Early Childhood Studies Minor

Why UMD

The Early Childhood Minor is intended to provide students with knowledge and skills designed to support scholarly and community-based work with children and their caregivers. A comprehensive approach to the foundation of child health and well being is integrated throughout coursework, drawing from fields of infant and early childhood mental health, and interpersonal neurobiology. Emphasis is placed on the integration and application of attachment theory, the neuro-relational underpinnings of development, and the role of reflective capacity in caregiving. Specific course related activities include infant/toddler observation, reflective supervision, and examination of evidence-based approaches to working with children and families at risk.

Sample Courses:

- Educating the Human Brain
- Observing Early Relationships in Infants and Toddlers
- Supporting Social/Emotional Development Birth-8