

# CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES

ASSOCIATE DEGREE &amp; CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

2023-2024 CATALOG



## DESCRIPTION

Majoring in Child Development and Family Studies (CDFS) prepares students for careers working with children and their families, including early childhood education (ECE). Our program introduces child development theory and current research, emphasizes early childhood education best practices, and recognizes children in the context of family and culture. Students will apply learned theories, in actual settings with young children, under the supervision of Cuesta College Lab Teachers and Instructors.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER PATHWAYS

The Early Childhood Teacher Pathways prepare students to work with children from infancy into middle childhood in early care and educational settings. Early childhood courses prepare students to become knowledgeable and effective teachers, providing hands on learning in the classroom and support to develop as teaching professionals.

Students who plan to work in the field of Early Childhood Education are advised to pursue a Child Development Permit (CDP). Early Childhood Education Program course work is approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing as meeting the requirements for the CDP Permits. The six levels of Child Development Permits are: Assistant Teacher, Associate Teacher, Teacher, Master Teacher, Site Supervisor, and Program Director. Students completing the core four courses (CDFS 201, 202, 203, and 205) will qualify for an Associate Teacher Certificate, through Cuesta College. Students completing the ECE AA or AS-T degrees (coupled with experience in the field) are eligible for the Child Development Permit at the Teacher level.

The ECE Professional Track is designed for Early Childhood Educators, who are not pursuing a degree at Cuesta College, and who want to deepen their understanding of child development, build their early childhood classroom skills, and advance their careers in ECE in a supportive online learning community. Four professional certificates are available: Associate Teacher Certificate of Achievement (12 CDFS units), Teacher Certificate of Achievement (26 CDFS units), Master Teacher Certificate of Achievement (35 CDFS units), and Site Supervisor Certificate of Achievement (35 CDFS units).

## DEGREES, CERTIFICATES & AWARDS

- Associate in Arts for Transfer (A.A.-T.)
- Associate in Science for Transfer (A.S.-T.)
- Associate in Arts (A.A.)
- Certificate of Achievement (C.A.)

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Before and After School Teacher/Director
- Behavioral Therapist
- Child Life Specialist
- Community College Instructor
- Early Childhood Teacher/Director
- Early Interventionist
- Elementary School Teacher
- Infant and Toddler Educator/Director
- Parent Educator
- Pediatric Specialist
- Resource and Referral Coordinator
- Special Education, Paraeducator

## CONTACT

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## ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Students who complete an [Associate Degree for Transfer \(ADT\)](#) and transfer to a similar major at a CSU are guaranteed a pathway to finish their baccalaureate degrees in 60 semester or 90 quarter units. These degrees require students to meet both of the following requirements: (1) Completion of 60 semester units or 90 quarter units that are eligible for transfer to the California State University, including both of the following: (A) The Intersegmental GE Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University GE-Breadth Requirements (CSU GE-Breadth). (B) A minimum of 18 semester units or 27 quarter units in a major or area of emphasis, as determined by the community college district. (2) Obtainment of a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

[An Associate Degree](#), depending on the focus of study, is designed to prepare students for transfer into upper division course work in a bachelor's degree program, or, to prepare students to enter the workforce in a particular vocational field. To qualify for an Associate's Degree, a student must: (1) complete each major-specific course required for the degree with at least a "C" grade or better, (2) complete all Cuesta College general education, graduation and residency requirements, and (3) achieve an overall grade point average of 2.0 for all courses attempted (major, general education, elective).

[A Certificate Program](#) is designed for students who desire specific training to meet an immediate occupational or personal goal, or for promotion or lateral transfer within their existing field of employment. To qualify for a Certificate of Achievement or a Certificate of Specialization, a student must 1) complete all courses required for the Certificate with an overall grade point average of 2.0.

## TRANSFER PREPARATION

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree may differ from those needed to prepare to transfer. Students who plan to transfer to a four-year college or university should schedule an appointment with a Cuesta College counselor to develop a student education plan (SEP) before beginning their program.

