

Contact

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Admission Requirements

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (*including biology*)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- 2 Foreign Language (*same language or two years of American Sign Language-ASL*)
- Academic electives (*to equal at least 17 total credits*)

To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.

Major Requirements

- 33 credits Child Development & Family Relations
- 6 credits Communications (*English, speech*)
- 21 credits Humanities & Social Sciences
- 13 credits Sciences & Mathematics
- 47 credits Electives

Early Childhood Education option:

- 51 credits Child Development & Family Relations
- 19 credits Education courses
- 6 credits Communications (*English, speech*)
- 21 credits Humanities & Social Sciences
- 13 credits Sciences & Mathematics
- 10 credits Electives

120 Minimum total credit hours required for graduation

College of Education & Human Development

Program Description

This program provides training for professional work with children and families. Students of Child Development and Family Relations study the growth and development of individuals in the contexts of schools, communities and families. Study may focus on individuals at various times in the lifespan (e.g., early childhood, adolescence, adulthood) with special attention to the family context. The family, itself, is studied in its various forms (e.g., single parent families, two parent families, foster families).

The state-approved Early Childhood Education option prepares students to teach or work in professional settings with children ages birth to eight years old. Students complete the requirements for state certification to teach early elementary grades (K-3) in public schools or to work at the preschool level. Effective January 2008, the College of Education & Human Development requires students who transfer into a teacher certification program to successfully pass PRAXIS I, based on the State of Maine requirements, after one semester of attendance at UMaine. Transfer students with 45+ credits not passing PRAXIS I after one semester will not be allowed to continue in a teacher certification program. All transfer students for any College of Education & Human Development program must have a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale to be considered for admission. Transfer admission is competitive and will be based on achievement in appropriate academic coursework and available test scores.

Career Opportunities

The B.S. in Child Development and Family Relations allows students to specialize in different aspects of individual and family development in order to prepare for careers in areas such as family planning, employment assistance, gerontology and intervention programs for dysfunctional individuals and families. Recent graduates also are employed as professionals in daycare, nursery schools, elementary schools, child development service agencies, recreation programs and family respite care.

General Education Requirements*

- ENG 101 College Composition
- 18 credits Human Values & Social Context area (*a single course may satisfy more than 1 sub-category, but a total of 18 credits must be completed*)
 - Western Cultural Tradition
 - Social Context & Institutions
 - Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives
 - Population & the Environment
 - Artistic & Creative Expression
- 2 courses Designated Writing Intensive (*1 must be within the major*)
- 2 courses Biological or Physical Sciences (*must include at least 1 laboratory course*)
- 1 course Ethics (*emphasis on discussion of ethical issues in 1 course or series of courses*)
- 6 credits Mathematics (*including statistics & some computer science, only 3 credits in computer science can count toward this requirement*)
- 1 capstone An approved experience in which the student integrates the components of his or her undergraduate training to perform at a professional level. The capstone experience is usually completed during the senior year in consultation with the student's academic advisor. Early Childhood Education majors are exempt from capstone as they fulfill this requirement through student teaching. However, this option is available for those not wishing to student teach.

General Education Requirements* (continued)

**All UMaine students must complete these general education requirements, which are counted in the total credit hours required for graduation and may be contained in the Major Requirements previously listed.*

Graduate Study

Related advanced degrees are offered. Graduates of Child Development & Family Relations have pursued a wide variety of disciplines which focus on issues of children and family interaction.

Academic Programs 2008-2009

Please refer to the web site (<http://factsheets.umaine.edu/>) for the most updated version of the fact sheets.
This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.