Welcome to the Early Childhood Department
Mission of the Department of Early Childhood

“The mission of the Department of Early Childhood is to prepare Early Childhood and Early Childhood Intervention Specialist preservice and practicing teachers to positively impact children, schools, and society. We support and implement the five principles of knowledge, collaboration, ethics, Accent on the Individual, and reflections, which are advocated by the Dwight Schar College of Education.”

Adopted by the Faculty
December, 2009
Early Childhood
Education Majors

• Largest major at AU, leading toward a Bs Ed. in Early Childhood.

• Two undergraduate majors: Early Childhood and Early Childhood Intervention Specialist PreK-3rd
Additional Endorsements/Programs

Grade 4-5 Endorsement
Spanish Minor
Early Childhood Faculty

- Eleven full-time faculty members on Ashland, Columbus & Elyria Centers
- All have classroom teaching experience
The Real EC Faculty
• EC Faculty members serve as academic advisors to EC majors
• Most observe students in their field experiences and provide feedback
Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Nancy McGraw
Programs are field-based.

Methods courses are blocked with field experiences with partner schools

Sophomore Level: local Preschools
Junior Level - Mansfield & Wooster City Schools - Literacy
Senior Level - Crestview & Black River Local - Math, Science, SS
Senior Level- Student Internship
Students in the junior field teach reading and writing lessons.
Students in *Phonics and the English Language* create word identification games.
Children’s literature is the focus of many classes
Weather mini-lab from Early Childhood Science Methods
Math game created in Early Childhood Math Methods
Integrating multiple subjects in book boxes
Using technology effectively is an important part of our program.
Making home-school connections with science take home packs
“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” Dr. Seuss

Students in EDEC 411 work with struggling readers.
Students at the Elyria Center study science methods at the Great Lakes Science Center
Special Opportunities for Our Students...Guest Author Visits

- The EC Department has supported visits from children's authors or illustrators such as David Slonim.
Denise Fleming visit
“The early childhood education department at Ashland University has given me great tools to carry me to and through my first year of teaching. The classes I took directly related to field experiences where I applied the things I learned. The professors in the department gave me confidence in my growth and guided my steps along the way. Now, as a second grade teacher my decisions are backed by not only knowledge of best practices, but also by real experiences. AU's early childhood department taught me the vocabulary, theories, and trends of teaching, but it was there that I also found the passion to pursue a career that gives fulfillment to me and makes a difference to others.”