



NUNAVUT
EDUCATION CAREERS
Early Childhood Education

PROGRAM REPORT

016
Early Childhood Education APPLIED Certificate

Start Term: No Specified Start Date
End Term: No Specified End Date
Program Status: Approved
Action Type: N/A
Change Type: N/A
Discontinued: No
Latest Version: Yes



Program Details

016 - Early Childhood Education APPLIED Certificate

Start Term: No Specified Start Date

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Program Details

Code

016

Title

Early Childhood Education APPLIED Certificate

Start Term

No Specified Start Date

End Term

No Specified End Date

Total Credits

31.00

Institution

Nunavut

Faculty

Education Careers

Department

Early Childhood Education

General Information

Eligible for RPL

Yes

Description

The Early Childhood Education Applied Certificate Program is designed to educate current childcare workers in Nunavut communities with minimal disruption to their work schedule. The program is a blended delivery model: students study in classroom, by distance tutorial and in their workplace setting with experts in early childhood development and Inuit culture. The Program provides students with workplace application of skills and community-based study that involves culturally relevant teaching approaches and course content. This practical, hands-on program develops in students the skills and abilities to work effectively with children from infancy to age 6 in a Nunavut group setting. The program teaches an emergent curriculum approach: students learn to develop programming based on the interests of children and families. Emergent curriculum requires skills in observation, documentation, creativity, flexibility and patience. The learning process is: holistic, empowering, involves families and community. The learning and assessment process is meaningful and connected to 'real life', the workplace and relationships through multi-faceted techniques using new and mixed media, readings, workplace application, learning stories, portfolio development, individual and group assignments. The program delivery addresses student academic and personal needs: building



communications, critical-reasoning and self-management skills within each course. Successful candidates will receive an ECE Applied Certificate, indicating their qualifications to deliver early childhood education programming that stimulates the intellectual, physical, emotional and social development of young children. Graduates will have the option of entering with advanced standing to the ECE Diploma Program.

Inuit Qaujimaningit

Inuit knowledge is integrated into all aspects of the Applied ECE Program: Program curriculum integrates Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Guiding Principles through outcomes which form the foundation of each course. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is connected in the program with national guiding principles for quality Early Childhood Education in Canada. Inuit elders, cultural and linguistic experts and knowledgeable community members are an integral part of the program delivery team; as teachers in specific courses, student mentors and as guest instructors and advisors. A significant part of the program content is delivered by experts in Inuit culture and language including teachings in traditional Inuit child development, Inuit values, storytelling, games, songs, nutrition, food and toy-making. Local and visiting Inuit educators, artists and cultural specialists are integrated into course development and delivery. The ECE Program integrates Inuit early childhood development research from the knowledge of Inuit elders and cultural experts.

Career Opportunities

Program Learning Outcomes

Program Objectives

Graduates of the ECE Applied Certificate will:

- 1 Integrate Inuit culture, language and knowledge in the childcare program that supports traditional Inuit values, teachings and elder expertise

- 1 Identify typical patterns of growth and development in infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers and elementary school age children in order to assess and respond to individual needs of children in the program

- 1 Create safe, inclusive and culturally appropriate living and playing environments for young children in a group setting

- 1 Utilize appropriate toys, equipment and materials that promote healthy child development in the cognitive, physical, social and emotional domains

- 1 Assist in the implementation of an effective, culturally responsive, play-based curriculum appropriate to the ages and developmental stages of young children

- 1 Apply recognized practices and adhere to regulations and procedures (including certification in First Aid and Infant CPR) to meet Nunavut safety, health and nutrition standards



- 1 Effectively communicate with families in order to build strong connections between the childcare program and the home

- 1 Involve families in all aspects of the childcare program recognizing the family's role as the child's first teacher

- 1 Model effective guidance techniques that encourage positive behaviour in young children

- 1 Support and adhere to the current Nunavut territorial standards for licensed home and childcare program

- 1 Contribute as a member of a team to a respectful, positive childcare environment

Program Delivery Model

Blended

Admission Requirements

Applicants will be admitted to the ECE Applied Certificate Program based on program eligibility criteria, subject to available resources and the results of the applicant assessment. Applicants wishing to apply to this program must provide:

