

Developmental Science

www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/academic_programs_admission/graduate/ds/

Department Head: Dr. James Deal

Graduate Coordinator: Dr. Joel Hektner (Joel.Hektner@ndsu.edu)

Department Location: Evelyn Morrow Lebedeff Hall

Telephone Number: (701) 231-8268

Degree Offered: Ph.D.

Application Deadline: February 1

Test Requirements: GRE General

English Proficiency TOEFL ibT 100 (subscores of at least 24 for speaking and 21 for writing)

Requirements: IELTS 7

Program Description

Developmental Science is an emerging approach to the study of human development that combines elements of more traditional approaches from the fields of Developmental Psychology and Human Development. Developmental Science entails the study of human development across the lifespan, integrating the biological, cognitive, and socioemotional underpinnings of development, and incorporating the familial, social, institutional and cultural contexts in which development occurs.

Admission Requirements

- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- GRE
- For those entering with a Master's degree:
 - Master's degree from accredited educational institution in child development, developmental psychology, human development, developmental science, or related area
 - At least one course in statistics and one course in research methods, with grades of at least a B
 - Completion of an empirical Master's thesis
- For those entering with a Bachelor's degree:
 - Bachelor's degree from accredited educational institution in child development, developmental psychology, human development, developmental science, or related area
- Statement of purpose should be 500 words or less and address the following:
 - How your interest in this field developed.
 - Why you chose our program at NDSU.
 - The experiences you have had (e.g. informal, academic, employment, volunteer) that you see as related to this graduate program or your professional goals.
 - What your research interests are and how they might fit with the current research emphases in the department. If you have questions about this, the HDFS faculty research interests are described on the HDFS webpage (<http://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/>).
 - What your professional goals are and how this graduate program will help you accomplish your professional goals
- Curriculum vitae or resume
- Thesis or writing sample
- For non-native English speakers, TOEFL ibT score of at least 100 or IELTS score of at least 7

- Subscores on the TOEFL ibT are at least 24 for speaking and 21 for writing

Financial Assistance

All admitted students are awarded graduate assistantships which provide a full tuition waiver plus a stipend.

Curriculum for students entering with a Bachelor's degree (90 credits total)

- Students earn a Master's degree after completing 30 credits, including the master's thesis and master's oral examination.
- All courses 3 credits unless otherwise noted.

Didactic Core Courses		24
HDFS 703	Research Methods in Human Development and Family Science	
HDFS 705	Quantitative Methods in Developmental Science	
HDFS 802	Teaching Developmental Science	
HDFS 812	Advanced Human Development: Birth Through Childhood	
HDFS 814	Advanced Human Development: Adolescence Through Early Adulthood	
HDFS 816	Advanced Human Development III: Middle through Late Adulthood	
HDFS 854	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Developmental Science	
HDFS 856	Longitudinal Research Methods and Analysis	
Electives		13
Must include 6 credits in didactic 700 or 800-level courses in HDFS or other departments, including at least one course from:		
HDFS 824	Advanced Topics in Socioemotional Development	
HDFS 825	Advanced Topics in Cognitive Development	
HDFS 826		
Non-didactic Courses		10
HDFS 801	Graduate Orientation Seminar (1 credit)	
HDFS 805	Professional Development in Developmental Science (1 credit)	
HDFS 790	Graduate Seminar (to be taken 8 semesters 1 credit each)	
Independent Research		43
HDFS 793	Individual Study/Tutorial (22 credits)	
HDFS 798	Master's Thesis (6 credits)	
HDFS 899	Doctoral Dissertation (15 credits)	
Total Credits		90

Curriculum for students entering with a Master's degree (60 credits total)

- Students may follow this track only if their Master's degree and thesis was approved by the Developmental Science Committee upon admission.
- Additional coursework may be necessary to compensate for courses not taken.
- All courses 3 credits unless otherwise noted.

