all young children. This course includes a review of the historical roots of early childhood programs and the evolution of the professional practices promoting advocacy, ethics, and professional identity.

CAFS 1250 Teaching in a Diverse Society (3)
This course will examine the development of social identities in diverse societies including theoretical and practical implications affecting young children, families, programs, teaching, education and schooling. Culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate anti-bias approaches supporting all children in becoming competent members of a diverse society. Course involves self-reflection of one’s own understanding of educational principles in integrating anti-goals in order to better inform teaching practices and/or program development.

CAFS 2000 Fundamentals in Developmental Theory (3)
Introduction to child, adolescent, and family development as a unique field of study. Introduces developmental theory highlights, common milestones across developmental domains, family systems, ethics, introduction to research methods and observation techniques. Explores Human Development as a profession, examines professional responsibilities, reviews publications, student becomes cognizant of child-related organizations, and connects child and family development to other related fields of study. Advances the student’s ability to make observations and accurate recordings of children and families. This class also includes an introduction to technology within the field (meets core requirement for CCTC Child Development Associate Teacher Permit), CAFS senior portfolio, and requirements for graduation.

CAFS 2080 Child, Family, and Community (3)
Introduction to various roles of and interactions among and between children, families, and community systems. This approach to understanding the interaction of child, family, and community will emphasize an appreciation for diverse cultural, socioeconomic, and lifestyle experiences. Students will become aware of individual and family requirements, social issues, and available support programs in the local area. Students will engage in program analysis and assessment of program effectiveness and quality in light of family needs and community priorities. (Meets core requirement for CCTC Child Development Associate Teacher Permit).

CAFS 2100 Observation of Children (1)
Advances the ability to make sensitive observations and accurate recordings of children and families of diverse lifestyles and abilities. Includes a Service Learning/Fieldwork component requiring students to work and interact with children in order to link theory and practice. This requirement includes 36 hours of field-based observation.

CAFS 2200 Curriculum, Procedures, and Laboratory Experience for the Child (3)
Acquaints students with curriculum, procedures and materials important for effective child development programs. Emphasis on learning theory and development as related to learning environments, curriculum areas for the young child, materials, methodology, and evaluation. This course also emphasizes planning developmentally appropriate activities that are respectful and sensitive to individual abilities as well as cultural and family backgrounds. Emphasis is on learning and teaching practices; the role of play in the child’s development, age and ability appropriate classroom organization and management, child health, nutrition, and child self-care and studies various approaches like exploring several different curriculums and activities and projects that students could utilize to promote and support those curriculums (such as Reggio, Emergent, Creative, Weekly, Themes, Projects, etc.). (Meets core requirement for CCTC Child Development Associate Teacher Permit.)

CAFS 2300 Curriculum, Procedures, and Laboratory Experience in the Elementary School (3)
Acquaints students with curriculum, procedures, and materials important for effective elementary classroom planning. Emphasizes curriculum requirements, learning theory, research and assessment, development, methodology, and planning developmentally appropriate activities. Learning and effective teaching practice is central to the content of this course: the role of play in the child’s development, age-level appropriate classroom organization, and classroom management.
CAFS 2400 Introduction to Administration of Child and Family Programs (3)
An overview of administration in child and family programs for site supervisors and directors. Topics include program organization, staffing, proactive program management, historical background, and philosophical underpinnings of relevant programs.

CAFS 2500 Child Health, Safety, and Nutrition (3)
Acquaints students with curriculum, procedures and materials important for effective child development programs. Emphasis on learning theory and development as related to learning environments, curriculum areas for the young child, materials, methodology, and evaluation. This course also emphasizes planning developmentally appropriate activities that are respectful and sensitive to individual abilities as well as cultural and family backgrounds. Emphasis is on learning and teaching practices; the role of play in the child’s development, age and ability appropriate classroom organization and management, child health, nutrition, and child self-care and studies various approaches like exploring several different curriculums and activities and projects that students could utilize to promote and support those curriculums (such as Reggio, Emergent, Creative, Weekly, Themes, Projects, etc.). (Meets core requirement for CCTC Child Development Associate Teacher Permit.)

CAFS 2800 Multicultural Children’s Literature (3)
This course explores the interrelatedness of social, aesthetic, and cultural, elements of children’s literature. It covers criteria for effective evaluation of literature and how to select books that are developmentally appropriate. It examines the elements of literature and how it supports language, creative, and intellectual development. It also covers specific teaching strategies that reflect current literacy theory to enhance transactions with literature.

Upper Division

CAFS 3110 Infant and Toddler Development (3)
Focuses on growth and development from conception into the preschool years. This course examines the historical context for the modern conception of child development. Emphasis is given to contemporary research in physiological and motor development, socioemotional development, cognitive development, language and communication development, health and nutrition, child rearing practices and infant stimulation. The class will highlight a social-historical-contextual approach to the development of young children and families. (Meets requirement for CCTC Child Development Master Teacher Permit.) Prerequisite: CAFS 2008.

CAFS 3140 School Aged and Adolescent (3)
This class in human development will examine theoretical and conceptual frameworks for the study of the social, emotional/psychological, biological/physical, cognitive, language/communicative, and aesthetic aspects of human development during middle childhood and adolescence. Development within the various contexts of contemporary adolescent’s and school aged children’s cultural, familial, educational, and socioeconomic will be examined. Prerequisite: CAFS 2008.

