

Duluth Campus

Childhood Nature Studies B.A.Sc.

D Applied Human Sciences

College of Education and Human Service Professions

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2022
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 58 to 61
- Degree: Bachelor of Applied Science

The focus of Childhood Nature Studies is supporting all childrens learning, well-being, and unfolding capabilities through an interdisciplinary, nature-based lens. Quality childhood environments, relationships, and experiences, including nature-based experiences, are integral to healthy development and lifelong well-being, as well as to vibrant, socially just, and sustainable communities. This program entails a nature-based, interdisciplinary foundation of theory and practical skills, preparing graduates to work in synergy with professionals across care, education, health, mental health, social service, and environmental/conservation sectors toward providing equitable, coherent, and nature-rich experiences, environments, and services for all children.

Students in this program will have the opportunity for:

- 1 - studying childhood development from an eco-bio-developmental framework, the foundations of healthy development, and the potential for nature to support childrens learning, unfolding capabilities, and life-long well-being;
- 2 - learning to effectively engage in quality interactions with children and families and provide developmentally, and culturally appropriate experiences for children that support their learning and development, as well as further family and community relationships;
- 3 - gaining experience in designing and using nature-rich, playful learning environments, such as nature playscapes, early childhood nature play programs, and nature preschools;
- 4 - integrating theory and practice through immersion experiences, reflection, networking, and action research; and
- 5 - studying abroad in countries known for innovations in nature-based learning and development.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the [Office of Admissions website](#).

General Requirements

The Board of Regents, on recommendation of the faculty, grants degrees from the University of Minnesota. Requirements for an undergraduate degree from University of Minnesota Duluth include the following:

1. Students must meet all course and credit requirements of the departments and colleges or schools in which they are enrolled including an advanced writing course. Students seeking two degrees must fulfill the requirements of both degrees. However, two degrees cannot be awarded for the same major.
2. Students must complete all requirements of the [Liberal Education Program](#).
3. Students must complete a minimum of 120 semester credits.
4. At least 30 of the last 60 degree credits earned immediately before graduation must be awarded by UMD.
5. Students must complete at least half of their courses at the 3xxx-level and higher at UMD. Study-abroad credits earned through courses taught by UM faculty and at institutions with which UMD has international exchange programs may be used to fulfill this requirement.
6. If a minor is required, students must take at least three upper division credits in their minor field from UMD.
7. The minimum cumulative UM GPA required for graduation will be 2.00 and will include only University of Minnesota coursework. A minimum UM GPA of 2.00 is required in each UMD undergraduate major and minor. No academic unit may impose higher grade point standards to graduate.
8. Diploma, transcripts, and certification will be withheld until all financial obligations to the University have been met.

Program Requirements

Learning in Community (1 cr)

Requirement will be waived for transfer students with at least 30 credits taken post high school, for UMD students who started in a



UMD collegiate unit where this is not required, and upon request for first-year students with 30 PSEO credits.

[UST 1000](#) - Learning in Community (1.0 - 2.0 cr)

or [EHS 1000](#) - Into the World [GLOBAL PER] (3.0 cr)

or [ES 1000](#) - Global Cultural Perspectives on Environmental Sustainability [GLOBAL PER] (3.0 cr)

or [LING 1000](#) - Language and Culture in the U.S. What does it Mean to Speak American [CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)

or [PSY 1100](#) - Living Your Best Life: Applying Positive Psychology [CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)

Advanced Writing (3 cr)

[WRIT 3140](#) - Advanced Writing: Human Services (3.0 cr)

or [WRIT 3160](#) - Advanced Writing: Social Sciences (3.0 cr)

or [WRIT 3121](#) - Advanced Writing: Business and Organizations (3.0 cr)

Child Development (21 - 22 cr)

Lower Division (11 cr)

[ECH 2025](#) - Brain Development: Environments and Relationships [SOC SCI] (3.0 cr)

[PSY 1003](#) - General Psychology [LE CAT, SOC SCI] (4.0 cr)

[PSY 2021](#) - Developmental Psychology [LE CAT, LECD C, SOC SCI, CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)

Upper Division (10 - 11 cr)

[ECH 3050](#) - Early Relationships in Young Children: Observing and Guiding (3.0 cr)

[SW 4215](#) - Trauma Informed Practice with Children and Adolescents (3.0 cr)

[SPED 3109](#) - Supporting Social/Emotional Development Birth-8 (3.0 cr)

or [SPED 3103](#) - Infants and Toddlers with Special Needs (3.0 cr)

Nature-Based Practices (15 - 16 cr)

Lower Division (8 - 9 cr)

[ENED 1500](#) - Children, Nature and Sustainability [SUSTAIN] (3.0 cr)

[ENED 1201](#) - Outdoor Skills I - Fall [PE] (2.0 cr)

or [ENED 1202](#) - Outdoor Skills - Winter & Spring [PE] (2.0 cr)

or [ENED 3341](#) - Field Interpretive Techniques Fall (3.0 cr)

or [ENED 3342](#) - Field Interpretive Techniques - Winter & Spring (3.0 cr)

[ENED 2300](#) - Teaching and Learning (3.0 cr)

or [ENED 4163](#) - Outdoor Education Methods (3.0 cr)

Upper Division (7 cr)

[AHS 3100](#) - Risk Management (2.0 cr)

[ENED 4500](#) - Early Childhood Nature Experiences and Pedagogies (3.0 cr)

[ENED 4600](#) - Place-based Education (2.0 cr)

Social and Community Contexts (12 - 13 cr)

[HLTH 3101](#) *(Inactive)* (3.0 cr)

Take 3 or more course(s) totaling 9 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [EDUC 4381](#) - Teaching Indigenous Students (3.0 cr)
- [EDUC 5230](#) - Indigenous Peoples and the Environment (3.0 cr)
- [PSY 2023](#) - Marriages and Families Worldwide [LE CAT, GLOBAL PER] (3.0 cr)
- [SOC 1201](#) - Sociology of the Family [LE CAT8, LECD CAT08, SOC SCI, CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)
- [SW 1000](#) - Introduction to Social Welfare [SOC SCI] (3.0 cr)
- [SW 1619](#) - Race, Class, and Gender in the United States [LE CAT, LECD C, RACE JUST] (3.0 cr)
- [WS 2101](#) - Women, Race, and Class [LE CAT8, LECD CAT08, SOC SCI, CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)
- [AMIN 1001](#) - Introduction to American Indian Studies [CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)
- or [AMIN 4410](#) - American Indian Philosophies [HUMANITIES, CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)

Synthesis (6 cr)

Take for 6 credits.

[ENED 4996](#) - Outdoor Education Internship (6.0 - 12.0 cr)