

Education/Special Education Concentration (ESPE)

Associate in Arts Degree in Education (AA_EDUC)

Students training in the education and special needs concentrations are qualified for employment in a variety of education and social service settings. These may include teacher assistant positions in kindergarten, public and special education classrooms, early intervention centers, residential group homes, hospitals and community day programs. In all of these settings, teacher assistants and aides provide direct support to children and adults, helping them to reach their maximum physical, emotional, educational and vocational potential. Three internships provide students with critical opportunities for supervised guidance as to best practices for working with able-bodied, as well as special needs, individuals and groups.

Note: Students enrolled in the Human Services program must earn a grade of C or better in all Human Services courses. Many courses require prerequisites, corequisites and/or testing. [See course descriptions for details.](#)

RECOMMENDED COURSE SEQUENCE

General Education Requirements

COURSE NO.	COURSE TITLE	COURSE NOTES	CREDITS
ENGL 1010	Composition I	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
ARTS, MUSC, THEA OR Language Elective	Fine Arts OR Language course	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
ENGL Literature Elective	Children's Literature (recommended)	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
MATH	MATH 0101 for proficiency OR MATH Elective (recommended for transfer)	For Science Elective only – courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. Selection of math and science courses for transfer should be done in consultation with a Human Services faculty adviser during the first semester of study.	3
PSYC 2010	General Psychology	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	4
PSYC2030 OR PSYC2110	Developmental Psychology OR Abnormal Psychology	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
PSYC 2070	Educational Psychology	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. A higher-level educational psychology course may be required by some teacher preparation bachelor's degree programs; therefore, students transferring to Rhode Island College are advised to meet with an adviser at RIC.	3
Science Elective		3 or 4 credits. A lab science is recommended for transfer. See this page for a complete list of classes that fulfill the LABS attribute. For Science Elective only – courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. Selection of math and science courses for transfer should be done in consultation with a Human Services faculty adviser during the first semester of study.	3
SOCS 1010	General Sociology		3
Total General Education Requirements Credits			28

Major Requirements

COURSE NO.	COURSE TITLE	COURSE NOTES	CREDITS
HMNS 1010	Introduction to Helping and Human Services	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
HMNS 2060	Foundations of Teaching and Learning	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. See list of approved electives here. Consult with Human Services faculty adviser. Special Education students should take HMNS 2070 first. Education students should take HMNS 2060 first. HMNS 2710 is necessary for successful transfer of HMNS 2060 to Rhode Island College. HMNS 2080 is necessary for successful transfer of HMNS 2070 to Rhode Island College. A minimum of 60 credits must be completed to graduate; students selecting MATH 0600 for proficiency/in-house credits will need three credits from human services electives.	3
HMNS 2070	Characteristics and Needs of Special Populations	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. See list of approved electives here. Consult with Human Services faculty adviser. Special Education students should take HMNS 2070 first. Education students should take HMNS 2060 first. HMNS 2710 is necessary for successful transfer of HMNS 2060 to Rhode Island College. HMNS 2080 is necessary for successful transfer of HMNS 2070 to Rhode Island College. A minimum of 60 credits must be completed to graduate; students selecting MATH 0600 for proficiency/in-house credits will need three credits from human services electives.	3
HMNS 1220	Field Experience and Seminar I - Education/Special Needs	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
HMNS 2100	Child Growth and Development Skills	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
HMNS 2320	Field Experience Seminar II-Education/Special Needs	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
HMNS2170 OR HMNS2180	Learning Disabilities OR Significant Developmental Disabilities	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
HMNS 2420	Field Experience Seminar III-Education/Special Needs	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
HMNS 2900	Human Services Capstone	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived.	3
Electives	Select six to nine credits from approved elective course list below.	Courses/requirements that may not be substituted or waived. See list of approved electives here. Consult with Human Services faculty adviser. Special Education students should take HMNS 2070 first. Education students should take HMNS 2060 first. HMNS 2710 is necessary for successful transfer of HMNS 2060 to Rhode Island College. HMNS 2080 is necessary for successful transfer of HMNS 2070 to Rhode Island College. A minimum of 60 credits must be completed to graduate; students selecting MATH 0600 for proficiency/in-house credits will need three credits from human services electives.	6

Total Program Credits 61-65

Approved elective course list

# COMI.....	1100
# COMM.....	1100
# ENGL.....	2200
# HMNS.....	1040, 1060, 1070, 1080, 1150, 1160, 2080, 2120, 2140, 2150, 2170, 2180, 2710
# HIST.....	1010, 1020, 2260
# MUSC.....	1170
# PHIL.....	1010, 2030, 2040
# PSYC.....	1030, 1970, 2030, 2050, 2090, 2110
# THEA.....	1150