CAFS 3200 Individual and Family Development in Diverse Cultures (3)
An exploration of the values, attitudes, child rearing practices, family, and social relationships in a variety of diverse settings. The impact of these factors on personal, social, economic, and political systems will be discussed. Comparisons with western family systems including cultural universals and differences will be emphasized. The course will also discuss immigrant experiences in the United States. GRE

CAFS 3500 Child Guidance, Supervision and Support (3)
Examines children’s interpersonal, emotional, and personality development, emphasizing theoretical issues and research on discipline and empathy development. Study of models of guidance and their implications for academic, home, and clinical settings is emphasized. Prerequisite: CAFS 2008.

CAFS 3550 Adulthood and Aging (3)
This class in human development will examine theoretical and conceptual frameworks for the study of the social, emotional/psychological, biological/physical, cognitive, genetic, religious, cultural, gender, and socio-economics of adulthood and the aging process. The course will examine aging through different theoretical lenses, as well as the major physical changes seen in aging. The course will also focus on the mind and brain, and how development can proceed in these areas. To round out the developmental process of aging the course will address social and behavioral facets of the study of adulthood such as personality, relationships and the end of life. The emphasis will be on how choice affects the developmental trajectories or long-term outcomes in all of these areas. Prerequisite: CAFS 2008, ENG 1100.

CAFS 3600 Parenting and Family Relations (3)
Examines the family as the child’s first educator. Studies models of family systems, parenting strategies, community programs and experiences in child service programs, schools, and communities that support and recognize the family as an integral part of the child’s educational experience. Emphasis is on parent education, interpersonal communication, and family systems awareness Prerequisite: CAFS 2008.
CAFS 3650 Risk and Resilience in Children (3)
A major issue in working with children and families in particular is social location, an issue many contemporary theories of human development overlook. Persons within particular categories of social location, such as age, gender, social class, ethnicity, race, ability, marital status, and sexual orientation, may have some characteristics in common, but each individual also is unique. In applying theories, students will be guided to assess for common and unique qualities of individuals within the various groups in which they hold membership. In short, human diversity is a major theme of this course. The course provides students with information and experiences on the assessment of children and families who have experienced multiple adversities.

CAFS 3800 Multiple Perspectives on the Importance of Play (3)
This class will examine multiple perspectives in play and development. This course will entail many different cultural, familial, educational, and socioeconomic contexts. Prerequisite: CAFS 2008 and Junior standing.

CAFS 4000 Introduction to Research Methods (3)
Develops an awareness of research methodology, assessment, and evaluation of children and families as represented in the body of Child Development literature. Emphasis on research as applied to children and families of diverse cultural, socioeconomic and life-style backgrounds as data collection strategies, reliability, validity, ethics, and values to increase student's ability to locate, understand, critique, report and use child development research. Prerequisites: Senior Standing, CAFS 2008 (C- or higher); General Education area B4; CAFS 3110 or 3140 (C- or higher).

CAFS 4100 Research, Assessment and Evaluation of Children and Families (3)
Introduction to the interpretation and analysis of Child Development theory and research. Develops an awareness of research methodology, assessment, and evaluation of children and families as represented in the body of Child Development literature. Emphasis on research as applied to children, adolescents, and families of diverse cultural, socioeconomic and lifestyle backgrounds as representing the current study of Child Development. Includes examination of research design, data collection strategies, reliability, validity, ethics and values to increase student's ability to locate, understand, critique, report and use child development research. Prerequisites: Senior standing; Statistics, and CAFS 4000 (C- or higher).

CAFS 4140 Advanced Practicum (3)
An application of theory in various educational, clinical, and community settings. Placement is made according to student's goals and interests. Prerequisite: CAFS 200.

CAFS 4200 Advanced Techniques for Working in Child and Family Programs (3)
A course for those who wish to supervise and direct programs for children, adolescents and families. Topics will include financing, budget requirements, legal codes, planning, operating, evaluating and staff training of child centered programs. Prerequisite: CAFS 200.

CAFS 4300 School, Community, and Family Collaborations (3)
Developing knowledge and skills for effective communication with adults in childhood settings including schools, and extracurricular programs for a diverse population. Topics include human relations management, processes for supervision of adults, and parent relations within programs. Prerequisite: CAFS 2008.

CAFS 4400 Advanced Practicum for Adult Education and Supervision (3)
Supervision experience with adults in child, adolescent and family programs. This course meets the CCTC standards for the Child Development Permit. Prerequisite: CAFS 200 and Junior standing.

CAFS 4890 Experiential Prior Learning (1-3)
Evaluation and assessment of learning which has occurred as a result of prior off-campus experience relevant to the curriculum of the department. Requires complementary academic study and/or documentation. Available by petition only, on a credit, no-credit basis. Not open to post baccalaureate students. Interested students should contact the program office.

CAFS 4900 Senior Seminar (3)
This course is a senior capstone class that will assist students to the next level of their professional development. The course will help students prepare to strengthen competencies needed to achieve personal and professional goals. As part of the course work, students will be required to produce a Senior paper and develop a professional electronic portfolio. Prerequisite: Senior Standing; CAFS 410 (C- or higher).

CAFS 4970 Cooperative Education (1-3)
This course provides sponsored learning in a work setting, integrated with academic learning. The Cooperative Education office assists the student in finding a placement on an individual basis.

CAFS 4990 Individual Study (1-3)
Students are encouraged to explore a specific topic on an individual basis. Students learn through directed readings, reflective papers, discussions with their faculty advisor, and research on the agreed upon topic. Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor who will serve as mentor.