

Edec 610: Early Childhood Education and Care: Hist [Teacher Education](#)

Child development theory and research have had a profound influence on early childhood education and care (ECEC) policies, programs, and services in the United States and internationally. In eight weeks (three hours/week), this course provides an overview of the research on young children (birth to age 5), demographics of this population, critical domains of development, significance of early brain development, and issues of inequality and disproportionality that deeply shape child outcomes. It attempts to explore what develops in the first years of life, why this period is so critical, what have been the central questions that have driven both research and policy, whether policies and research have helped to reduce inequality and advance equity, and what critical issues are still unanswered (or even unasked). The course familiarizes students with the cultural ideas, beliefs, values, and social purposes that have shaped and continue to influence children and families in the United States. Further, the course presents research from a range of disciplines (e.g., psychology, sociology, education, neuroscience, economics) to help students understand the complexity of developmental factors relevant to ECEC policy development and program design. The goals of the course are to help students understand the importance of early development, the critical need to develop ECEC policies grounded in research and practice, and the effectiveness and limitations of ECEC policies to address fundamental issues of inequality. Finally, the course is intended to enable students to place their own professional interests and concerns in a broader historical and educational context.

3 Credits

Instruction Type(s)

- Lecture: Lecture for Edec 610
- Lecture: Web-based Lecture for Edec 610
- Lecture: Online Program for Edec 610

Subject Areas

- [Early Childhood Education and Teaching](#)

Related Areas

- [Elementary Education and Teaching](#)
- [Junior High/Intermediate/Middle School Education and Teaching](#)
- [Kindergarten/PreSchool Education and Teaching](#)
- [Pre-Elem/Early Childhood/KG. Teach Educ](#)
- [Secondary Education and Teaching](#)
- [Teacher Education and Professional Development. Specific Levels and Methods. Other](#)
- [Teacher Education. Multiple Levels](#)

