



Child Development/Elementary Education (Liberal Studies), B.A.

The Liberal Studies Child Development/Elementary Education (LSCE), a program housed in the department of Child Development, is designed for students to integrate the knowledge of the California subject matter taught at the elementary level with knowledge of the characteristics of children and of the theories and methodologies appropriate to working with school age children. The Liberal Studies, B.A. has a core set of courses that focus on 21st century teaching approaches and emphasize the traditional disciplines taught in elementary schools.

Experience Your Learning

The Child Development Lab provides high quality hands-on learning experiences to students as they teach preschool aged children and collaborate with their peers. Students apply developmental knowledge into practice and engage in reflective teaching with constructive feedback and guidance from faculty supervisors and teachers.

Our faculty stay abreast of the most recent research related to the field of Child Development. Research projects, which involve students, are conducted by individual faculty members, as well as by the department as a whole.

Child Development majors work side by side with faculty to provide feedback and support for students in specific classes.

Students have opportunities to work in the community, gaining valuable professional experience. The Directed Field Experience course is supervised community fieldwork that integrates theory into practice.

Did you know?

- Our faculty partner with local tribes and organizations to provide professional development, consultation, and early college learning experiences.
- The Child Development Lab founded in 1968 by Dr. Emilia Tschanz, will be relocated to a newly remodeled Trinity Annex in Fall 2023, serving multiple generations of families.
- Several of our students are athletes, parents, and volunteers/leaders in the Youth Educational Services program. Many of our alumni work as professionals in the community and provide mentorship and networking to current students through experiential learning or visiting our professional development class.



Academics & Options

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The LSCE program includes a prescriptive curriculum of 120 total units: 63 units of Liberal Studies Core that include General Education classes and 57 units of concentration classes. The graduates of the program will apply for a 5th year of credential program.

Students should choose their 10 units of electives to complement their program and support whatever "Depth of Study" (as defined by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing) they are developing within their program. Examples of Depth of Study may include classes from the minors offered by the department of Child Development (see below). Continued advising by department faculty is required every semester to help students make sure they are getting the correct coursework and experiences to support their professional development.

Minors

- American Indian Education
- American Sign Language & Special Populations
- Early Childhood Development
- Family Studies



Careers

The program is designed for students who wish to become elementary school teachers in grades K-6. Students take courses in traditional disciplines taught in elementary schools alongside courses focusing on developmental characteristics of children.

