

Changes to previous information

During the global COVID-19 pandemic, we prioritised the health, wellbeing and safety of our students and staff.

As we start the new academic year, your health, wellbeing and safety remains our top priority. This means when we return to our campuses and buildings in September 2020 social distancing and other health and safety measures will be in place. This is to help keep you, and others around you, safe. We will respond to the requirements of vulnerable students regarding their personal safety on an individual basis.

We remain committed to delivering an outstanding education and student experience both on campus and online. Like most universities, we'll be providing a mix of on-site face-to-face and digital learning and teaching. The exact mix will vary between courses and course modules taking into account teaching requirements and other considerations such as meeting the safety of vulnerable staff.

It is important to emphasise that a face-to-face, on-site experience will be delivered within the Government and Public Health England guidance and providing there are no serious unforeseeable public health issues that result in the Government introducing further lockdown measures.

Our response to the pandemic means we may have made changes to your course. This is to take account of these important health and safety measures.

We ask you to read the information provided about course changes carefully. We detail what we include in our online prospectus and explain what has changed.

You should read our statement of changes alongside any information provided in videos, at open days or in other promotional materials. This is because the information may also have been affected by the changes we had to make. We are providing this information so you can make an informed choice about whether the course remains suitable for you.

When you register for your course, you will be asked to confirm you have read about our changes and you agree to them. It means that by choosing to continue with your application, and register with us, you accept these changes and are happy to study your course with us.

We really look forward to seeing you in the next academic year. In the meantime, if you want to find out more about University life from this September, and being part of our supportive and welcoming community, please visit our [September 2020 web pages](#).

Current published course related information	
Course title	Early Childhood Studies
Award level	BA – Single/combined honours only
How do you want to study?	
Start Date	Sept 2020
Modes of study	Full-time
Duration	3 years full-time
UCAS code	X310
Location	Canterbury, Medway
Partner institution	N/A
Available with a Foundation Year	Yes
Overview	
	<p>The development and growth of children in their early years is extraordinary as they go from babies, completely dependent on care, to children able to act for themselves.</p> <p>This course explores the extraordinary time in children's lives from birth to eight, as we examine the factors and experiences that shape their early development and growth. We look at early childhood from a range of perspectives - including psychology, education, health, sociology, law and science - so that you will be well placed to act as an advocate for young children within a range of professional disciplines upon graduation.</p> <p>As part of the course our students are offered opportunities to consider cultural differences in early childhood development. They are also offered placement opportunities with young children so they can observe in practice how professionals can impact on how young children develop and grow.</p>
	<p>At present we do not know what social distancing measures, if any, will apply at the time this module runs. It may be possible to take the practical/work-based/placement element in a face-to-face way as normal, or it may be possible to do this by observing social distancing. The ways in which social distancing might apply are not always within our control. If it is not possible for students to attend the relevant setting or activity in person we will</p>

		<p>conduct these through on-line means, or through making use of recorded materials. We will take account of any advice from the Government or the University and in how we run the module and the programme, and will keep you fully informed of what this means for your studies.</p>
<p>Why study Early Childhood Studies?</p>		
	<p>If you think you can make a difference to the lives of young children and their families, then Early Childhood Studies may be the right choice for you.</p> <p>On this course, you'll discover how children develop, learn and think, and you'll explore the complexities of child development and growth, and children's earliest experiences from the moment of conception to the end of their early childhood.</p> <p>During the foundation year, you'll gain an introduction to education and human development and you'll develop the skills needed to study at degree level.</p> <p>As you progress through the degree, you'll gain significant 'hands-on' experience through practice placements where you'll have opportunities to work in different settings supporting children in the early years of their lives, and their families.</p> <p>The combination of strong academic study and diverse placements will help to prepare you for many exciting careers where you can make a real difference to children's lives.</p> <p>There are many different issues relating to and impacting on early childhood, such as psychology, sociology, education, health, law and science. On this innovative and creative course, you'll explore these different perspectives and will build specialist knowledge of issues relating to children and their childhoods by choosing optional modules. You'll also be able to pursue your own specific interests by undertaking research and work-related</p>	<p>At present we do not know what social distancing measures, if any, will apply at the time these placements occur. It may be possible to take this element of this module in a face-to-face way as normal, or it may be possible to do this by observing social distancing. The ways in which social distancing might apply are not always within our control. If it is not possible for students to attend the relevant setting or activity in person we will conduct these through on-line means, or through making use of recorded materials. We will take account of any advice from the Government or the University and in how we run the module and the programme, and will keep you fully informed of what this means for your studies.</p>

