

MAJOR IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES, EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONS CONCENTRATION

The courses in the Early Childhood Professions concentration prepare students for careers in early childhood education as well as professional work with children across a variety of settings, including working with children with disabilities, in healthcare settings, and community agencies. This concentration focuses on early childhood development from birth to eight years old and is the preferred choice for students interested in early childhood education careers that do not require teacher licensure, for students who will pursue a graduate degree and licensure in childhood education, and those interested in combining this concentration with another concentration in pre-health, prevention and intervention sciences, or leadership and advocacy professions. The curriculum incorporates courses from several disciplines that focus on early childhood development, education, diversity, and professional skills.

Learn more about the Human Development and Family Studies major on the Department of Human Development and Family Studies website. (<https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/hdfs/programs-and-degrees/b-s-in-human-development-and-family-studies/>)

Requirements



Effective Fall 2024

A minimum grade of C (2.000) is required in all courses used to satisfy the requirements of the Major in Human Development and Family Studies, Early Childhood Professions Concentration. Courses used as substitutions also require a minimum grade of C (2.000).

Freshman

		AUCC	Credits
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)	1A	3
HDFS 101	Individual and Family Development (GT-SS3)	3C	3
HDFS 277	Introductory Seminar in HDFS		1
Select two courses from the following:			6
PSY 100	General Psychology (GT-SS3)	3C	
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology (GT-SS3)	3C	
SPCM 200	Public Speaking		
Select one course from the following:			3-4
BZ 101	Humans and Other Animals (GT-SC2)	3A	
LIFE 102	Attributes of Living Systems (GT-SC1)	3A	
1B (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc)		1B	3
1C (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc)		1C	3
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)		3B	6
Historical Perspectives (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)		3D	3

Total Credits

31-32

Sophomore

HDFS 250	Introduction to Research Methods		3
HDFS 310	Infant and Child Development in Context		3

HDFS 311	Adolescent and Emerging Adult Development		3
HDFS 312	Adult Development-Middle Age and Aging		3
HDFS 334	Family and Parenthood Across the Lifespan		3
Select one course from the following:			3
CO 300	Writing Arguments (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301B	Writing in the Disciplines: Sciences (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301C	Writing in the Disciplines: Social Sciences (GT-CO3)	2	
Early Childhood Professions Concentration Courses (See list below) ¹			3
Biological and Physical Sciences (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)			3A 3-4
Electives			6
Total Credits			30-31
Junior			
HDFS 350	Applied Research Methods	4A	3
HDFS 375	Lifespan Intervention and Prevention Science		3
HDFS 402	Couple and Family Studies		3
Select one course from the following: ²			1
HDFS 477A	Professional Preparation: Local Internship Placements		
HDFS 477B	Professional Preparation: Distance Internship Placements		
HDFS 478	HDFS Professional Development		
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice Course (See list below) ³			3
Early Childhood Professions Concentration Courses (See list below) ¹			6
Electives			11
Total Credits			30
Senior			
HDFS 410	Promoting Early Socioemotional Development		3
HDFS 434	Risk and Resilience Across the Lifespan	4B	3
HDFS 488B ²	Internship: Early Childhood		4-6
HDFS 492	Capstone--Evidence-Based Program Proposals	4C	3
Early Childhood Professions Concentration Courses (See list below) ¹			3
Electives ⁴			10-12
Total Credits			28
Program Total Credits:			120

Early Childhood Professions Concentration Courses

Of the 15 credits of concentration courses, 3 credits of HDFS 410 are required (as noted above). Of the remaining 12 credits, a minimum of 6 credits must be HDFS courses and a minimum of 6 credits must be upper-division (300- to 400-level). Courses from this list may not double-count for more than one HDFS concentration or as the required Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice Course.

Code	Title	AUCC	Credits
Select 6-12 credits from the following courses:			
FSHN 445/HDFS 445	Early Childhood Health, Safety, and Nutrition		3
HDFS 217	Creative Experiences for Children		3
HDFS 286B	Practicum: Early Childhood Professions		3
HDFS 317	Disabilities in Early Childhood Education		3
HDFS 318	Infancy and Toddlerhood		3
HDFS 404	Child Life Theory and Practice		3

HDFS 439	Administration of Early Childhood Programs	3
Select 0-6 credits from the following courses:		
D 324	Teaching Creative Movement	3
EDUC 265/ETST 265	Culture of Care in Schools	3
EDUC 275	Schooling in the United States (GT- 3C SS3) ³	3
IDEA 210	Introduction to Design Thinking (GT- 3B AH1)	3
IE 471	Children and Youth in Global Context	3
PSY 300	Positive Psychology	3
PSY 460	Child Exceptionality and Psychopathology	3
SOWK 352/ETST 352	Indigenous Women, Children, and Tribes	3
SOWK 371A	Fields of Practice: Child Protection	3

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice Courses³

Select 3 upper-division credits from the following list. Selected course may not double-count as a concentration course.

