Description of the Major:

Early Childhood Education is a specifically designed program of study that meets educational requirements for South Carolina licensure in grades PreK-3. Students pursuing this program of study become involved in a broad range of learning experiences. Study in the core areas of English, math, science and social studies, as well as art, music and physical education, prepares students for what they will be expected to teach in the public schools. These studies, along with instruction in child growth and development, teaching methodology, curriculum and relevant off-campus clinical experiences, offer students a program rich in opportunities and professional growth.

The Student Experience:

- The Spadoni College of Education is nationally accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the South Carolina Board of Education.
- Students who earn a degree from CCU and South Carolina licensure are eligible for reciprocal licensure in every other state.
- The program includes extensive clinical experiences in area schools, beginning in the first semester of study in education and continuing through the internship experience at the end of the program. Clinical field work begins with a focus on guided observation experiences, followed by expectations for individual, small group and whole-class instruction.
- CCU offers two student organizations for education majors: The South Carolina Education Association Club (SCEA) and the national education honor society, Kappa Delta Pi (KDP).

Admission to the Program:

All students enter the program as pre-majors. Candidates may complete a formal application for admission to the professional program in teacher education (PPTE) when they have completed at least 60 hours of college level coursework and have met the following requirements:

- Earn at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA;
- Earn a “C” or better in ENGL 101, ENGL 102 or ENGL 211, EDUC 111, EDUC 276, ENGL 205, 287 or 288, MATH 201 & 202, HIST 201 or POLI 201, HIST 202, GEOG 121, 8 hours of sciences;
- Pass all three areas of Praxis I or meet the exemption policy;
- Successfully clear a criminal background check;
- Complete a Professional Behavior and Dispositions Self-Evaluation (submitted in LiveText).

For More Information:

- Nancy Ratcliff, Ph.D., Coordinator of Early Childhood Education, 843-349-2631 or ratcliff@coastal.edu
- Lynn Millard, Administrative Assistant, 843-349-2011 or lmillard@coastal.edu
- You can also find more information at www.coastal.edu/education.