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<p>Entry requirements</p>	<p>A typical offer would be 112 UCAS Tariff points.</p> <p>Additional Requirement</p> <p>A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check is not an entry requirement, however if you take part in work-related experience, visits or placements to settings where you are undertaking regulated activity, the setting may determine that a DBS check is required. You will be required to undergo a DBS check and arrange this through the University before undertaking the activity.</p>	
<p>About the course</p>		
	<p>The focus throughout the course is on children's journeys through childhood within the unique contexts of their lives.</p> <p>You'll start by developing skills, knowledge and understanding in specific areas such as growth and development (with a focus on emotional, cognition and identity), early years policy, practice and provision, the notion of being, belonging and becoming, foundations of early childhood, and pedagogies and practice in early childhood.</p> <p>In Years 2 and 3, you can choose optional practice-based modules, which will help you to gain valuable experience in a range of employment contexts related to children and their families. You may participate in a wider variety of field trips and other opportunities to support your learning and gain a wider experience of children, childhood, families, communities and cultures. These trips are voluntary and information on additional costs are provided. These opportunities may include day field trips to local facilities such as museums, art galleries, local children's services and charities, and wider opportunities such as Erasmus study and longer field trips to destinations such as southern India.</p> <p>As you progress through the course, you'll carry out more in depth study and will develop your research and analytics skills, so that you are prepared to carry out an</p>	<p>In Year One combined honours students will take three core modules. These modules differ depending on the combining subject. They have been set to meet the learning needs of the combined honours subject and align with the specific combination.</p> <p>At present we do not know what social distancing measures, if any, will apply during the programme. It may be possible to take the practical/work-based/placement elements in a face-to-face way as normal, or it may be possible to do this by observing social distancing. The ways in which social distancing might apply are not always within our control. If it is not possible for students to attend the relevant setting or activity in person we will conduct these through on-line means, or through making use of recorded materials. We will take account of any advice from the Government or the University and in how we run the module and the programme, and will keep you fully informed of what this means for your studies.</p> <p>It seems unlikely that we will be able to offer Erasmus exchange or</p>

	<p>individual study/research in your final year.</p> <p>Work experience is a vital element of your studies as it gives you a chance to put into practice what you learn during the course, and gain new skills as well. It will also add real value to your CV.</p>	<p>international travel for field trips for the academic year 2020-21. International travel may become possible over time, if social distancing allows.</p>
<p>Module information</p> <p>Please note that the list of optional modules and their availability may be subject to change. We continually review and where appropriate, revise the range of modules on offer to reflect changes in the subject and ensure the best student experience. Modules will vary when studied in combination with another subject.</p>		
<p>Core year 1</p>		
	<p>The Foundations of Early Childhood Core module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>The purpose of this module is to provide an introduction to early childhood studies. It will help you to develop a foundation of knowledge and understanding of the complexity of early years policy, practice and provision.</p>	
	<p>Orientation to Higher Education and Research Core module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>This module aims to provide an orientation into higher education and to introduce you to research within the context of early childhood and the wider context of education.</p>	
	<p>Being, Belonging and Becoming Core module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you'll explore the notion of being, belonging and becoming, not only in relation to children's lives but also to your experiences as an early childhood studies student.</p>	
	<p>Pedagogies and Practice in Early Childhood Core module/single honours only - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you will study the concepts of pedagogy and practice as they relate to early childhood. You will explore the key influences that shape the way that adults work with children, and the learning and care experiences and environments designed for them and their families.</p>	