Didactic Courses (could substitute other electives with committee approval)		18
HDFS 802	Teaching Developmental Science	
HDFS 812	Advanced Human Development: Birth Through Childhood	
HDFS 814	Advanced Human Development: Adolescence Through Early Adulthood	
HDFS 816	Advanced Human Development III: Middle through Late Adulthood	
HDFS 854	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Developmental Science	
HDFS 856	Longitudinal Research Methods and Analysis	
Four more didactic 700-level courses; could be outside of HDFS (to be approved by committee)		
Electives--must include at least one course from:		6
HDFS 824	Advanced Topics in Socioemotional Development	
HDFS 825	Advanced Topics in Cognitive Development	
HDFS 826	700-level course in HDFS or other department	
Non-didactic Courses		
HDFS 801	Graduate Orientation Seminar	1
HDFS 805	Professional Development in Developmental Science	1
HDFS 790	Graduate Seminar (to be taken 5 semesters (1 credit each))	5
Independent Research		
HDFS 793	Individual Study/Tutorial	14
HDFS 899	Doctoral Dissertation	15
Total Credits		60

Other Requirements

- Teach one undergraduate course, with supervision (as part of assistantship or for course credit in HDFS 794 Practicum/Internship). Must have first taken HDFS 802 Teaching Developmental Science.
- Submit at least four proposal/abstracts for presentations or posters at national conferences, including as a co-presenter (2 submissions if enter with MS)
- Present (in person) at least twice at national conferences (once if enter with MS), unless a waiver is granted by the student's committee.
- Submit at least two peer-reviewed articles for publication (including as co-author). Note: Although these presentation and publication requirements do not carry course credit per se, they are projects that would be worked on as part of HDFS 793 Individual Study/Tutorial, and/or HDFS 899 Doctoral Dissertation.
- Qualifying examination
- Dissertation

Core Faculty

James E. Deal, Ph.D.

University of Georgia, 1987

Research Interests: Personality Development in Children; Research Methods

Margaret Fitzgerald, Ph.D.

Iowa State University, 1997

Research Interests: Birth-timing & Economic Outcomes; The Interface Between Family Business & The Family

Heather Fuller-Iglesias, Ph.D.

University of Michigan, 2009

Research Interests: Social Support and Family Dynamics Across the Lifespan; Psychosocial Aging; Cultural Contexts

Joel Hektner, Ph.D.

University of Chicago, 1996

Research Interests: Alcohol/Drug Abuse Prevention; Delinquency; Peer Affiliation Patterns/ Influences on Behavior

Melissa Lunsman O'Connor, Ph.D.

University of South Florida, 2010

Research Interests: Cognitive and Functional Aging in Healthy and Clinical Populations; Older Drivers; Research Methods; Attitudes toward Dementia

Brandy A. Randall, Ph.D.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2002

Research Interests: Prosocial & Moral Development; Relationships; Positive/Problem Behaviors

Elizabeth Blodgett Salafia, Ph.D.

University of Notre Dame, 2008

Research Interests: Family and Peer Influences on Adolescents' Disordered Eating Attitudes and Behaviors

Rebecca Woods, Ph.D.

Texas A&M University, 2006

Research Interests: Perception and cognition in infancy; object processing; multimodal processing; early gender differences

Affiliated Faculty with in HDFS

Kristen Benson, Ph.D.

Virginia Polytechnical Institute and State University, 2008

Research Interests: Gender Identity and Family/Partner Relationships, Diversity Issues in Family Therapy, Collaborative Approaches to Family Therapy Education and Training, and Qualitative Methodology

Sean Brotherson, Ph.D.

Oregon State University, 2000

Research Interests: Parenting; Family Life Education

Christie McGeorge, Ph.D.

University of Minnesota, 2005

Research Interests: Family Caregiving; Family Wellness; Premarital Counseling

Sharon Query, Ph.D.

Thomas Stone Carlson, Ph.D.

Iowa State University, 2000

Research Interests: Family Therapy Training & Supervision; Fathering

Affiliated Faculty outside of HDFS

Ben Balas, Ph.D.,

Psychology

Ardith Brunt, Ph.D.,

Health, Nutrition and Exercise Science

Ann Burnett, Ph.D.,

Women's Studies

Erin Conwell, Ph.D.,
Psychology

Donna Grandbois, Ph.D.,
Nursing

Daniel Klenow, Ph.D.,
Emergency Management

Linda Langley, Ph.D.,
Psychology

Susan Ray-Degges, Ph.D.,
Apparel, Design and Hospitality Management

Larry Reynolds, Ph.D.,
Animal Sciences

Greg Sanders, Ph.D.,
Human Development & Education

Molly Secor-Turner, Ph.D.,
Nursing

Kevin Thompson, Ph.D.,
Criminal Justice and Political Science

Wendy Troop-Gordon, Ph.D.,
Psychology

Kim Vonnahme, Ph.D.,
Animal Sciences

Rachelle Vettern, Ph.D.,
Center for 4-H Youth Development