

EDUCATION, EDUCATION/ SPECIAL EDUCATION - ASSOCIATE IN ARTS



ESPE

Students training in the education and special needs concentrations are qualified for employment in a variety of education and social service settings. These may include teacher assistant positions in kindergarten, public and special education classrooms, early intervention centers, residential group homes, hospitals and community day programs. In all of these settings, teacher assistants and aides provide direct support to children and adults, helping them to reach their maximum physical, emotional, educational and vocational potential. Three internships provide students with critical opportunities for supervised guidance as to best practices for working with able-bodied, as well as special needs, individuals and groups.

Note: Students enrolled in the Human Services program must earn a grade of C or better in all Human Services courses. Many courses require prerequisites, corequisites and/or testing. See course descriptions for details (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/course-descriptions/>).

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the history of special education laws and terminology.
2. Develop an understanding of categories, definitions, causes, assessment and instructional strategies under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
3. Identify, apply and discuss major concepts, principles, teaching strategies and theories related to typical and atypical development.
4. Apply professional written and oral communication skills through responsible use of digital technology in research informed practice.
5. Demonstrate professional and collaborative skills in school and agency settings.

Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Requirements		
ENGL 1010	Composition I (or ENGL 1010A) ¹ ; HUMN; Written Communication; Information Literacy	3
Literature Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#litgened/)	ENGL 2200 Recommended ¹ ; HUMN	3
Mathematics Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#mathgened/) ^{MSCI}		3

PSYC 2010	General Psychology ¹ ; SSCI; Critical Thinking; Scientific Reasoning	4
PSYC 2030	Developmental Psychology ¹ ; SSCI; Critical Thinking; Scientific Reasoning	3
PSYC 2070	Educational Psychology ² ; SSCI; Critical Thinking; Scientific Reasoning	3
Science Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#scigened/) ³ ; MSCI		3
SOCS 1010	General Sociology ^{SSCI} ; Information Literacy; Cultural, Global, Historical Perspectives	3
Choose ONE of the following: ^{HUMN}		3
Art Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#artgened/) ¹		
Music Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#muscgened/)		
World Languages Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#langgened/)		
Theatre Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#theagened/)		
Subtotal		28
Major Requirements		
HMNS 1010	Introduction to Helping and Human Services ¹	3
HMNS 1220	Field Experience and Seminar I - Education/Special Needs ^A ¹	3
HMNS 2060	Foundations of Teaching and Learning ⁴ ; SSCI; Written Communication; Information Literacy	3
HMNS 2070	Characteristics and Needs of Special Populations ⁴	3
HMNS 2100	Child Growth and Development Skills ¹ ; SSCI; Written Communication; Information Literacy	3
HMNS 2320	Field Experience Seminar II-Education/Special Needs ^A ¹	3
HMNS 2420	Field Experience Seminar III-Education/Special Needs ^A ¹	3
HMNS 2900	Human Services Capstone ¹	3
Choose ONE of the following:		3
HMNS 2170	Learning Disabilities ¹	
HMNS 2180	Significant Developmental Disabilities ¹	
Choose TWO or THREE from approved elective course list below. ⁴		6-9
Subtotal		33-36
Total Hours		61-64

¹ Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.

² Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. A higher-level educational psychology course may be required by some teacher preparation bachelor's degree programs; therefore, students transferring to Rhode Island College are advised to meet with an adviser at RIC.

³ **3 or 4 credits. A lab science is recommended for transfer.** See this page for a complete list of classes that fulfill the LABS attribute (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#labs>).

For Science Elective only – courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. Selection of math and science courses for transfer should be done in consultation with a Human Services faculty adviser during the first semester of study.

⁴ Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. See list of approved electives here. Consult with Human Services faculty

adviser. Special Education students should take Characteristics and Needs of Special Populations (HMNS 2070) first. Education students should take Foundations of Teaching and Learning (HMNS 2060) first. Diversity and Cultural Competency Skills^ (HMNS 2710) is necessary for successful transfer of Foundations of Teaching and Learning (HMNS 2060) to Rhode Island College. Introduction to Teaching and Learning (HMNS 1101) is necessary for successful transfer to RI College education programs. A minimum of 60 credits must be completed to graduate.

