Students in Early Childhood Education (ECE) learn to meet the educational and developmental needs of young children. A career in ECE provides opportunities to touch the lives of hundreds of children. Upon completion of the Teacher Preparation Program, graduates are certified to teach prekindergarten through third grade in the state of Oklahoma. The facilities include a model teaching classroom and the Cleo L. Craig Child Development Laboratory which is an inclusive program for children ages 12 months through 6 years.

RESOURCES
http://www.naeyc.org  
The National Association for the Education of Young Children
http://www.caep.org  
CAEP Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation
http://sde.state.ok.us/home/defaultie.html  
Oklahoma State Department of Education
http://www.ceoe.nesinc.com  
Certification Examinations for Oklahoma Educators
http://www.acei.org  
Association for Childhood Education International

FIELD EXPERIENCES AND INTERNSHIPS

ECE students begin field experiences in the sophomore year. Students complete field experiences in the Cleo L. Craig Child Development Lab, pre-schools, and public or private schools. Students are expected to work in the field five semesters with varying number of hours and expectations. Thus, students will have acquired over 1200 hours of classroom experience by the time they graduate. These experiences in rural, suburban, and urban schools provide opportunities to work with children from infancy through third grade. This training emphasizes interaction between faculty and students as well as hands-on learning to link theory and research to daily practice.

This program is accredited through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

SPECIALIZED COURSES

Infant and Toddler Programming
Individuals with Developmental Delays and Disabilities
Throughout the Life Span
Development of Creative Expression, Play and Motor Skills
Mathematics and Science in Early Childhood
Literacy Development in Early Childhood Education
Social Development and Social Studies in Early Childhood