

MAJOR MAP



WHO WE ARE

Envision classrooms where each child is embraced, celebrated, and empowered. Tennessee State University's early childhood teacher education program is shaping the future of educators committed to diversity and inclusion. Rooted in HBCU excellence, we leverage our heritage of social justice to prepare educators fostering inclusive learning environments.

Diversity is intricately woven into every aspect: from multicultural curriculum to diverse field placements, you'll graduate equipped for a globalized world. Our faculty, many from diverse backgrounds, provide inspiring mentorship on your journey to becoming a transformative educator.

Extend beyond the classroom through community engagement and collaborations with local organizations, making a tangible impact on children and families. Join us to:

- Become a changemaker: Acquire the knowledge, skills, and passion to create thriving classrooms for every child.
- Lead the way: Contribute to redefining early childhood education in a diverse society.
- Leave a legacy: Inspire the next generation to embrace differences and contribute to a more just and equitable world.

CAREER OUTCOMES:

- Preschool or Kindergarten Teacher
- Early Childhood Teacher
- Child Care Associate Teacher
- Head Start Teacher
- Preschool Director
- Early Childhood Specialist



AREAS OF STUDY:

- Minor in TESOL
- Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society
- Education-Focused Study Abroad Opportunities



What skills will students learn throughout this program?

- Establish strong connections with children, parents, and colleagues through clear and empathetic communication.
- Cultivate a sense of security and belonging to enhance children's emotional well-being and learning.
- Leverage play as a dynamic tool for creativity and resourcefulness. Incorporate diverse learning styles, fostering curiosity and exploration.
- Create an inclusive learning environment where every child feels valued, irrespective of background or abilities.
- Make informed decisions based on accurate observation and assessment, effectively documenting children's development.
- Design and execute assessments, then analyze and interpret the gathered data.
- Harness educational technology proficiently.
- Utilize data to guide instruction and communicate data-driven insights effectively.

WHAT SKILLS ARE YOUR FUTURE EMPLOYERS LOOKING FOR?

- Classroom Management
- Child Development Knowledge
- Communication and Interpersonal Skills
- Team Collaboration
- Observation Skills
- Cultural Competence
- Technology Integration
- Problem-Solving Skills
- Organization and Time Management
- Advocacy
- Creativity and Play-Based Learning Skills
- Data-Driven Decision Making Skills



For more information, [click here](https://tnstate.edu/earlychildhood.aspx)
<https://tnstate.edu/earlychildhood.aspx>

Undergraduate Experiential Major Map: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



First Year/Freshman

- Complete your Handshake Profile.
- Complete your four-year educational plan in UNIV 1000 during the fall semester.
- Focus on your studies and earn good grades.
- Visit the [Office of Student Success \(OSS\)](#) and connect with your advisor for help navigating college life and your classes. Make an appointment using the student planner app and view the OSS page for other hours and services.
- First Generation students connect with your [First Generational Specialist](#).
- Get to know professors. The best time to connect outside of class is during their office hours.
- Visit the [Academic Achievement and Retention Center](#) for access to study tips, connecting to academic coaches, tutoring, and other helpful resources.
- Attend the Career Fair (Sponsored by the [Career Development Center](#))
- Get involved - Attend organizational fairs, special/corporate events, and volunteer on and off campus.

Sophomore & Junior

- Update your resume and remove high school activities. Have it critiqued by the [Career Development Center](#).
- Review and update LinkedIn and Handshake profiles.
- Attend the Career Fair (Sponsored by the [Career Development Center](#))
- Explore graduate school options.
- Begin preparing for GRE, LSAT, MCAT, GMAT, and other exams for graduate school admissions.
- Begin building your professional wardrobe.
- Meet with your [departmental academic advisor](#) to confirm degree progress and discuss your future academic and career goals.
- Attend institutional and departmental internship workshops.

Senior

- Meet with your [departmental academic advisor](#) to confirm degree progress and discuss your future academic and career goals.
- Apply for [Graduate and Professional School](#) or jobs that fit your interests, skills, and career goals. Follow up on applications and keep a record of the status of each.
**pay attention to due dates*
- Draft a cover letter that can be adapted for a variety of employers. Have it critiqued.
- Complete the Senior Exit Exam and First Destination Survey. ([Testing Center](#))

Academic Success Checklist

- Book an appointment with your academic advisor for pre-registration and advising.
- Discover library resources.
- Visit the math, reading, writing, and tutoring center.
- Complete FAFSA and academic scholarship applications.

Educational Planning Checklist

- Ask your academic advisor about High Impact Practices
- Participate in at least two High Impact Practices at TSU
- Join a student group.

Career Development Checklist

- Create your HandShake Profile.
- Visit [What Can I Do With This Major](#)
- Attend the career fair to expand your network.
- Attend Academic Department workshops and seminars.
- Visit the [Academic Pathways & Partnerships](#)

Think

Engaging in critical thinking and inquiry inside the classroom.

Work

Pursue experiences that will allow you to grow as a leader and professional.

Serve

Explore opportunities to contribute to the broader community and global marketplace.