^ Work-based learning course

Approved Elective Course List

Code	Title	Hours
COMI 1100	Introduction to Computers	3
COMM 1100	The Art of Public Speaking: Romancing the Room	3
ENGL 2200	Children's Literature ^{HUMN; Written Communication; Cultural, Global, Historical Perspectives}	3
HMNS 1040	Drugs and Human Behavior	4
HMNS 1080	Health, Nutrition and the Young Child	3
HMNS 2120	Curriculum for Young Children	3
HMNS 2140	Guiding Children's Behavior	3
HMNS 2150	Parent and Child Relations	3
HMNS 2170	Learning Disabilities	3
HMNS 2180	Significant Developmental Disabilities	3
HMNS 2710	Diversity and Cultural Competency Skills^	3
HIST 1010	Survey of Western Civilization I ^{SSCI; Information Literacy; Cultural, Global, Historical Perspectives}	3
HIST 1020	Survey of Western Civilization II ^{SSCI; Written Communication; Non-Written Communication}	3
HIST 2260	A Survey of East Asian Civilization	3
PHIL 1010	Introduction to Philosophy ^{HUMN; Written Communication; Critical Thinking}	3
PHIL 2030	Ethics ^{HUMN; Critical Thinking; Social and Professional Responsibilities}	3
PHIL 2040	Logic ^{HUMN; Critical Thinking; Scientific Reasoning}	3
PSYC 1030	Psychology of Personal Adjustment ^{SSCI; Critical Thinking; Social and Professional Responsibilities}	3
PSYC 1970	Human Relations Seminar and Application	3
PSYC 2030	Developmental Psychology ^{SSCI; Critical Thinking; Scientific Reasoning}	3
PSYC 2050	Behavior Modification	3
PSYC 2090	Adolescent Psychology	3
PSYC 2110	Abnormal Psychology	3
THEA 1150	Theatre for Children	3

Recommended Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
Year 1		
Semester 1		
ENGL 1010	Composition I (or ENGL 1010A)	3
HMNS 1010	Introduction to Helping and Human Services	3
HMNS 2060	Foundations of Teaching and Learning	3
PSYC 2010	General Psychology	4

Mathematics Elective (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#mathgened/>) 3

Hours 16

Semester 2

HMNS 1220	Field Experience and Seminar I - Education/ Special Needs^	3
HMNS 2070	Characteristics and Needs of Special Populations	3
HMNS 2100	Child Growth and Development Skills	3
PSYC 2030	Developmental Psychology	3
Literature Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#litgened/) ¹		3

Hours 15

Year 2

Semester 1

HMNS 2320	Field Experience Seminar II-Education/Special Needs	3
SOCS 1010	General Sociology	3
Science Elective (https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#scigened/) ³		3
Elective ²		3
Choose ONE of the following:		3
HMNS 2170	Learning Disabilities	
HMNS 2180	Significant Developmental Disabilities	

Hours 15

Semester 2

HMNS 2420	Field Experience Seminar III-Education/Special Needs	3
HMNS 2900	Human Services Capstone (Capstone)	3
PSYC 2070	Educational Psychology	3
Elective ²		3
Elective ²		3
Choose ONE of the following:		3

Art Elective (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#artgened/>)

Music Elective (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#muscgened/>)

Theatre Elective (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#theagened/>)

World Languages Elective (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#langgened/>)

Hours 18

Total Hours 64

¹ Recommended: Children's Literature (ENGL 2200)

² See approved list (p. 1).

³ **3 or 4 credits. A lab science is recommended for transfer.** See this page for a complete list of classes that fulfill the LABS attribute (<https://catalog.ccri.edu/academic-information/general-education/course-attributes/#labs>).

^ Work-based learning course

Transfer

Please meet with an Academic Advisor/Student Success Coach (<https://ccri.edu/advising/>) if you are interested in earning a bachelor's degree. Your Academic Advisor will help you select the courses that best prepare you for transfer to a four-year college or university.

Check out the Joint Admissions Agreement (<https://ccri.edu/jaa/>) if you are interested in transferring to Rhode Island College or the University of Rhode Island. The JAA program offers seamless transfer to RIC or URI with additional benefits. Transfer information, events, and articulations are available on the Transfer Center website (https://ccri.edu/oes/transfer_center/).