

# Early Childhood Education (Birth —3rd)

## School of Education

### Outcomes

With a professional degree in Early childhood education, careers are possible in Preschools and Elementary Schools, Head Start Programs, Child Care Centers, Nonprofit Organizations -Child Specialist, Youth Care, Foster Care, Child Support Enforcement, Youth Agencies and more!

### Contact Information

Dr. Jodi Kupper  
Dean of Education  
(402) 872-2244  
[jkupper@peru.edu](mailto:jkupper@peru.edu)

Office of Admissions  
PO Box 10  
Peru, NE 68421-0010  
1-800-742-4412 opt. 1  
(402) 872-2221  
[admissions@peru.edu](mailto:admissions@peru.edu)

### Program Definition

Early Childhood Education will endorse an individual to teach Early Childhood from birth to grade three in the state of Nebraska. This program prepares students for a personally satisfying profession working with young children and their families. Teacher candidates are prepared to effectively interact with diverse children, assisting them in their growth and development. This option combines an understanding of human development and family systems with skills which prepare students for a child oriented profession, one that is highly rewarding to one's own life and to his/her community. This program can be completed in 4 years.

### PSC Points of Distinction

- Teacher education programs at Peru State College are National Council for Accreditation (NCATE) accredited.
- On-campus daycare facility provides a perfect opportunity for early childhood majors to apply their skills and receive relevant experience in their field of study.
- PSC offers small classes with professors specifically trained in Early Childhood Education.
- Several Early Childhood courses are available in an online format.
- Courses include a combination of in-class experience with field work in area Early Childhood settings.
- New classroom technology.
- The Early Childhood endorsement program is designed to be easily combined with an Elementary Education endorsement and still be completed in four years.
- Only 5 courses and a 2 hour practicum are needed to add a Preschool Disabilities Education endorsement to this Early Childhood Option, making students even more marketable.
- Peru State College has had a chapter of Kappa Delta Pi (The National Honor Society for Undergraduate Education Majors) for over seventy-five years. Each year the chapter inducts between 35-45 new members. Members have opportunities to attend area and national conventions and to participate in a variety of activities involving public school students. Kappa Delta Pi also offers scholarships to its members.
- Each program at Peru State College is reviewed on a continual basis and coursework is updated to meet evolving standards.
- Students completing a degree at Peru State College are prepared to attend the nation's top graduate schools in all program areas. Many graduates return to Peru State for their masters degree, which can be completed online and in our accelerated format.
- Minor in a subject area outside of the major is simple at Peru State and can broaden the scope of knowledge and can improve employment prospects for any student.

### Facilities

*Curriculum level of library*—Our award-winning library houses an entire level just for education majors! This features a variety of multimedia and other state-of-the-art materials for students preparing to teach at the secondary and K-12 levels. This floor also lends itself to working with young children in a small classroom environment and, with a sink, counter and storage spaces, allows wet area activities.

*Methods Classroom*—This classroom is filled with hands-on materials and state of the art technology to assist in instructional application methods and is the perfect learning environment for education majors.

### Program Expectations

1. Free from disciplinary probation.
2. Overall grade point average of at least 2.5
3. Minimum scores on the Pre Professional Skills Test (PPST) as follows: Reading 170, Math 171, Writing 172
4. Evidence of proficiency in English Composition and Mathematics as indicated by a grade of C or above in college level courses.
5. Reflect appropriate professional dispositions in an initial interview and throughout the program.
6. Background check.

### Faculty

Dr. Liz Kearney, Ed.D. - Assistant Professor of Education