

Master of Arts in Education, major in Early Childhood Education (Thesis Program)

Goals and Objectives

It aims to prepare teachers and highly qualified professionals who can provide significant learning experiences for young children. The program aims to:

- Strengthen and augment the competencies of teachers and other educational personnel working with young children with ages from birth to 8 years old;
- Investigate historical, current and projected issues central to early childhood education;
- Relate research on the growth, development and education of young children with practice in current early childhood educational programs; and
- Produce competent and professionally trained early childhood educators grounded in Lasallian philosophy of education.

Admission Requirements

Admission to programs offered by the Educational Leadership and Management Department (ELMD) is on a selective basis. In general, only those students who can profit from graduate work and are able to successfully comply with prescribed requirements for graduation shall be considered.

The following factors are considered in the admission process:

- Undergraduate degree in Education or at least 12 units of professional courses in education with a GPA of at least 85%.
- Entrance examination results.
- Potential for graduate work and educational leadership based on results of interview.

Financial Assistance

A limited number of financial assistance awards is available to Filipino graduate students. Information on available grants may be secured from the Scholarship and Financial Assistance Office (Director: Ms. Severina V. Kikuchi) located at the mezzanine of Graduate Admissions Office.

Course Distribution

Basic Courses	12 units + (1)
Major Courses	12 units
Integrating Courses	6 units
Written Comprehensive Exam	
Thesis Writing	6 units

	Total 36 units + (1)

Additional six (6) units of Advanced Technical Reading and Writing 1 and 2 will be required for applicants with a low score in the essay part of the entrance examination.

Basic Courses

Educational Statistics (ELM510M) (3 units)

The course deals with general concepts of statistical methods as applied in education. Topics for discussion include: descriptive statistics, normal distribution, estimation/sampling theory, hypothesis testing, correlation/regression theory, analysis of variance, analysis of covariance, non-parametric statistics, and application of computers to statistics.

Prerequisite: Basic Statistics or passing the Statistics qualifying exams

Methods of Research (ELM520M) (3 units)

This course deals with the fundamentals of research designs, types of research techniques and procedures for data gathering, analysis and interpretation.

Prerequisite: Educational Statistics

Foundations of Early Childhood Education (ECH530M) (3 units)

Introduces the students to early childhood education. An understanding of ECE includes discussion in the following content areas: historical, philosophical, psychological, social and legal foundations of ECE. Needs of preschoolers, global trends and health and nutrition will also be covered.

Child Development and Assessment (ECH540M) (3 units)

Provides future practitioners with insights into child behavior. Principles of child development and childhood learning with corresponding implications will be discussed. Deviations in the typical development in children as determined by assessment will also be tackled.

Prerequisite: Foundations of Early Childhood Education

Lasallian Philosophy (EDM535M) (1 unit)

The course helps students to acquire an understanding of St. John Baptist de La Salle's life, work, writings and charisma in order for the student to make De La Salle's spirit come alive in contemporary education.

Major Courses

Curriculum Development in Early Childhood Education (ECH610M) (3 units)

The course provides concrete knowledge and understanding of the nature, structure, goals and contents of ECE curriculum as well as the mastery of concepts and skills in effectively managing instruction in ECE. Curriculum models in ECE will also be discussed.

Prerequisite: Foundations of Early Childhood Education

Program Development in Early Childhood Education (ECH620M) (3 units)

Equips the students with knowledge on the various considerations in developing appropriate programs for young children. Comparison of different programs in ECE will be undertaken.

Prerequisites: Foundations of Early Childhood Education

Principles and Strategies for Developing Psychomotor and Creative Skills in Children ((ECH630M) (3 units)

Equips students with varied teaching strategies and approaches that will develop children's psychomotor and creative abilities. Developmental sequences, strategies in teaching and activity suggestions for physical activities, music, art and play will be discussed. Current educational issues relating to these areas will likewise be included.

Prerequisites: Foundations of Early Childhood Education

Principles and Strategies for Developing Literacy and Numeracy Skills in Young Children (ECH640M) (3 units)

Provides information on the contributions of language and mathematical-logical abilities to individual well being. Developmental sequences, teaching strategies, and suggested activities for these areas will be tackled as well as current trends and issues.

Prerequisites: Foundations of Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Programs for Exceptional Children (ECH562M) (3 units)

The course is designed to equip students with fundamental knowledge and understanding of the principles and theories in early childhood education with a focus on the special educational need of exceptional children. It includes orientation to appropriate educational and curricular programs for preschool children. The course will expose the students to the different assessment tools for infants and preschoolers and provides knowledge and understanding on the various procedures and techniques on how parents, teachers, and significant skills can help in the development of exceptional children.

Prerequisites: Foundations of Early Childhood Education

Current Trends and Issues in Early Childhood (ECH681M) (3 units)

The course focuses on the current social, economic and political issues affecting early childhood education in the Philippines and the world at large. Relevant curriculum, assessment, technology, management, teacher preparation and development and advocacy issues will be examined and its implication to early childhood programs.

Prerequisites: Foundations of Early Childhood Education

Integrating Courses

Assessment and Evaluation of Early Childhood Program (ECH851M) (3 units)

This course focuses on the different types of program evaluation and how this may be applied on early childhood programs. Topics will include supervision and strategies for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of ECE programs. Students are expected to

evaluate an existing ECE program aimed at providing specific recommendations for program improvement.

Prerequisites: Completion of Basic and Major courses.

Practicum (ECH811M)

(3 units)

Provides students with opportunities to apply the principles and strategies of teaching pre-school children. It consists of 180 hours of field experiences, observation and involvement in actual teaching-learning situations in the ECE setting.

Prerequisites: Completion of Basic and Major courses

Written Comprehensive Examinations

Students are required to take and pass the written comprehensive examinations upon completion of all academic courses. This is a requirement prior to the oral comprehensive examinations.

Thesis Writing

Involves the identification and development of a research topic in ECE. Upon completion of the research, the results are to be presented for oral defense before an examination panel.

Prerequisites: Completion of all academic courses and passing of written comprehensive examinations.