

CHILDHOOD STUDIES

Dr. Kara Keeling, Director
McMurrin 201D
(757) 594-7952
kkeeling@cnu.edu

The Minor Program in Childhood Studies (18 credits)

Christopher Newport University offers a multi-disciplinary minor in childhood studies for undergraduates. The program is designed to meet the following student goals:

1. Provide a body of knowledge about children and adolescents combined with skills obtained from the student's major discipline to prepare for careers in teaching, social work, counseling, administrative positions in community programs for children and adolescents, juvenile justice programs, and others.
2. To serve as a minor for the student who has no career goals in the field but has an interest in the study of childhood. Any of the courses may be taken without commitment to the entire program.

Program Requirements:

Students should seek advising from the Director of the Childhood Studies program in choosing the courses for the minor.

1. A minimum of 18 credits as listed below are required to complete the minor.
2. Core requirement: IDST 210.
3. Select five courses (15 credits) from the approved elective list. To preserve the interdisciplinary nature of the minor, no more than two courses may come from the same discipline.
4. Special topics and other courses may be used if approved by the director.
5. Occasional special topics courses (295, 395, 495) from BUSN, POLS, PSYC, SOWK, as well as new courses may be credited toward the minor if they have the approval of the director.

THE CURRICULUM IN CHILDHOOD STUDIES

IDST 210. A Study in Childhood: History, Literature and Education (3-3-0) [formerly CHST 201, equivalent]

Prerequisite: ENGL 123.

Spring.

This course explores the history of childhood, trends in educational theory, child psychology and children's literature. Students will study the differing constructions of childhood in world history and explore innovations in educational theory and child psychology, from Locke to Bettelheim and beyond. Students will be further informed by reading historical examples of texts for children, from Sumerian clay "readers" to Aesop, early fairy tales, and on to modern children's literature.

Electives

The following course descriptions appear in appropriate sections throughout the catalog.

COMM 311	Family Communication
ENGL 315	Adolescent Literature
ENGL 316	Children's Literature
ENGL 416	Advanced Studies in Children's and Adolescent Literature
ENGL 452	WI: Writing for Children: Second World Fantasy
ENGL 453	Writing for Children: Picture Books
PSYC 207	Life-Span Development
PSYC 208	Child Development
PSYC 309	Adolescent Development
PSYC 312	Educational Psychology
PSYC 327	Theories and Principles of Child Development
PSYC 428	Cognitive Development
SOCL 303	The Family in Transition
SOCL 304	Socialization and Society
SOCL 314	Education, Culture and Society
SOWK 210	Human Behavior in the Social Environment I