### TRANSFER RESOURCES:

CSU and UC Articulation Agreements and Majors Search Engine:

[www.ASSIST.org](http://www.ASSIST.org)

CSU System Information:

[www2.calstate.edu](http://www2.calstate.edu)

## FINANCIAL AID

Paying for the cost of a college education requires a partnership among parents, students and the college. As the cost of higher education continues to rise we want you to know that Cuesta College offers a full array of financial aid programs—grants, work study, scholarships, federal loan programs, and fee waivers. These programs are available to both full-and part-time students who are seeking a degree or certificate. For those who qualify, financial aid is available to help with tuition, fees, books and supplies, food, housing, transportation, and childcare. Please log onto our website for additional information:

[www.cuesta.edu/student/student-services/financial-aid](http://www.cuesta.edu/student/student-services/financial-aid)

**ASSOCIATE DEGREE FOR TRANSFER PROGRAMS****Child and Adolescent Development** — Associate in Arts for Transfer

The Child and Adolescent Development Associate in Arts for Transfer degree will prepare students with the strong foundation necessary for pursuing studies at the university level in education, child development, child welfare, or other related programs focusing on children and their families from infancy through adolescence. Students completing this interdisciplinary degree learn the processes of change and growth that characterize human development from conception to age 25, preparing them to pursue employment in the human services field. The coursework is designed to meet the needs of students planning to transfer to a CSU, majoring in Child Development, Human Development, Child and Adolescent Development, and Liberal Studies (Child Development). Students completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in this major typically choose careers in education, social services, counseling, and child/youth/family advocacy, or in the field of health.

**Required Core Courses (13 credits)**

ASHS 212. . . . . Human Development: Life Span . . . . .	3
CDFS 201. . . . . Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
MATH 247. . . . . Introduction To Statistics . . . . .	4
PSYC 201. . . . . Introductory Psychology. . . . .	3

**List A: (6 credits)****Select two courses from:**

CDFS 202. . . . . Child, Family And Community . . . . .	3
ASHS 214. . . . . Family, Relationships And Intimacy . . . . .	3
SOC 201A . . . . . Introduction To Sociology. . . . .	3
CDFS 240. . . . . Infant and Toddler Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 203. . . . . Curriculum Young Children . . . . .	3
CDFS 204. . . . . Health, Safety, And Nutrition. . . . .	3
CDFS 206. . . . . Observation, Recording Techniques And Assessment . . . . .	3

**Total Credits. . . . .19**

"P" (Pass) grade is acceptable for major coursework in the Associate Degrees for Transfer. In addition to major preparation course work listed above, completion of the CSU GE or IGETC pattern is mandatory.

Courses completed for the major can also be double counted towards GE, where appropriate. See a counselor for details.

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**Early Childhood Education** — Associate in Science for Transfer

The Associate in Science in Early Childhood Education for Transfer Degree (AS-T in ECE) provides a track for students to transfer to a CSU. The AS-T in ECE degree serves all students interested the principles and pedagogical foundations of Early Childhood Education. Degree completion will assist students in their current and future academic, career, and personal goals.

**Required Core Courses (26 credits)**

CDFS 201. . . . .	Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 202. . . . .	Child, Family And Community . . . . .	3
CDFS 203. . . . .	Curriculum For Young Children. . . . .	3
CDFS 204. . . . .	Health, Safety, And Nutrition. . . . .	3
CDFS 205. . . . .	Introduction To Early Childhood Education: Principles And Practices . . . . .	3
CDFS 206. . . . .	Observation, Recording Techniques And Assessment	3
CDFS 215. . . . .	Children In A Diverse Society. . . . .	3
CDFS 216. . . . .	Practicum: Curriculum/Environment Supervised Field Experience. . . . .	5
<b>Total Credits:</b> . . . . .		<b>26</b>

"P" (Pass) grade is acceptable for major coursework in the Associate Degrees for Transfer. In addition to major preparation course work listed above, completion of the CSU GE or IGETC pattern is mandatory.

Courses completed for the major can also be double counted towards GE, where appropriate. See a counselor for details.

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**ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM****Child Development And Family Studies** — Associate in Arts

The Child Development and Family Studies Associate of Arts degree prepares students to work with children and their families, in a variety of settings, including direct services, advocacy/public policy, family support, and early intervention. Child development and family studies courses provide students with valuable knowledge and transferable skills that are applicable in their personal and family lives as well as in the workplace. Additionally, a Child Development and Family Studies Associate of Arts degree, coupled with the Child and Adolescent Development Associate in Arts for Transfer degree, will provide a strong foundation for pursuing studies in child development, and related fields focusing on children and their families, at four-year institutions.

CDFS 201. . . . . Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 202. . . . . Child, Family And Community . . . . .	3
CDFS 217. . . . . The Study Of Parenting: Theory And Practice. . . . .	3
ASHS 214. . . . . Family, Relationships And Intimacy . . . . .	3
ASHS 212. . . . . Human Development: Life Span . . . . .	3
or CDFS 240 . . . . . Infant And Toddler Development . . . . .	(3)
ASHS 278. . . . . Families And Addiction . . . . .	3
or NUTR 218. . . . . Maternal And Child Nutrition. . . . .	(3)
<b>Total:</b> . . . . .	<b>18</b>

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**Early Childhood Education** — Associate in Arts

The Early Childhood Education Associate of Arts Degree provides a solid foundation for students entering the education field and prepares students to work with children from infancy into middle childhood in a variety of environments.

