

Certificate in Early Childhood Policy: Electives (need total of six credits)

Policy Electives (Choose at least one course)		
PA 5415	Effective Policies for Children in the First Decade	Policies to improve the wellbeing of children through the first decade of life are examined using examples from economics and other disciplines. The course focuses on the role of government in helping to promote early childhood development. Readings and projects focus on policies or programs that affect child outcomes from the prenatal period to third grade. Students will become familiar with the importance of rigorous impact evaluations and the use of cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analysis as a tool for efficient resource allocation.
PA 5442	Education Law and Policy	Education law and policy with focus on elementary/secondary. Topics include governance; interplay of federal, state and local law and policy; reform efforts; desegregation; achievement gap; role of teachers unions; and finance. Early childhood education discussed in connection with K-12 issues.
FSOS 8104	Family Policy Seminar	Distinguishing family policy research from other family research. Conceptual frameworks, methods, and roles family policy research can play in policy-making and knowledge-building processes.
PREV 8001	Prevention Science: Principles and Practices	Theoretical, empirical and practical foundations for strategic interventions to prevent behavioral problems and promote healthy development. Multidisciplinary roots of prevention science. Trends/directions. Best practices.
SW 5101	Historical Origins and Contemporary Policies and Programs in Social Welfare	Contemporary policies and programs in social welfare are examined in light of their historical origins and evolution. A framework is then developed for analysis of concepts and principles in contemporary social policy for social welfare programs and services. The emergence of the profession of social work also examined.
SW 8804	Child Welfare Policy	Develops advanced policy knowledge/skills for social workers practicing in or collaborating with public or private child welfare services.

Open Electives (Choose at least one course)		
PA 5311	Program Evaluation	Principal methods, primary applications of evaluation research as applied to policies/programs in health/human services, education, or the environment. Conducting evaluations. Becoming a critical consumer of studies.
PA 5415	Effective Policies for Children	Policies to improve the wellbeing of children through the first decade of life are examined using

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	in the First Decade	examples from economics and other disciplines. The course focuses on the role of government in helping to promote early childhood development. Readings and projects focus on policies or programs that affect child outcomes from the prenatal period to third grade. Students will become familiar with the importance of rigorous impact evaluations and the use of cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analysis as a tool for efficient resource allocation.
PA 5480	Topics in Race, Ethnicity, and Public Policy	Link between race/ethnicity and public policy. How to identify/measure racial/ethnic disparities and their historical/cultural origins and policy impacts and to craft politically feasible remedies. Topics may include criminal justice, housing, child welfare, and education
EPSY 5221	Principles of Educational and Psychological Measurement	Concepts, principles, and methods in educational/psychological measurement. Reliability, validity, item analysis, scores, score reports (e.g., grades). Modern measurement theories, including item response theory and generalizability theory. Emphasizes construction, interpretation, use, and evaluation of assessments regarding achievement, aptitude, interests, attitudes, personality, and exceptionalism.
EPSY 5243	Principles and Methods of Evaluation	Introductory course in program evaluation; planning an evaluation study, collecting and analyzing information, reporting results; overview of the field of program evaluation.
EPSY 5625	Education of Infants, Toddlers, and Preschool Children with Disabilities: Introduction	Overview of the issues, problems, and practical applications in designing early intervention services for young children with disabilities and their families.
EPSY 5849	Multi-tiered Systems of Support in Early Childhood Education	This course explores how multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) are applied in early childhood settings. The course features content on early childhood assessment, intervention, data-based decision making, treatment integrity and information on how to apply MTSS models with unique early childhood populations. This course focuses on educational settings for children ages birth to 5 and is intended primarily for educational psychology students (or students from related disciplines) interested in basic and applied information regarding evidence-based service delivery for young children. The course will explore the three primary components of MTSS frameworks: assessment, intervention and data-based decision making including review of assessments and intervention techniques for infants and preschoolers in various developmental domains. Enrolled students will engage in a variety of instructional strategies to learn the noted content including large and small group discussion, lectures, active learning opportunities to practice and build capacity for specified interventions, technology-based interactions to support intervention, assessment and databased decision making and cooperative learning opportunities to engage content using dynamic methods.

