



آغا خان یونیورسٹی

THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Offered by: Human Development Programme
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Registration:

Office of the Registrar
Phone: +92 21 3486 9026 / 3486 5454
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Foundations of Early Child Development Standalone Course with Graduate Credits

January 19, 2026 | 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm PST | Every Monday

The Master of Early Child Development (MECD) programme is pleased to announce a standalone course scheduled from January to May 2026. This course is part of the programme curriculum but can also be taken without enrolling in a degree programme. Course credits can contribute towards a master's degree.

Course Description:

This course delves into the essential aspects of early child development, from conception to age eight and beyond, encompassing the entire life course. It offers an opportunity to critically examine and analyze developmental theories, contemporary frameworks and current research, considering the influence of culture, gender politics, and economics. The course covers developmental milestones and theories, emphasizing the impact of family, culture, and environment on a child's growth. Special focus is placed on cognitive, social-emotional, physical, and language development, as well as the significance of play and early learning environments.

Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the complex and dynamic process of Early Child development.
- Compare classical and modern developmental theories of early child development from diverse disciplinary perspectives.
- Demonstrate a critical understanding of social determinants of child development outcomes and their influence on early human development.
- Examine the influence of parents, teachers and socio-cultural practices on development from the micro (intra-familial) to the macro (cultural) systems and critically analyze personal and professional experiences, values and attitudes related to childhood, child rearing, family and community.
- Gain insight into the interconnectedness of various systems influencing early child development, including family, community, education, healthcare, and policy frameworks.
- Promote healthy development and address developmental challenges in children.

Course Director:

Seema Lasi, PhD
Assistant Professor
Human Development Programme

Audience:

Physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, educationists, nutritionists, psychologists, sociologists, early-career professionals, interested in pursuing Early Child Development (ECD) as a potential career path.

Enrolment Criteria:

- Sixteen (16) years of education, or four (4) years after HSSC/F.A./F.Sc./Grade 12 (or equivalent) from an accredited / recognized university.
- Candidates who have at least one year of full-time work experience in an ECD-related field.

Important Information:

- Submit the form via e-mail at visiting.application@aku.edu along with the followings as PDF file:
- Completed and signed application form along with photograph
- Attested copy of degree and marks sheet of sixteen years of schooling in the relevant field as mentioned in the criteria.
- Attested copy of CNIC / Passport
- Attested copy of work experience letter

Interested candidates are encouraged to ensure that their applications are duly completed, as incomplete applications will not be processed. Kindly note, AKU may request for additional documentation or equivalence certificate to seek clarity on your qualification.

Course credit can contribute towards a master's Degree:

Candidates who will achieve a cGPA of 3.5 or above after completing two courses or a cGPA of 3.0 or above after completing three courses are exempted from writing the Admission Test. They will be required to appear for an interview. The courses are valid for three years only for entry into the MECD programme.

Register Now

Deadline is December 22, 2025

Course fees:

- Residential Students PKR 117,000/-
- Non-Residential Students USD 680