- Evidence of full or part-time employment in the early childhood education field (current or past)
- Evidence of grade 10 equivalency or mature student status; in the absence of this entrance requirement, a Nunavut Arctic College placement assessment may be required.
- A medical certificate of good health - copies of workplace documents accepted
- A statement describing their reasons for studying Early Childhood Education
- Written agreement of support by the childcare employer and direct supervisor

Current RCMP Security Clearance - copies of workplace documents accepted

Selection Process

Application| Criminal Record Check| English Assessment Testing| Letter of Intent| Math Assessment Testing| Medical Exam| Reference Letter(s)| Transcripts

Practicum or Work Experience

Credential

Certificate

Yes



Length of Program

Degree

Length of Program

Diploma

Length of Program

ROA

Length of Program

ROP

Length of Program

Graduation Requirements

Graduation Requirements

Completion of 8 courses (25 credits- 375 hrs) and 2 Practica with Seminars (6 credits – 90 hrs)

To graduate from this program, a student must obtain a minimum of 60% or a letter grade of C in each course in each semester. The passing weighted average for promotion through each semester and to graduate is 60%.

Graduation Eligibility

Graduation Eligibility

Mandatory

Mandatory



Electives

Electives

Course Descriptions

Course Descriptions

Applied Certificate Courses:

Principles and Practices of Early Childhood Education is offered as a 2-3 week intensive course on campus.

The **Surusilaalirinirmik Ilinniarniq** course is delivered in the community by a local expert in Inuit culture and supported by the ECE faculty. This approach will facilitate cultural connections and integration of Inuit content in all courses.

The **Health, Safety, Nutrition** course will be available by Distance delivery with support from community-based tutors.

Other courses are delivered in a **blended model** of intensive workshops, workplace support and distance tutorial.

- **Semester 1:**
 - 1 **Principles and Practices of Early Childhood Education (3-week Intensive)**
 - 2 **Surusilaalirinirmik Ilinniarniq 1 (bi-weekly classes in workplace over 6 months)**
 - 3 **Curriculum 1 (blended)**

- **Semester 2:**
 - 1 **Child Development 1 (blended)**
 - 2 **Health, Safety, Nutrition (distance)**
 - 3 **Field Placement & Seminar 1**

- **Semester 3:**
 - 1 **Curriculum 2**
 - 2 **Guiding Children**
 - 3 **Field Placement & Seminar 2**



Practicum/Work Experience:

Note: *The NAC ECE Practicum Handbook provides the protocol and guidelines for participating in and assessing the Practicum learning including the Workplace-College relationship, responsibilities and agreements.*

Students will successfully complete the two mandatory ECE practicums, along with the accompanying practicum seminars, in order to graduate. Practicum requirements can be fulfilled in a workplace setting if the following conditions are met:

- The childcare program is licensed or is operated by a fully qualified ECE practitioner
- The employee-student signs a practicum agreement with a qualified ECE practitioner mentor (as defined in the ECE Practicum Handbook)
- The employee-student agrees to work beyond their job description, as a practicum student
- The childcare staff are supportive of the ECE Applied Program faculty visiting the program and providing on-the-job training, modeling and support

Courses: *Please see course outlines for outcomes*

1. Principles and Practices of Early Childhood Education: 4 credits

This course introduces students to the practice of Early Childhood Education in Canada. Students will explore a range of ECE programs, theories and curriculum approaches in order to understand, analyse and determine how early childhood settings are organized and how they operate. The components of quality, along with the professional roles and responsibilities of an early childhood practitioner, will be explored. Students will develop a personal plan of practice that outlines the values, principles and goals that will guide their professional development in the program and in the workplace. Students will develop knowledge, skills and motivation in order to create positive, welcoming and inclusive environments for young children that reflect Inuit values, language, and traditions. Through self-reflection activities and assignments, students will develop self-awareness and confidence in their work as early childhood educators.

2. Communications 1: 3 credits

Communications skills are taught through theory and activities connected to the early childhood setting. Students develop techniques, strategies and tools for communicating in clear and accessible ways to children, colleagues and families in the childcare program. The student is introduced to the basics of interpersonal communications including self-concept, perception, emotions, non-verbal communications, listening, relational dynamics, creating a communications climate, assertiveness and conflict resolution. The course explores how to communicate emotions effectively and manage strong emotions that may negatively affect the workplace. The course will examine how children's language and literacy is fostered in a multitude of ways and students will explore ways to enhance children's language skills throughout all areas of the early childhood program. Stories from a variety of cultures, with a focus on Inuit cultural and linguistic storytelling and reading, are critically examined for suitability to the Nunavut childcare setting and the various language developmental stages.