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FSOS 8104	Family Policy Seminar	Distinguishing family policy research from other family research. Conceptual frameworks, methods, and roles family policy research can play in policy-making and knowledge-building processes.
FSOS 8106	Seminar: Families From an Economic Perspective	Conceptual/methodological/economic perspectives of family social science. Family investments in human/social capital. Diversities in families. Interface of public policies and family economic well-being.
OLPD 5346	Politics of Education	Political dimensions of policy formulation/implementation in education. Use of power/influence in shaping educational policies and in resolving conflicts over educational issues. Analysis of consequences/cross-impacts.
OLPD 5356	Disability Policy and Services	Policy, research, and current practices related to education, health, and social services that support children, youth, and adults with special needs, and that support their families. Federal, state, and local perspectives.
OLPD 5501	Principles and Methods of Evaluation	Introduction to program evaluation. Planning an evaluation study, collecting and analyzing information, reporting results; evaluation strategies; overview of the field of program evaluation.
OLPD 8016	Research Design and Educational Policy	Logic of research design, from research questions to selecting a design for collecting/analyzing quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-method data. Writing proposals that build a reasoned statement of research problem.
OLPD 8087	Seminar: Educational Policy and Administration	Topical issues. Eligible for certificate only if topic covers early childhood development.
OLPD 8095	Problems: OLPD (Eligible for certificate only if topic covers early childhood development)	Educational Policy and Administration: Independent study on issues of educational policy/administration. Arranged with instructor. Eligible for certificate only if topic covers early childhood development.
OLPD 8302	Educational Policy Perspectives	Public policy issues in education. Historical, international, political, research perspectives. Current policy strategies for reforming U.S. public schools.
POL 8602	Families, Children, and the State	Politics of family, sex, and children. Comparative perspective. Family autonomy vs. state authority. Political struggles over the definition of family, sex, and marriage. Crisis in fatherhood. Children's rights. Globalization of Western ideology of childhood. Political realities of third-world childhood. Theories of political efficacy in family/child advocacy.
PUBH	Children's Health: Issues, Programs, and	Overview of public health issues related to children in the United States. Focus on

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6606	Policies	identifying/planning public health strategies, policies, and programs to improve health of infants/children.
PUBH 6607	Adolescent Health: Issues, Programs, and Policies	Major public health issues of adolescents in the United States. Emphasizes prevention and health promotion strategies and effectiveness of programs/policies.
PUBH 6613	Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs	Principles, programs, policies, and practices for identifying/meeting needs of children/youth with special health care needs in the United States. Epidemiology, historic/current legislation, organization/delivery. Readings, online discussions, written assignments.
PUBH 6634	Children and Families: Public Health Policy and Advocacy	The course will focus on how public policies at the federal, state and local level influence children's health. Students will develop practical skills to understand, analyze, communicate, and advocate on children's policy issues. The course will include presentations and discussions with Minnesota's current leaders in children's health policy including legislators, advocates, and state commissioners.
PUBH 6945	From Kid to Community: Personal, Environmental, and Policy Interventions Targeting Youth Obesity	Overview of child and adolescent obesity from public health perspective.
SW 5905	Permanency in Child Welfare	Depth/breadth in knowledge/skill acquisition in achieving permanency for children receiving services within public, tribal, and private child welfare systems. Out-of-home/permanency placements, specific permanency interventions, and child/family responses to different permanency options.

The following courses also satisfy the Open Electives requirement, but have specific Enrollment Requirements.

CI 8900	Family, Youth, and Community Colloquium (Only topics related to early childhood will satisfy certificate requirement.)	Theories, philosophies, practices, pedagogies, epistemologies, and public policies not dealt with in regular courses. Content varies by offering. Only topics related to early childhood will satisfy certificate requirement.
CPSY 5251W	Social and Philosophical Foundations of Early Childhood Education	Current theoretical/empirical literature and developmental knowledge as basis for planning, implementing, and evaluating social/emotional growth/development of young children. For students obtaining ECE licensure.
CPSY 5252	Facilitating Social and Emotional Learning in Early Childhood Education	Current theoretical/empirical literature and developmental knowledge as basis for planning, implementing, and evaluating social/emotional growth/development of young children. For students obtaining ECE licensure.

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CPSY 5253	Facilitating Cognitive and Language Learning in Early Childhood Education	Overview of cognitive and language characteristics of children ages 0-8 years and of how teachers can plan curriculum to facilitate children's development in these areas.
CPSY 5254	Facilitating Creative and Motor Learning in Early Childhood Education	Unique/diverse qualities and characteristics children possess while progressing through universal sequence of physical growth/development and creative development. Students engage in inquiry, research/planning, and reflection as they complete the action-oriented and applied assignments with small groups of children.
NURS 5032	Human Response to Health and Illness: Children and Childbearing Families	Family responses to health/illness. Emphasizes application of nursing process in children/childbearing families. Seminar/community-based project focus on family as unit of care.
OLPD 8015	Inquiry Strategies in Educational and Organizational Research	Logic of research design, from research questions and audience considerations to selecting a design for collecting/analyzing quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-method data.
PUBH 6630	Foundations of Maternal and Child Health Leadership	Historical/current principles, programs, policies, and practices related to women, children, adolescents, and families. Articulating a personal leadership style/plan for development of leadership competencies. Leadership principles, skills, and models applied to improving health of MCH populations.
SW 8363	Social Work in Child Welfare	Public, private, tribal child welfare related to assessment of strengths/risks. Develop appropriate plans that secure child safety/well-being.