The core eight courses (201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 215 and 216) match the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Teacher Permit Early Childhood Education course requirements. Students who complete coursework at this level (the core eight, of the nine required courses) will receive a Child Development Teacher Certificate of Achievement from Cuesta College. Students need an additional 16 units of General Education to meet the Child Development Teacher Permit Education Requirement.

The Early Childhood Education Associate Degree courses (201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 215, 216 and 245) with the additional six specialization units match the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Master Teacher Permit Early Childhood Education course requirements. Students who complete coursework at this level will receive a Child Development Master Teacher Certificate of Achievement from Cuesta College. Students need an additional 16 units of General Education to meet the Child Development Master Teacher Permit Education Requirement.

The Early Childhood Associate Degree and an additional six administration units (ECE 246 and 248) included in the Site Supervisor Certificate of Achievement match the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Site Supervisor Permit Early Childhood Education course requirements.

**Required Courses (29 credits)**

CDFS 201. . . . .	Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 202. . . . .	Child, Family And Community . . . . .	3
CDFS 203. . . . .	Curriculum For Young Children. . . . .	3
CDFS 204. . . . .	Health, Safety, And Nutrition. . . . .	3
CDFS 205. . . . .	Introduction To Early Childhood Education: Principles And Practices . . . . .	3
CDFS 206. . . . .	Observation, Recording Techniques And Assessment . . . . .	3
CDFS 215. . . . .	Children In A Diverse Society. . . . .	3
CDFS 216. . . . .	Practicum: Curriculum/Environment Supervised Field Experience. . . . .	5
CDFS 245. . . . .	Adult Supervision And Mentoring. . . . .	3

**Choose 6 credits from the following:**

CDFS 211. . . . .	Music And Movement Activities For Young Children . . . . .	1
CDFS 212. . . . .	Childhood And Play. . . . .	1
CDFS 217. . . . .	The Study Of Parenting: Theory And Practice. . . . .	3
CDFS 220. . . . .	Art For Children . . . . .	1
CDFS 221. . . . .	Stem In Early Childhood . . . . .	1
CDFS 223. . . . .	Loose Parts In Early Learning: Theory And Practice . . . . .	1
CDFS 234. . . . .	Children's Books and Narratives . . . . .	3
CDFS 235 . . . . .	Understanding Behaviors That Challenge . . . . .	1
CDFS 236. . . . .	Introduction To Children With Special Needs. . . . .	3
CDFS 237. . . . .	Curriculum And Strategies For Children With Special Needs. . . . .	3
CDFS 240. . . . .	Infant And Toddler Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 242. . . . .	Care And Education For Infants And Toddlers . . . . .	3

**Total Credits: . . . . . 35**

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**CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS****Child Development Associate Teacher** — Certificate of Achievement

The Early Childhood Education Associate Teacher Certificate of Achievement is designed for students who are interested in working with young children as preschool associate teachers, daycare providers, and other careers in child development. The Early Childhood Associate Teacher Certificate provides students with knowledge in child growth and development and skills for working with families and preparing developmentally appropriate curriculum. The certificate meets the requirements for the Child Development Permit at the Associate Teacher Permit level.

**Required Courses (12 credits)**

CDFS 201. . . . . Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 202. . . . . Child, Family And Community . . . . .	3
CDFS 203. . . . . Curriculum For Young Children. . . . .	3
CDFS 205. . . . . Introduction To Early Childhood Education: Principles and Practices . . . . .	3
<b>Total Credits:</b> . . . . .	<b>12</b>

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**Child Development Teacher** — Certificate of Achievement

The Early Childhood Education Teacher Certificate of Achievement matches the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Teacher Permit Early Childhood Education course requirements. Students need an additional 16 units of General Education to meet the Child Development Teacher Permit Education Requirement. The Early Childhood Education curriculum prepares students to work with children from infancy to middle childhood in a variety of learning environments.

