

CHILDHOOD STUDIES

From Study to Skills

Childhood studies is the theoretical study of children and childhood. The major is interdisciplinary and allows students to study childhood in historical, literary, and global contexts. Childhood studies majors will understand the relationship between childhood and culture, as well as how economic, social, and political conditions influence children's livelihoods and welfare. Students will also explore how adult views on childhood have influenced the ways children were treated, the role of children in contemporary society, and children's rights. Graduates will gain the analytic skills necessary to work effectively with children, gain an appreciation for the diversity of paths through childhood and adolescence, and have a commitment to the welfare of children throughout the world.

The B.A. program in Childhood Studies provides students with a strong foundation in the liberal arts and a strong background in both humanistic and social science perspectives on children. The degree program prepares students for innovative research in childhood studies or to become leaders in childhood related social practice and policy. This background also prepares students for successful careers in teaching, social service, public policy, education, and youth programming. Students interested in working in Early Childhood programs as certified teachers or administrators may choose to concentrate in Early Childhood Education.

Related Fields: African American Studies, Communications, Education, History, Language, Pediatric Medicine, Philosophy, Psychology, Social Work, Urban Studies

Skills and Abilities

Analytic Skills- Students will learn how childhood theories impact law and policy, how social and cultural settings influence development, and explore the cultural diversity of contemporary societies, the nature of education and of children's social identity, and interpret complicated social problems.

Communication Skills- Students will develop effective oral and written communication, the ability to discuss concepts in groups, the ability to describe current models of teacher education, and the ability to express ideas and communicate information in a structured manner.

Research Skills- Students will understand and manipulate quantitative information, develop problem solving skills, and learn research strategies in childhood studies.

Internships

In the Past, Rutgers—Camden Childhood Studies students have interned with the following employers:

Bancroft
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Boys & Girls Club of Camden County
Broadway Family Center
Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers
Camden County Partnership for Children
Cedarbrook Academy
Center for Family Services
Community Leadership Center
Cooper University Hospital
Department of Children & Families / DYFS

Education Works Camden 21st CCLC
Gloucester Twp. Police Department
Helen Fort Middle School
Juvenile Justice Commission
Kennedy Behavioral Health
LEAP Academy Charter School
Maple Shade High School
Rutgers Early Learning Research Academy
St. John of God Community Services
The Children's Home of Burlington County
YMCA of Burlington County

What Careers Are Available For Childhood Studies Majors

The following are samples of first jobs of Childhood Studies majors:

Education- Research, Teaching, Administration, Counseling

Social Service- Research, Administration, Programming, Counseling, Case Management

Medical- Life Skills Specialist, Case Manager

Communications- Writing/Editing, Research, Advocacy, Case Management, Administration

Government- Policy/ Legislation, Research, Advocacy, Case Management, Administration

Business- Marketing Research, Sales, Management, Consulting, Product Development, Community Relations

Graduate School Options

Rutgers-Camden became the first doctoral degree-granting program in Childhood Studies in the nation in 2007 and also offers master's degrees in Childhood Studies. Rutgers- Camden Childhood Studies alumni have earned Master's and Doctorate level degrees in Childhood Studies as well as Business, Education, Communications, Law, Psychology, Public Administration, and Social Work.

Resources

Consider joining a professional organization such as:

National Association Of Social Workers

www.socialworkers.org

NEA, National Education Association

www.nea.org

National Association of School Psychologists

www.nasponline.org

American Counseling Association

www.counseling.org

- Join a student group such as Student Government Association, Psychology Club, or the Urban Studies Association
- Assist a faculty member with their research.
- Visit RaptorLink for internship opportunities in your field of interest.
- Connect with professionals in fields that interest you on LinkedIn.

Career Center:

Room 006 Campus Center, Lower Level

326 Penn Street

Camden, NJ 08102

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