Name of Subject: Early Childhood Studies

Stage: 2

General information: Child Studies focuses on children’s growth and development from conception to 8 years. Students critically examine attitudes and values about parenting/caregiving and gain an understanding of the growth and development of children. This subject enables students to develop a variety of research, management, and practical skills.

Childhood is a unique, intense period of growth and development. Children’s lives are affected by their relationships with others; their intellectual, emotional, social, and physical growth; cultural, familial, and socio-economic circumstances; geographic location; and educational opportunities.

Content: There are five areas of study in Stage 2 Child Studies, as described below.

- Contemporary and Future Issues
- Economic and Environmental Influences
- Political and Legal Influences
- Sociocultural Influences
- Technological Influences

Assessments:

School-based Assessment (70%)
- Assessment Type 1: Practical Activity (50%)
- Assessment Type 2: Group Activity (20%)

External Assessment (30%)
- Assessment Type 3: Investigation (30%).

Students should provide evidence of their learning through seven to nine assessments, including the external assessment component. Students undertake:

- at least four practical activities
- at least one group activity
- one investigation.

Special Information: Students may incur extra material costs to complete practical assignments. No exam. This subject is not a prerequisite to any childcare or teaching course at University or TAFE.

Prerequisites: none

Preferred prerequisites: No previous experience in Child Studies is needed at Stage 2, but students need to be prepared to work with young children.