

THE EARLY CHILDHOOD MINOR: A GUIDE

GVSU
Winter 2021

Catalog Description:

<https://www.gvsu.edu/catalog/program/early-childhood-education-minor.htm>

BASIC INFORMATION

- The minor in Early Childhood started in Fall 2018.
- It consists of one PSY course (305) (the pre-req), eight EDI courses, plus two fieldwork courses (EDI 470 & EDS 470).
- This minor is typically done in with the CSAT or content-related major and elementary teaching program. If added onto another major outside of Education, the fieldwork is omitted.
- It leads to a ZS endorsement, which is an early childhood/special education endorsement that is added onto a teaching certificate (assuming you pass the MTTC #106 test).
- With the exception of the fieldwork, students complete the coursework before doing their Teacher Assisting and Student Teaching.

COURSE OFFERINGS

The regular course schedule looks like this (till 2024):

Fall	Winter	Spring/Summer
PSY 305 (Infant & Early Dev)	PSY 305 (Infant & Early Dev)	EDI 470
EDI 312 (Child Guidance)	EDI 311 (Assessment)	EDS 470
EDI 313 (Infant Toddler Dev)	EDI 315 (Curriculum Dev)	
EDI 314 (Intro to Sp. Needs)	EDI 417 (Family Partnerships)	
EDI 416 (Emergent Literacy)	EDI 418 (Admin & Supervision)	
EDI 470 (Field Work w/ Typ Dev)	EDI 470 (Field Work w/ Typ Dev)	
EDS 470 (Field Work w/ Sp. Needs)	EDS 470 (Field Work w/ Sp. Needs)	

THE IDEAL SCHEDULE

We recommend students follow this sequence:

Semester 1 (most likely Year 2, Semester 1 or 2)– PSY 305

Semester 2 (Fall) – EDI 313 & EDI 416

Semester 3 (Winter) – EDI 311 & EDI 315

Semester 4 (Fall) – EDI 312 & EDI 314

Semester 5 (Winter) – EDI 417 & EDI 418

+ take EDS 470 & EDI 470 when it fits (after completing 15 credits + EDI 314) any semester or after student teaching (which is when students getting their ESL or any other SpEd endorsement typically do them.)

THE FIELD WORK

- EDI 470 and EDS 470 are both three credit courses that students will take to meet the requirements of the ZS endorsement.
- They require 150 hours apiece with infants/toddlers, preschoolers, or K-3; the two experiences must be accomplished in two different age groups. Each could be done in a 5-week, 30-hour/week practicum in the spring/summer or spread across a fall or winter semester.
- In addition to completing the hours, students will also be observed in their placements, participate in a seminar, and complete assignments.
- The EDS 470 will be completed with students with special needs, which could be done in a self-contained, early intervention, or inclusion site, and can't be done without students having already completed EDI 314 (+ the 15 credits towards the minor that is required for EDI 470 as well).

THE FIELD WORK CONTINUED

- Students will complete an application to complete each 470 experience. The application will require students to have a resume, junior standing, and a 2.7 gpa. A background check will also be conducted at this time.
- Childcare centers, preschools, Early On, Head Start and Early Head Start, and elementary schools are the sites we expect to use for these placements. These will be found, vetted, and coordinated by the COE.
- Deadlines will be as follows: applications will be due Feb 15th for spring/summer; May 15th for fall; and September 15th for winter.

TO REITERATE:

- All courses are offered one semester each year, with the exception of PSY 305, EDS 470, and EDI 470. The fieldwork will be offered each semester and can be taken once you've taken 15 credits towards the minor + EDI 314 for EDS 470.
- PSY 305 is a pre-req for all of the courses in the minor.
- You will need to submit an application for the fieldwork beforehand, keeping in mind the Sept. 15, Feb. 15, and May 15 deadlines.
- We will facilitate finding placements.
- All of your coursework, plus your major, and successful passing of the MTTC tests #103 and #106, will need to be completed by 2025, which is when the state of Michigan changes how it certifies teachers.
- Questions related to this minor can be directed to Dr. Kathryn Ohle (ohlek@gvsu.edu) or Dr. Linda Pickett (pickettl@gvsu.edu)