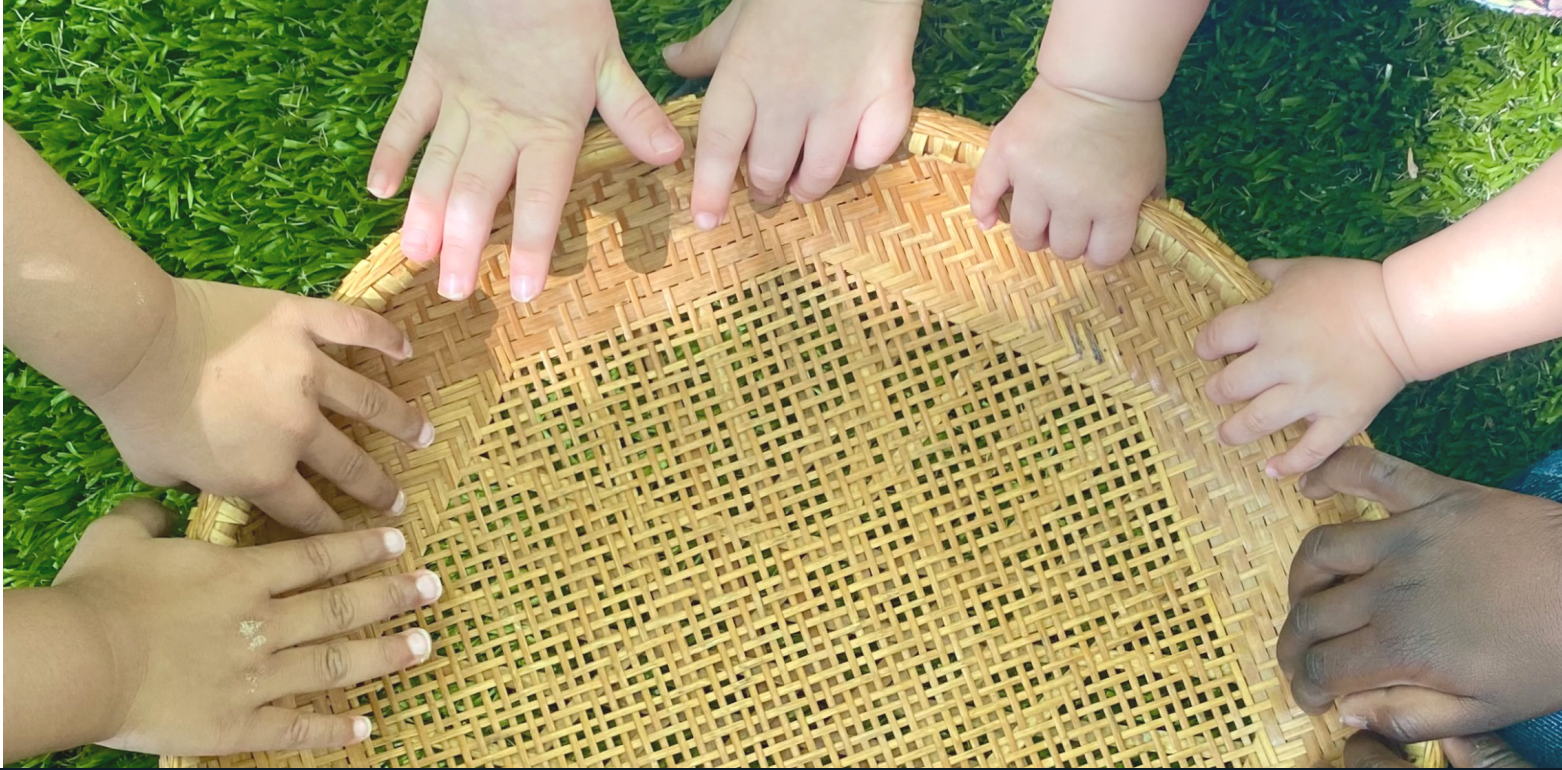


# HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY SCIENCES

## *EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIALIZATIONS*



At the University of Connecticut, the Department of Human Development and Family Sciences offers specialized coursework for students who are interested in working with children and their families from birth to five years old in a variety of careers. Students can choose to pursue coursework in one of two pathways,

- Early Childhood Development (ECD)
- Early Childhood Development & Education (ECDE)

The program is designed to offer students foundational core knowledge in child development and learning across the many contexts in which children grow and develop. The specialized coursework gives students multiple experiences working directly with young children in a variety of settings. Students who complete the carefully sequenced courses go on to work as teachers, early interventionists, speech pathologists, social workers and a variety of other professions.

Reflective practices are embedded in all coursework and prepare students for reflective work within their chosen careers. This reflective practice encourages students to understand the role they play in the lives of young children.



# Human Development & Family Sciences

## EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIALIZATIONS

Students can choose between two pathways in ECS depending on their academic/career goals and their ability to complete the requirements within the pathway options. Students meet with ECS Faculty Advisors to create a plan of study for their chosen pathway.

### Early Childhood Development (ECD)

Upon completion of the identified courses within the ECD pathway, students will have a foundational knowledge to continue their training and education as they pursue their career goals beyond their undergraduate degree. Students that graduate with specialized coursework in the ECD pathway are prepared to use the knowledge gained from their coursework and practicum and apply this to specialized training in graduate programs. These may include speech/language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, allied health professions, or mental health.

### Early Childhood Development & Education (ECDE)

Upon completion of the identified courses within the ECDE pathway, students gain knowledge and experience working with young children in early childhood educational programs/settings. Coursework in the ECDE pathway builds on the core classes in ECD and provides additional specific courses and practicum experiences designed to train students to be high-quality early childhood professionals working in educational settings.

The courses listed below are considered selected courses within Human Development & Family Sciences. For HDFS majors, these courses meet the requirements for your major selected courses. For students minoring in HDFS, these courses will meet the requirements for your requirement for "15 credits of 2000-level or above" in HDFS.

Course Name	Course Number	Requires Fieldwork	Credits for ECD	Credits for ECDE
Introduction to Programs for Young Children	HDFS 2120	+	3	3
Observing Early Childhood Development	HDFS 2192	+	3	3
Infant & Toddler Development	HDFS 3101		3	3
Early & Middle Childhood Development	HDFS 3102		3	3
Integrated Curriculum Methods & Materials for Infants & Toddlers*	HDFS 3122		3*	3
Integrated Curriculum Methods & Materials for Preschool & Kindergarten*	HDFS 3123			3
Professional Development & Advocacy in ECE	HDFS 3127W		----	3
Supervised Fieldwork Practicum	HDFS 3192	+	4	4
Supervised Student Teaching Practicum	HDFS 4192	+	---	9
<b>Total Credits towards HDFS degree requirements (selected courses)</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>34</b>

\*Students in the ECD pathway will take just one of the curriculum courses; students in ECDE will take both curriculum courses.

Please note: ECS is currently updating courses numbers in the undergraduate course catalog, and some course numbers listed above may change.

Scan to learn more  
about  
Early Childhood  
Specializations



**Mary Tabb Foley**  
mary.tabb@uconn.edu