The Liberal Studies Child Development Integrated Special Education Credential Program (LSCD SPED ITEP) allows students to complete a B.A. in Liberal Studies and a Preliminary Special Education Credential in four years. In this unique California Subject Matter approved program, with a collaboration between the Department of Child Development and the Special Education Credential program in the School of Education, students apply for the credential program in their third year. Students who are not admitted to the Credential Program or find new career paths can change their major to Child Development & Family Relationships or Liberal Studies Child Development/Elementary Education (LSCE).

Experience Your Learning

Experiential learning is at the core of Child Development. The program offers several hands-on learning opportunities through service learning and classroom placements/student teaching.

Practicum at our nationally accredited (NAEYC) Child Development Lab prepares students to work with young children and their families in an inclusive environment in addition to having experiences in an elementary classroom.

Our faculty stay abreast of the most recent research related to the field of Child Development. Research projects, which involve students, are conducted by individual faculty members, as well as by the department as a whole.

Child Development majors work side by side with faculty to provide feedback and support for students in specific classes.

Students have opportunities to work in the community, gaining valuable professional experience.

Did you know?

- Our faculty partner with local tribes and organizations to provide professional development, consultation, and early college learning experiences.
- The Child Development Lab founded in 1968 by Dr. Emilia Tschanz, will be relocated to a newly remodeled Trinity Annex in Fall 2023, serving multiple generations of families.
- Several of our students are athletes, parents, and volunteers/leaders in the Youth Educational Services program. Many of our alumni work as professionals in the community and provide mentorship and networking to current students through experiential learning or visiting our professional development class.

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Academics & Options

Liberal Studies Child Development Integrated Special Education Credential Program (LSCD SPED ITEP)

The program allows students to complete a B.A. in Liberal Studies and a Preliminary Special Education Credential in four years. Students are advised to start this program no later than their sophomore year, but ideally in their freshman year.

Note: The Liberal Studies core is the same for all Liberal Studies programs, but the requirement for the Child Development concentration in the LSCD SPED ITEP is different from the Liberal Studies Child Development Elementary Education (LSCE) B.A. Therefore, students cannot transfer readily from LSCE to the LSCD SPED ITEP program.

Get Involved

The Child Development Association (CDA) is our Registered Student Organization that works with students, faculty, and community by organizing fundraising, social, educational, and advocacy events.

Careers

The program is designed for students who wish to become teachers in K-12 Special Day Classrooms with children who have mild to moderate disabilities.