

# Developmental Science

---

## Department Information

- **Department Head:**  
Joel Hektner, Ph.D.
- **Graduate Coordinator:**  
Heather Fuller, Ph.D.
- **Email:**  
heather.fuller@ndsu.edu
- **Department Location:**  
Evelyn Morrow Lebedeff Hall
- **Department Phone:**  
(701) 231-8268
- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate\\_studies/ds/](http://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate_studies/ds/) ([http://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate\\_studies/ds/](http://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate_studies/ds/))
- **Application Deadline:**  
February 1
- **Credential Offered:**  
Ph.D.
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**  
TOEFL iBT 100 (subscores of at least 24 for speaking and 21 for writing); IELTS 7; Duolingo 125

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

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

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Development Core</b>		<b>12</b>
HDFS 811	Developmental Concepts and Theories	
HDFS 813	Social and Emotional Development Across the Lifespan	
HDFS 815	Physical and Cognitive Development Across the Lifespan	
HDFS 817	Prevention Science	
<b>Teaching Core</b>		<b>6</b>
HDFS 892	Graduate Teaching Experience	
HDFS 802	Teaching and Learning in the Human Sciences <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Methodology and Statistics Core</b>		<b>12</b>
HDFS 705	Quantitative Methods in Developmental Science	
HDFS 805	Research Methods and Scholar Development in Human Sciences	
HDFS 854	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Developmental Science <sup>1</sup>	
HDFS 856	Longitudinal Research Methods and Analysis <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Electives</b>		<b>15</b>
Must include 9 credits in didactic 700- or 800-level courses (in HDFS or other departments) (HDFS 824 or HDFS 825 recommended)		
Can include, distributed in varying credit amounts across multiple semesters:		
HDFS 893	Individual Study/Tutorial (maximum of 6 additional credits (beyond the 17 required) )	
HDFS 894	Practicum/Internship (focus on teaching or non-academic role)	
<b>Non-Didactic Courses</b>		<b>7</b>
HDFS 801	Graduate Orientation Seminar (1 credit)	
HDFS 890	Graduate Seminar (Qualifying Exam/Career, 6 credits total)	
2 credits during spring before doing qualifying exam; 2 credits in summer during qualifying exam; 2 credits during final year to focus on career development		
<b>Independent Research</b>		<b>38</b>
HDFS 893	Individual Study/Tutorial (17 credits)	
HDFS 798	Master's Thesis (6 credits)	

HDFS 899	Doctoral Dissertation (15 credits)	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>90</b>

### 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.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Development Core</b>		<b>12</b>
HDFS 811	Developmental Concepts and Theories	
HDFS 813	Social and Emotional Development Across the Lifespan	
HDFS 815	Physical and Cognitive Development Across the Lifespan	
HDFS 817	Prevention Science	
<b>Teaching Core</b>		<b>6</b>
HDFS 892	Graduate Teaching Experience	
HDFS 802	Teaching and Learning in the Human Sciences <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Methodology and Statistics Core</b>		<b>9</b>
HDFS 805	Research Methods and Scholar Development in Human Sciences	
HDFS 854	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Developmental Science <sup>1</sup>	
HDFS 856	Longitudinal Research Methods and Analysis <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Didactic Electives</b>		<b>3</b>
could include HDFS 824, HDFS 825, HDFS 893, HDFS 894, or 700- or 800-level course in HDFS or other department.		
<b>Non-Didactic Courses</b>		<b>7</b>
HDFS 801	Graduate Orientation Seminar (1 credit)	
HDFS 890	Graduate Seminar (Qualifying Exam/Career, 6 credits total)	
2 credits during spring before doing qualifying exam; 2 credits in summer during qualifying exam; 2 credits during final year to focus on career development		
<b>Independent Research</b>		<b>23</b>
HDFS 893	Individual Study/Tutorial (8 credits)	
HDFS 899	Doctoral Dissertation (15 credits)	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

1. Course can be substituted with another course approved by advisor and committee or program coordinator.

### Other Requirements

- Teach one undergraduate course, with supervision, for course credit in HDFS 892 Graduate Teaching Experience. Must have first taken a teaching pedagogy course HDFS 802 Teaching and Learning in the Human Sciences, COMM 702 Introduction to College Teaching in the Humanities and Social Sciences, or STEM 810 Teaching College Science, as well as two courses out of HDFS 811 Developmental Concepts and Theories, HDFS 813 Social and Emotional Development Across the Lifespan, HDFS 815 Physical and Cognitive Development Across the Lifespan, and HDFS 817 Prevention 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 798 Master's Thesis, HDFS 893 Individual Study/Tutorial, and/or HDFS 899 Doctoral Dissertation.
- Successful qualifying examination.
- Successful comprehensive/preliminary examination (dissertation proposal) and successful final examination (dissertation defense). If entering without MS degree, successful thesis defense.