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 317	Anthropology of Human Rights	3
ANTH 333	Anthropology of Sex and Reproduction	3
ANTH 338	Gender and Anthropology	3
ANTH 416	Gender, Culture, and Health	3
ANTH 423	Cultural Psychiatry	3
ANTH 472	Human Biology	3
ANTH 479/IE 479	International Development Theory and Practice	3
ETST 300	Queer Studies and Women of Color	3
ETST 310	African American Studies	3
ETST 320	Ethnicity and Film–Asian-American Experience	3
ETST 332	Contemporary Chicana Issues	3
ETST 342	Queer Indigenous Studies	3
ETST 354	Black Cinema and Media	3
ETST 362/WS 362	Indigenous Consciousness and Gender	3
ETST 365	Global Environmental Justice Movements	3
ETST 438/E 438	Native American Literature	3
HDFS 315	Disability Across the Lifespan and Culture	3
HDFS 317	Disabilities in Early Childhood Education	3
IE 470	Women and Development	3
IE 471	Children and Youth in Global Context	3
PHIL 350	Social and Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 353	Feminist Philosophies	3
PSY 437	Psychology of Gender	3
SOC 330	Social Inequality	3
SOC 333	Gender and Society	3
SOC 334	Sociology of Intersectionality	3
SOC 357	Women, Crime, and Victimization	3
SPCM 334	Co-Cultural Communication	3
SPCM 335	Gender and Communication	3
SPCM 357	Film and Social Change	3
SPCM 401	Rhetoric in Social Movements	3
SPCM 434	Intercultural Communication	3

WS 340	Race and Sexuality	3
WS 375	Intersectionality--Theory, Method, Practice	3

- ¹ Courses selected to fulfill All-University Core Curriculum (AUCC) requirements may not double count toward the Early Childhood Professions Concentration Course requirement.
- ² Students with substantial concentration-specific work experience may petition the Director of Undergraduate Advising in HDFS to replace HDFS 488B with additional coursework and complete HDFS 478 instead of HDFS 477A or HDFS 477B.
- ³ Other 300 and 400 level courses related to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice are subject to advisor approval.
- ⁴ Select enough elective credits to bring the program to a minimum of 120 credits, of which at least 42 must be upper-division (300- to 400-level).

Major Completion Map

Distinctive Requirements for Degree Program:

Human Development and Family Studies is an open-entry major for freshmen. For sophomores and above, students must complete and/or be enrolled in HDFS 101, PSY 100 or SOC 100 in order to declare HDFS. HDFS subject code courses must be completed with a grade of C (2.000) or higher. Background check required prior to participating in the internship course (HDFS 488B) during the senior year. Students will complete a graduation contract with an HDFS Academic Advisor during the first two weeks of the semester in which they are graduating.

Freshman

Semester 1	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
CO 150 College Composition (GT-CO2)	X		1A	3
HDFS 101 Individual and Family Development (GT-SS3)	X		3C	3
HDFS 277 Introductory Seminar in HDFS	X			1
1B (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc)		X	1B	3
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)		X	3B	3
Historical Perspectives (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)		X	3D	3

Total Credits

16

Semester 2	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Select two courses from the following:	X			6
PSY 100 General Psychology (GT-SS3)	X		3C	
SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology (GT-SS3)	X		3C	
SPCM 200 Public Speaking				
Select one course from the following:	X			3-4
BZ 101 Humans and Other Animals (GT-SC2)		X	3A	
LIFE 102 Attributes of Living Systems (GT-SC1)		X	3A	
1C (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc)	X		1C	3
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)		X	3B	3
CO 150 and HDFS 277 must be completed by the end of Semester 2.	X			

Total Credits

15-16

Sophomore

Semester 3	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
HDFS 310 Infant and Child Development in Context	X			3
HDFS 311 Adolescent and Emerging Adult Development	X			3
HDFS 312 Adult Development-Middle Age and Aging	X			3
HDFS 334 Family and Parenthood Across the Lifespan	X			3
Biological and Physical Sciences (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)		X	3A	3-4

Total Credits

15-16

Semester 4	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
HDFS 250 Introduction to Research Methods	X			3

Select one course from the following:	X			3
CO 300 Writing Arguments (GT-CO3)			2	
CO 301B Writing in the Disciplines: Sciences (GT-CO3)		X	2	
CO 301C Writing in the Disciplines: Social Sciences (GT-CO3)		X	2	
Early Childhood Professions Concentration Course (See Department List on Concentration Requirements tab)	X			3
Electives		X		6
Total Credits				15

Junior					
Semester 5		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
HDFS 350 Applied Research Methods	X			4A	3
HDFS 375 Lifespan Intervention and Prevention Science	X				3
Early Childhood Professions Concentration Course (See Department List on Concentration Requirements tab)	X				3
Electives			X		5
Total Credits				14	

Semester 6		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
HDFS 402 Couple and Family Studies	X				3
Select one course from the following:	X				1
HDFS 477A Professional Preparation: Local Internship Placements					
HDFS 477B Professional Preparation: Distance Internship Placements					
HDFS 478 HDFS Professional Development					
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice Course (See Department List on Concentration Requirements tab)	X				3
Early Childhood Professions Concentration Course (See Department List on Concentration Requirements tab)	X				3
Electives			X		6
Total Credits				16	

Senior					
Semester 7		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
HDFS 410 Promoting Early Socioemotional Development	X				3
HDFS 434 Risk and Resilience Across the Lifespan	X			4B	3
HDFS 488B Internship: Early Childhood	X				4-6
Early Childhood Professions Concentration Course (See Department List on Concentration Requirements tab)	X				3
HDFS 350 must be completed by the end of Semester 7.	X				
Total Credits				13-15	

Semester 8		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
HDFS 492 Capstone—Evidence-Based Program Proposals	X			4C	3
Electives			X		10-12
The benchmark courses for the 8th semester are the remaining courses in the entire program of study.	X				
Total Credits				13-15	

Program Total Credits: 120