

Western Carolina University: Birth-Kindergarten Degree Program: Early Childhood Concentration

Eligibility Requirements for Program Admission:

- Cumulative 2.75 GPA or higher in all programs, considered in good standing by all academic programs, and approval of BK Admissions Council
- Declaration of ERCH concentration following BK 250 semester
- Students must maintain a 2.75 GPA and a "C" in all BK/BKSE courses

It is the student's responsibility to assure that all degree and program requirements are met. This plan is not a binding contract.

PREREQUISITE	Course Title and Information	Credit Hours	Proposed Semester	Final Grade
varied	Liberal Studies (39-42 hours) selected from courses seen here			
2.75/program acceptance	Required Core (27 hours)			
2.75/program acceptance	BK 250 – Introduction to Birth Kindergarten requires OFE early field experience (EFX) app and placement in approved early childhood classroom	3	FA/SP	
2.75/program acceptance	BK 260 – Foundations of Child Study	3	SP/SU	
2.75/program acceptance	BK 361- Environments for Young Children	3	SU/FA	
2.75/program acceptance	BK 363 -- Child Development (NCCCS EDU 144&145 or PSY 244&245)	3	SP	
2.75/program acceptance	BK 462 - Adult/Child Interaction (NCCCS EDU 146)	3	SU	
2.75/program acceptance	BK 470 – Early Childhood Curriculum (NCCCS EDU 259)	3	FA/SP	
2.75/program acceptance	BKSE 345 – Adaptations and Mods for Young Children with Disabilities	3	SP/SU	
2.75/program acceptance	BSKE 415: Eval & Intervent of Social-Emotional Comps in Yng Children	3	SU/FA	
2.75/program acceptance	SPED 240 –The Exceptional Child (NCCCS EDU 221)	3	FA/SP	
All above plus	Concentration Courses (15 hours)			
Declare concentration	BK 315 – Literacy	3	SP/SU	
Declare concentration	BK 366 – Infant Development and Curriculum (NCCCS EDU 234)	3	SU	
Declare concentration	BK 420 - STEM in the Early Years	3	FA	
Declare concentration	BKSE 314 – Observational Assessment & Screening of Young Children	3	SP/SU	
Declare concentration	BKSE 411 – Family Collaborative Planning	3	FA	
	GUIDED ELECTIVES EDU/BK Courses completed at Community College or WCU	16		
2.75 GPA, declared ERCH, OFE Application required	Required Capstone (Action Research) (20 hours) **OFE Application required first month of previous semester**			
Declare concentration	BK 457 – Action Research I requires OFE field experience app and placement in approved early childhood classroom	10	FA/SP	
Declare concentration	BK 458 – Action Research II requires OFE field experience app and placement in approved early childhood classroom	10	FA/SP	
	Action Research Courses may only be taken together in one semester. These capstone courses are to be completed in a student's last semester. All coursework and liberal studies must be completed prior to enrolling in Action Research I. Fall 457 registration: OFE application due first week of February. Spring 457 registration: OFE application due first week of September.			

Other Requirements:

- The requirements for **continuing in the B-K ERCH program**:
 - 1) Maintain a GPA of at least 2.75 on hours attempted at WCU.
 - 2) Completion of all BK/BKSE Courses with a "C" grade or higher. "C-" and below must be repeated.
 - 3) Behavior which adheres to the code of ethics of the profession and the North Carolina BK Standards.
 - 4) Satisfactory participation in ALL required professional early field experiences.
 - a. **All field experiences** must be in classroom settings approved by the Office of Field Experiences and the instructor.
 - b. These experiences are in addition to Action Research requirements listed above in course information.
- Birth-Kindergarten ERCH students are responsible for all course and program information posted in Canvas courses, on the BK Support Site, in the BK handbook, and in the WCU catalog.
- BK 457 and 458 cannot be taken separately.

Note: Many BK and BKSE courses have some level of field experience that requires additional time beyond class meetings and assignments. Consider time for field experiences when planning your schedule. *Academic Advisor:* Caitlin Lehning clehning@wcu.edu | 828.227.2649