**Required Courses (26 credits)**

CDFS 201. . . . . Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 202. . . . . Child, Family And Community . . . . .	3
CDFS 203. . . . . Curriculum For Young Children. . . . .	3
CDFS 204. . . . . Health, Safety, And Nutrition. . . . .	3
CDFS 205. . . . . Introduction To Early Childhood Education: Principles And Practices . . . . .	3
CDFS 206. . . . . Observation, Recording Techniques And Assessment. . . . .	3
CDFS 215. . . . . Children In A Diverse Society. . . . .	3
CDFS 216. . . . . Practicum: Curriculum/Environment Supervised Field Experience. . . . .	5
<b>Total Credits:</b> . . . . .	<b>26</b>

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**Child Development Master Teacher** — Certificate of Achievement

The Child Development Master Teacher Certificate of Achievement matches the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Master Teacher Permit Early Childhood Education course requirements. Students need an additional 16 units of General Education to meet the Child Development Master Teacher Permit Education Requirement.

**Required Courses (29 units)**

CDFS 201. . . . .	Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 202. . . . .	Child, Family And Community . . . . .	3
CDFS 203. . . . .	Curriculum For Young Children. . . . .	3
CDFS 204. . . . .	Health, Safety, And Nutrition. . . . .	3
CDFS 205. . . . .	Introduction To Early Childhood Education: Principles and Practices . . . . .	3
CDFS 206. . . . .	Observation, Recording Techniques And Assessment . . . . .	3
CDFS 215. . . . .	Children In A Diverse Society. . . . .	3
CDFS 216. . . . .	Practicum: Curriculum/Environment Supervised Field Experience . . . . .	5
CDFS 245. . . . .	Adult Supervision, Evaluation And Staff Relations In ECE. . . . .	3

**Choose 6 units from the following:**

CDFS 211. . . . .	Music And Movement Activities For Young Children . . . . .	1
CDFS 212. . . . .	Childhood And Play. . . . .	1
CDFS 217. . . . .	The Study Of Parenting: Theory And Practice. . . . .	3
CDFS 220. . . . .	Art For Children . . . . .	1
CDFS 221 . . . . .	Stem In Early Childhood . . . . .	1
CDFS 223 . . . . .	Loose Parts In Early Learning: Theory And Practice . . . . .	1
CDFS 234. . . . .	Children's Books And Narratives. . . . .	3
CDFS 235. . . . .	Understanding Behaviors That Challenge . . . . .	1
CDFS 236. . . . .	Introduction To Children With Special Needs. . . . .	3
CDFS 237 . . . . .	Curriculum And Strategies For Children With Special Needs . . . . .	3
CDFS 240 . . . . .	Infant And Toddler Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 242. . . . .	Care And Education For Infants And Toddlers . . . . .	3
<b>Total Credits:</b> . . . . .		<b>35</b>

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**Child Development Site Supervisor** — Certificate of Achievement

The Child Development Site Supervisor Certificate of Achievement matches the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Site Supervisor Permit Early Childhood Education course requirements. Students need an Associate Degree to meet the Child Development Site Supervisor Permit Education Requirement.

**Required Courses (35 units)**

CDFS 201. . . . .	Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 202. . . . .	Child, Family And Community . . . . .	3
CDFS 203. . . . .	Curriculum For Young Children. . . . .	3
CDFS 204. . . . .	Health, Safety, And Nutrition. . . . .	3
CDFS 205. . . . .	Introduction To Early Childhood Education: Principles and Practices . . . . .	3
CDFS 206. . . . .	Observation, Recording Techniques And Assessment . . . . .	3
CDFS 215. . . . .	Children In A Diverse Society. . . . .	3
CDFS 216. . . . .	Practicum: Curriculum/Environment Supervised Field Experience . . . . .	5
CDFS 245. . . . .	Adult Supervision And Mentoring. . . . .	3
CDFS 246. . . . .	Administration I: Programs In Early Childhood Education . . . . .	3
CDFS 248 . . . . .	Administration II: Personnel And Leadership In Early Childhood Education. . . . .	3
<b>Total Credits:</b> . . . . .		<b>35</b>

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**Inclusion And Special Needs** — Certificate of Achievement

The Inclusion and Special Needs Certificate of Achievement prepares students to work in the field of special education. Students will learn and apply developmentally appropriate practices that support cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth in children with special needs. Students will gain skills (including cultural competence) to work effectively with children with special needs and their families. Students will learn to collaborate with professionals in the child development and special education fields. Students will become familiar with the legal requirements and laws regarding children with special needs.

**Required Courses (13 Credits)**

CDFS 201 . . . . .	Child Growth And Development . . . . .	3
CDFS 215 . . . . .	Children In A Diverse Society . . . . .	3
CDFS 235 . . . . .	Understanding Behaviors That Challenge . . . . .	1
CDFS 236 . . . . .	Introduction To Children With Special Needs . . . . .	3
CDFS 237 . . . . .	Curriculum And Strategies For Children With Special Needs . . . . .	3
<b>Total Credits:</b> . . . . .		<b>13</b>

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