3. Surusilaalirinirmik Ilinniarniq1

This course focuses on Inuit cultural knowledge, skills and attitudes that support a child's development from birth to 3 years old and the maligait/uupirijait (Inuit beliefs) around naming, kinship and family relationships.



The course teaches ways of accurately integrating Inuit culture in order to develop young children's language and connect them to their family and community. Students make connections between traditional teachings around young children's physical, social, emotional and cognitive development, they learn and share traditional songs accurately and facilitate activities based in traditional Inuit culture. Practical skills develop students' ability to create Inuit toys for the childcare setting and a theme-based activity facilitates reflection on their own childhoods and culture in order to develop a life-work balance plan rooted in ancient teachings.

4. Child Development 1: 3 credits

Child development theories and their relationship to early child development in the Nunavut context will be explored through classroom lectures and discussions, small group activities, audio-visual aids, reflective activities, practical experiences, and assignments. Emphasis will be on the inclusion of all children, and the whole child connected to family, culture and community. Students will observe and interact with children from age infancy to 6 years in order to understand and apply child development theories. Students will use their knowledge and skills gained in the course to support children's physical, social, emotional, cognitive development.

5. Curriculum 1: 3 credits

Students in this course will explore and practice culturally relevant curriculum approaches which support the development of a child's positive identity. Curriculum I focus is on the importance of play for learning as well as understanding the role of adults and the environment when supporting children's play interests. This course provides opportunity for students to develop their own creative-sensory learning style in order to effectively support child learning through art, sensory, dramatic and quiet play.

6. Practicum & Seminar 1: 3 credits

The first practicum experience is carried out in an early learning childcare setting with children from birth to five years of age. Students gradually take an active role in observing, planning and implementing activities in the setting at the same time as they build relationships with children, families and colleagues. The focus of this course is on play-based curriculum that promotes child development and practices that reflect inclusiveness and Inuit culture and language. Students will explore activities based in a child's interests in art, sensory, dramatic, quiet and outdoor play. The in-class seminar that supports this course will provide opportunities to develop a self-reflective practice and examine play-based curriculum.

7. Health, Safety, Nutrition: 3 credits

In this course, students will develop skills and knowledge in order to maintain environments that promote the health, safety and nutrition of all children. The focus of this course will be on prevention, recognition and management of illness and injury, good health and nutrition practices appropriate for the well-being of young children. Students will comply with the Nunavut Child Daycare Act and Regulations and develop the knowledge for applying territorial safety, health and nutrition standards in the childcare program. This course also provides students with the opportunity to value, practice and reflect on their own health and well-being enabling them to make healthy choices and establish health-promoting behaviors.

8. Curriculum 2: 3 credits

Students in this course will explore and practice culturally relevant curriculum approaches which support the healthy development of young children. Curriculum II will focus on the oral tradition of storytelling, singing



songs, sharing books and rhymes, finger plays and movement activities with children. Math, science, and cooking with children activities will also be explored. This course provides opportunity for students to practice using their voice and to develop their confidence in leading children in circle time activities.

9. Guiding Children 1: 3 credits

This course provides students with a variety of culturally relevant guidance techniques and strategies to support the social and emotional development of children from birth to six years of age. Students will learn how to develop positive relationships with children, using a problem-solving approach, in order to help them develop self-regulation skills and healthy relationships with others. An important aspect of this course will require students to examine and strengthen their own ability to positively manage their feelings and behaviours so they can model healthy social and emotional responses to challenges in the childcare program.

10. Practicum & Seminar 2: 3 credits

The second practicum experience is carried out in two different early child learning settings with children from birth to five years of age and school-age children over a 3-week period. Students take an active role in planning and supporting activities in the childcare setting with a focus on facilitating children's songs, rhymes and stories in order to develop language among children of all ages and developmental stages. Students will plan and facilitate activities based in a child's interests in science, math and cooking as part of the collaborate curriculum delivery in the childcare program. Students evaluate and adhere to health, safety and nutritional legislation and regulations in the childcare setting. Students will practice positive guidance strategies and record observations of children in order to evaluate, modify and respond to play problems. The in-class seminar that supports this course will provide ongoing opportunities to develop a self-reflective practice and examine play-based curriculum and positive guidance