

# EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP, A.S.

## Academic Programs

The Associate in Science in Early Childhood Leadership will prepare students for positions within the Early Childhood field in a Preschool, Day Care, or Public School setting. Students will gain an understanding of young children's characteristics and needs, learn about the importance of, influences, and ways to support early childhood development, develop an understanding of assessment and curriculum including children with disabilities, identify important teaching strategies and developmentally appropriate curriculum to create a supportive and effective learning environment, as well opportunity to assess their readiness for this field through observations and classroom practice.

- Early Childhood Leadership Major (<https://catalog.baypath.edu/american-womens-college/academic-programs/early-childhood-leadership-as/early-childhood-leadership-major/>)

## Student Learning Outcomes

Students in an Associate in Science in Early Childhood Leadership will be able to:

- Describe understanding of young children's characteristics and needs, as well as multiple influences on development and learning
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of early childhood development to create healthy, respectful, supportive, and challenging learning environments
- Articulate knowledge and understanding of diversity and engaging family and the community to support early childhood development and learning
- Develop understanding of assessment to know how to integrate into curriculum and instruction, including children with disabilities in early childhood classrooms
- Describe importance and understanding of creating positive relationships with young children and reflect on own teaching strategies to provide a positive early learning environment
- Identify developmentally appropriate teaching strategies and describe all resources for the early education classroom, such as use of technology
- Apply knowledge and understanding of main academic concepts to create, implement, and assess curriculum that is developmentally appropriate for the early childhood classroom
- Identify early childhood professional guidelines, advocacy resources for young children, and professional development opportunities to continuously improve as an early child educator
- Engage in observations and other field experiences in the early childhood classroom

**To accomplish the Education Program goals, a Bay Path student is provided with:**

- A strong knowledge base in the liberal arts and sciences which provides the basis of subject matter in elementary and early childhood education.
- A sequential, well-designed grouping of education courses that address the pedagogical component of best practices in teaching.

- Courses that address human interactions and diversity (e.g., Child Development, Special Education), necessary for the development of non-discriminatory and caring teachers.
- Structured experiences in schools, ranging from observations, to assisting the classroom teacher, to full practicum (student teaching). These in-school experiences address the content, pedagogical and humanistic development of a teacher.
- Education courses that utilize the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks as a required text and embed school curriculum in coursework.
- Opportunities to engage in inquiry, research, and reflection in coursework and in the schools.