

 FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	NEW/CHANGE PROGRAM REQUEST Graduate Programs		UGPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ Banner _____ Catalog _____
	Department Curriculum and Instruction (DCI) College Education		
Program Name M.Ed. Curriculum & Instruction with a concentration in Early Childhood Education		<input type="checkbox"/> New Program* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change Program*	Effective Date (TERM & YEAR) Spring 2026
<p>Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below or on an attachment.</p> <p>Concentration change for Early Childhood Education in the M.Ed. in C&I degree program. The new proposed concentration name is Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education and changed to compose the following 15 credits:</p> <p>Core Concentration Courses - 9 credits</p> <p>Principles and Models of Early Childhood Curriculum (EEC 6236) - 3 credits Creative Arts for Young Children (EEC 6711) - 3 credits Seminar in Early Childhood Education (EEC 6932) - 3 credits</p> <p>Select two of the following courses - 6 credits</p> <p>Foundations of Early Childhood Environmental Education (EEC 6026) - 3 credits Exploring Natural Habitats as a Curriculum for Young Children (EEC 6239) - 3 credits Community Engagement in Early Childhood Environmental Education (EEC 6028) - 3 credits Survey and Assessment in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education (EEX 5015)-3 cred Methods in Early Childhood Special Education (EEX 5245) - 3 credits</p> <p>**NOTE: EEC 6028 is simultaneously being approved as a new course along with the program change**</p>			
<p><small>*All new programs and changes to existing programs must be accompanied by a catalog entry showing the new or proposed changes.</small></p>			
Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Yash Bhangwanji/ybhagwan@fau.edu		Consult and list departments that may be affected by the change(s) and attach documentation Please see attached documentation.	
Approved by Department Chair <u>Charles Dukes</u> College Curriculum Chair <u>Charles Dukes</u> College Dean <u>Charles Dukes</u> UGPC Chair _____ UGC Chair _____ Graduate College Dean _____ UFS President _____ Provost _____		Date 05/08/2025 7/09/2025 7/09/2025 _____ _____ _____ _____	

Email this form and attachments to UGPC@fau.edu 10 days before the UGPC meeting.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGES

The new name of the concentration, **Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education**, reflects the interdisciplinary content of the proposed change, which integrates the disciplines of early childhood education, early intervention, early childhood special education, and environmental education.

New courses in *Early Childhood Environmental Education* are added as electives to offer current perspectives, foundational theories, and epistemologies related to supporting child and nature interactions focused on the well-being of both children/humans and species (more than human world). These courses represent new content and is in keeping with calls from various fields and professional organizations.

The **structure of the concentration** is changed to facilitate timely matriculation of students by offering at least two courses every semester (including summer) and to offer greater flexibility in learning choices based on student interest and learning needs.

Catalog Changes

Curriculum and Instruction

Master of Education (M.Ed.)

(Minimum of 36 credits required)

The M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction (for certified teachers with a professional or temporary certificate) may be obtained in person in the areas noted below. The program also is offered online with specialization in Multicultural Education, ESOL Education, and Teacher Leadership, and a classroom-based specialization in Early Childhood Education. Students may also earn a certificate in Multicultural Education.

Areas of Concentration

Art (K-12)

Early Childhood Education

English/Language Arts (6-12)

ESOL Education (K-12) (online available)

Foreign Language (French and Spanish) (K-12)

Mathematics (6-12)

Multicultural Education (K-12) (online available)

Reading (K-12) (does not lead to certification as a reading teacher)

Science Education (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) (6-12)

Social Science (6-12)

Teacher Leadership (K-12) (Enrollment is currently suspended for this concentration.)

Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education

Core Concentration Courses - 9 credits

Principles and Models of Early Childhood Curriculum	EEC 6236	3
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Creative Arts for Young Children	EEC 6711	3
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Seminar in Early Childhood Education	EEC 6932	3
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Select two of the following courses – 6 credits

Foundations of Early Childhood Environmental Education EEC 6026 3

Exploring Natural Habitats as a Curriculum for Young Children EEC 6239 3

Community Engagement in Early Childhood Environmental Education EEC 6028 3

Survey and Assessment of Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special
Education EEX 5015 3

Methods in Early Childhood Special Education EEX 5245 3

Fw: Change to DCI M.Ed. C&I Early Childhood Concentration

From Yash Bhagwanji <ybhagwan@fau.edu>
Date Thu 3/20/2025 10:41 AM
To Michelle McGovern <mvaugha3@fau.edu>

Michelle,
Here is the note from DSE providing their green light/no conflict for the proposed change.

Thank you,
Yash

Yash Bhagwanji, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Curriculum and Instruction (CI)
330 College of Education, Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Editor, *International Journal of Early Childhood Environmental Education* (IJECEE)
<https://naturalstart.org/research>

From: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 5:22 PM
To: Yash Bhagwanji <ybhagwan@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Change to DCI M.Ed. C&I Early Childhood Concentration

Hi,
You have the green light from Special Education 😊
Cheers,
Joe

Joseph Calvin Gagnon, Ph.D.
Professor & Department Chair
Department of Special Education

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Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=E91DESMAAAAJ&hl=en>
Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joseph-Gagnon>

From: Yash Bhagwanji <ybhagwan@fau.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 1:07 PM
To: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Change to DCI M.Ed. C&I Early Childhood Concentration

Hi Joe,

It's your choice and management style, as department chairs have different approaches. Some requests may require the department's input, while some others may not and the chair's review suffices. Perhaps consider the nature of the request, whether the impact is serious enough to affect the department's operations.

Thank you, Joe.

Yash

Yash Bhagwanji, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Curriculum and Instruction (CI)
330 College of Education, Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Editor, *International Journal of Early Childhood Environmental Education* (IJECEE)
<https://naturalstart.org/research>

From: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 12:39 PM
To: Yash Bhagwanji <ybhagwan@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Change to DCI M.Ed. C&I Early Childhood Concentration

Hi,

Is this something I should bring up to the Special Education faculty or should I approve it?
Cheers, Joe

Joseph Calvin Gagnon, Ph.D.
Professor & Department Chair
Department of Special Education

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Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joseph-Gagnon>

From: Yash Bhagwanji <ybhagwan@fau.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 11:31 AM

To: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Subject: Change to DCI M.Ed. C&I Early Childhood Concentration

Good morning, Joe. I am writing to seek DSE's comments and consent to update the Early Childhood Concentration in DCI's M.Ed. Curriculum & Instruction degree program. I have attached the changes (identified in red) as well as provided the same below as it would look in the university catalog. The changes are made to assist in timely matriculation of the graduate students, provide more course options in each semester, as well as a few more elective choices. Two DSE courses are included as elective options in the proposed change.

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Science Education (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) (6-12)

Social Science (6-12)

Teacher Leadership (K-12) (Enrollment is currently suspended for this concentration.)

Early Childhood Education

(Add) Core Concentration Courses - 9 credits

Creative Arts for Young Children EEC 6711 3

Seminar in Early Childhood Education EEC 6932 3

(Add) Select two of the following courses – 6 credits

Foundations of Early Childhood Environmental Education EEC 6026 3

Exploring Natural Habitats as a Curriculum for Young Children EEC 6239 3

Community Engagement in Early Childhood Environmental Education EEC 6028 3

Survey and Assessment of Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education EEX
5015 3

Methods in Early Childhood Special Education EEX 5245 3

Thank you for your assistance in this request,
Yash
DCI Early Childhood Education Programs Coordinator

Yash Bhagwanji, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Curriculum and Instruction (CI)
330 College of Education, Florida Atlantic University
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