Optional year 1		
	<p>Perspectives of Childhood Optional module/Single honours only - (20 Credits)</p> <p>The aim of the module is for you to develop a basic but critical understanding of the social, cultural, historical, environmental, economic and political contexts that continue to influence childhood and children's lives.</p>	
	<p>The Wonder Years; Birth to Two Optional module/Single honours only - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you'll learn about the potential of babies and their development from conception until two.</p>	
Core year 2		
	<p>The Developing Child: Cognition, Emotion and Identity in Context Core module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you'll focus on the growing, development and learning that occurs in children with an emphasis on the period from conception to eight years of age. The module will enable you to recognise and discuss the changing nature of developmental theories and their application.</p>	
	<p>Exploring Research: Methods, Methodologies, and Implications for Practice Core module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you'll develop the knowledge needed to be able to design and conduct a small-scale research project with or about children, young people or adults.</p>	
Optional year 2		
	<p>21st Century Childhood Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you will engage you in academic debate concerning how early childhood is constructed in 21st century</p>	

	<p>England and globally. You will have opportunities to develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of children's lives in different cultures and contexts.</p>	
	<p>Early Years Practice 2 Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this work placement module, you will gain experience of working with children of all ages and their families. You will focus primarily on the processes of planning and assessment for children and families in a diverse range of contexts within your placement. The work placement may require a DBS check.</p>	<p>This module will run as a preparation for practice only during 2020-21, subject to Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p>At present we do not know what social distancing measures, if any, will apply in subsequent years. It may be possible to take the practical/work-based/placement element of this module in a face-to-face way as normal, or it may be possible to do this by observing social distancing. The ways in which social distancing might apply are not always within our control. If it is not possible for students to attend the relevant setting or activity in person we will conduct these through on-line means, or through making use of recorded materials. We will take account of any advice from the Government or the University and in how we run the module and the programme, and will keep you fully informed of what this means for your studies.</p>
	<p>Gender Issues in the Early Years: Exploring Fact and Fiction Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>You will develop your understanding of gender differences in children's learning, development and achievement, and how a gender imbalance in the early years workforce might impact on this.</p>	
	<p>Multi-cultural Perspectives of Childhood Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>You will develop a critical understanding of the social, cultural, historical, environmental, economic and political contexts that have shaped and continue to influence childhood and children's lives,</p>	

	<p>particularly from birth to eight years of age and especially from the viewpoint of children who are marginalised.</p>	
	<p>Representation in the Media Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you will explore the impact on children and adults in a range of media (including newspapers, literature, film, radio, TV, internet, video games and social media). You will consider the portrayal of children and adults, different social groups and people who share a protected characteristic in the media, as well as the link between the role of media and the construction of identities.</p>	
	<p>Working with Children, Families, and Communities Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you'll learn about 'community' and the influences that communities have on children and their families. You will explore theories about how communities and neighbourhoods work in terms of social problems, the notion of societal breakdown and how social policy and community interventions are developed as a response to change.</p>	
Core year 3		
	<p>Protection Power and Participation Core module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you will have opportunities to explore, analyse and critically evaluate the concepts of protection, power and participation in differing contexts and from differing perspectives including international and national legislation, policy and practice.</p>	
	<p>Independent Study or Research in Action: Social Action, Advocacy and Participation Core module - (20 or 40 Credits)</p> <p>In both the 20 and 40 credit routes you will investigate an issue of your choice, related to early childhood studies. If you take the 40 credit route, you will write a full dissertation and you will have a supervisory tutor to guide you through this. This module is</p>	

	<p>designed to help develop your ability to work independently to defined aims, and to construct and undertake a research project over the duration of the final year of undergraduate study. The research should take the form of an empirical study or policy critique addressing a relevant, coherent question/area of research based on an aspect of your course.</p> <p>If you are interested in the third sector, you can choose to design and implement a research project in partnership with charities, voluntary organisations and community groups. You will research and investigate how to explore and address a question related to early childhood studies within your organisation. You will work collaboratively with a lead academic, fellow students and most importantly, members of the community, to advocate and champion individual and/or community voices within a specific area of need.</p>	
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Optional year 3		
	<p>Law, the Child and the Family Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you'll gain an insight into the legal intervention in different types of family structures and the impact of government policy. You will answer questions such as: What is the purpose of legal intervention? Is it to maintain the family unit, whatever that might be, or is it to protect individual members of the family? How does the law regulate marriage and divorce?</p>	
	<p>Leadership and Management in the Early Years Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you'll develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of current policy, legislation and practice related to leadership and management in early years services. This will include information about developing sustainable enterprise in the early years sector.</p>	
	<p>Contesting Early Childhood: Values into Action Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>This module aims to support your critical engagement with a values-infused philosophy and approach towards early childhood and the development of childhood services. You will explore the concept of values literacy, and you'll identify values that are both implicit in dominant discourses of early childhood services in England and, as a result, construction of children and their childhoods.</p>	
	<p>Early Years Practice 3 Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module you will gain experience of working with children of all ages and their families, where you'll be able to apply your practical skills and theoretical knowledge. You will be able to negotiate your own placement focus for this module and you'll</p>	<p>At present we do not know what social distancing measures, if any, will apply at the time this module runs. It may be possible to take the practical/work-based/placement element of this</p>

