EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE) PROGRAM

- Master of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education (select one of the following emphases):
  - Curriculum and Instruction
  - Supervision and Leadership
  - Montessori Education

The mission of the Early Childhood Education Program is to prepare caring and competent teachers and administrators to work with a diverse population of children and their families in a variety of settings serving children from ages two through eight. Our early childhood programs prepare leaders who affirm and promote the essential goodness, dignity, and freedom of all people.

Students may prepare for a variety of professional opportunities such as classroom leadership, program administration, teacher education in a college setting, and direction of public and private agencies that support young children and families. Graduates from this program may also elect to pursue a doctoral degree.

“My experience at Saint Mary’s College has given me the highest quality of education, helping to equip me to serve and impact my community.”

– Julie Kennedy, student of the Kalmanovitz School of Education Early Childhood Education Program
Masters of Arts in Early Childhood Education

Specialization 1: Curriculum and Instruction in ECE (30 units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialization Courses (13 Units)</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning &amp; Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Foundations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics: Conceptual Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language &amp; Reading Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Electives (8 units minimum)** Choose from the following:

- Positive Discipline & Classroom Management: 2 units
- Early Education Foundations: 3 units
- Advanced Field Observations in ECE: 2 units
- Advanced Supervised Field Experience: 3–4 units
- Study of the Sciences: 3 units
- Creative Arts I and/or II: 1 unit
- Philosophical Perspectives: 3 units
- Elementary Mathematics: 3 units
- Elementary Language, Reading & Writing: 3 units
- Mainstreaming: Diversity in the Classroom: 1–3 units

**Research Component (9 units)**

- Research Seminar I: 3 units
- Research Seminar II: 3 units
- Thesis or Synthesis Project: 3 units

Specialization 2: Supervision and Leadership in ECE (30 units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialization Courses (13 Units)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning &amp; Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Development &amp; Parent Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Discipline &amp; Classroom Management</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration &amp; Program Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment in ECE</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainstreaming: Diversity in the Classroom</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
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**Electives (8 units minimum)** Choose from the following:

- Advanced Field Observations in ECE: 2 units
- Advanced Supervised Field Experience: 3–4 units
- Early Education Foundations: 3 units
- Technology in the Classroom: 1 unit
- Health Education: 1 unit
- Philosophical Perspectives: 3 units
- Montessori Overview: 2 units
- Creative Arts I: 1 unit
- Creative Arts II: 1 unit
- Curriculum Foundations: 4 units

**Research Component (9 units)**

- Research Seminar I: 3 units
- Research Seminar II: 3 units
- Thesis or Synthesis Project: 3 units
Specialization 3: Montessori Education (38–42 units, includes Montessori Credential)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credential Courses (29–33 units)</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning &amp; Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montessori Philosophy in a Cultural Context</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Discipline &amp; Classroom Management</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Life Curriculum</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conceptual Curriculum</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics: Conceptual Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language &amp; Reading Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study of the Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts II</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Observations &amp; Seminars I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Observations &amp; Seminars II</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship I</td>
<td>2–4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship II</td>
<td>2–4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Note: See Montessori brochure for additional Montessori offerings.

Admissions

Applications are accepted year-round. Candidates may apply to begin the Early Childhood Education Program in the fall, January, spring or summer terms. An appointment with the program director is recommended. Call (925) 631-4036 to schedule.

All of the following are required for an application to be complete:

- Application and fee. Apply online at www.stmarys-ca.edu/soe-apply.
- A statement of the prospective student’s professional goals, included with their application.
- Three letters of recommendation from professionals who can evaluate the prospective student’s potential to be a teacher.
- Two official copies of transcripts from all colleges attended.
- A baccalaureate degree from an approved institution.
- Evidence of health insurance (or a signed waiver) and results of a tuberculin test (within the last four years).
Kalmanovitz School of Education at Saint Mary’s College of California

INCLUSIVE, GLOBAL, TRANSFORMATIVE

Here at the Kalmanovitz School of Education at Saint Mary’s, we are guided by the Lasallian tradition: “Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve.” Our faculty is committed to the core principles of social justice, quality education and inclusive community, emphasizing the skills of critical thinking, precise communication and creative problem-solving. We offer challenging opportunities for students to experience professional practice.

Our students are:

- Challenged by a curriculum that integrates research-based practices with opportunities for experience in professional settings.
- Guided by an interdisciplinary faculty who excel in teaching, scholarship and service.
- Supported by a staff attuned to the unique needs of active professionals.
- Networked with a cohort of peers who bring diverse perspectives to the exploration of real-world problems.
- Transformed by learning experiences that emphasize inquiry, reflection, ethical values and social justice.

The Kalmanovitz School of Education is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and offers well-respected credential programs approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) and the American Montessori Society. The Master of Arts degrees in Early Childhood Education prepare students to apply for the California Child Development Permit through the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The Master of Arts Degree in Counseling with an emphasis in School Counseling (K-12) or School Psychology (3 yrs-12th grade) fulfills the requirements for the California Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential. The College is a member of the California Council on the Education of Teachers and the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

The Financial Aid process begins by filing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov (Saint Mary's College Title IV code is #001302). Prospective students should also complete a Saint Mary’s Financial Aid application, available on Saint Mary’s website. To ensure maximum consideration for all programs, students are asked to contact the Financial Aid Office at (925) 631-4370, or the Kalmanovitz School of Education at (925) 631-4149 with any questions.

In the spring, Kalmanovitz School of Education students (except for those in already discounted programs) have the opportunity to apply for scholarships distributed by the school. Students are encouraged to research and apply for other scholarships that may be available through outside organizations or entities.

The federal government has implemented a Public Service Loan Forgiveness program for anyone working in the public sector. For more information, go to www.IBRinfo.org.