	<p>begin to make links for your future employment. The work placement may require a DBS check.</p>	<p>module in a face-to-face way as normal, or it may be possible to do this by observing social distancing. The ways in which social distancing might apply are not always within our control. If it is not possible for students to attend the relevant setting or activity in person we will conduct these through on-line means, or through making use of recorded materials. We will take account of any advice from the Government or the University and in how we run the module and the programme, and will keep you fully informed of what this means for your studies.</p>
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	<p>Social and Emotional Development in Early Years Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you will explore many different aspects of socio-emotional development in early childhood.</p>	
	<p>How Children Learn: Enhancing Pedagogy and Practice in the Early Years Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>The aim of this module is to enable you to gain knowledge of the different factors influencing young children's learning, drawing on theories and research. It will provide you with an appreciation of how these factors and processes interrelate in the holistic structure of learning.</p>	
	<p>Social Justice and Inclusive Education Optional module - (20 Credits)</p> <p>In this module, you will explore the complexity of the concepts of social justice and inclusive early childhood education, and how everyone can contribute towards the development of a more inclusive world.</p>	
How you'll learn		
Teaching	<p>The course typically consists of lectures, seminars, group work, guided learning activities and tutorials. You will also be expected to carry out 150 hours of self-directed study per taught module.</p> <p>We emphasise student-centred learning, which encourages you to raise questions, engage in discussion and debate and develop reflective and critical learning strategies.</p> <p>All courses are informed by the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy 2015-2022.</p>	<p>As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 situation, we have redesigned our courses so that they can deliver a mix of face-to-face and digital learning. This will mean that courses can continue while following social distancing rules, even if further lockdowns occur. We have tried to do this in a way that is purposeful, thoughtful and driven by your likely needs.</p> <p>All lectures will be delivered digitally. Small interactive lectures may happen on campus (if suitable rooms are available).</p> <p>This means that as part of 'contact hours' for the course, you can expect to engage with a structured mix of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on-site face-to-face teaching • 'live' digital teaching • other digital activities.

		<p>We will take into account any guidance from local or national governments and the University, and will keep you informed of any changes that are necessary.</p>
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Independent study	<p>When not attending lectures, seminars, workshops or other timetabled sessions you will continue learning through self-study. Typically, this involves reading journal articles and books, undertaking research in the library, working on projects, and preparing for coursework assignments/examinations, workshops and seminars.</p> <p>Your module tutor will direct you towards specific readings and/or activities to complete before class.</p>	
Academic input	<p>The course is taught by a team of enthusiastic senior lecturers from a wide variety of professional backgrounds related to the children and families workforce. This extensive professional experience provides a rich and diverse learning experience and supports a practical and theoretical insight into the career choices open to you.</p>	
How you'll be assessed		
	<p>We recognise that all students perform differently depending on how they are being assessed, which is why we use a combination of assessment methods. These may include presentations, essays, artefacts, rationales, posters, portfolios, online tasks, an individual study and an unseen examination within an optional module. These methods offer you an opportunity to develop skills for the workforce as well as succeeding within your studies.</p>	
Fees		
UK/EU	Full-time £7,050	
Overseas	Full-time £13,000	
Course specific costs		
Accommodation costs for Placements	N/A	
Clothing / Kit	N/A	
Professional accreditation	N/A	
Industry links	N/A	
Other important information		
	N/A	

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