

Human Development and Family Science Major

Major Requirements

Degree Type: B.A. or B.S.
Minimum Credits Required: 120

University Degree Requirements

For complete details on these and other university degree requirements, refer to the Degree and Graduation Requirements (<https://catalog.ndsu.edu/academic-policies/undergraduate-policies/degree-and-graduation/>) section in the University Catalog.

1. Minimum of 120 semester credits (some programs may exceed this minimum).
2. Complete the University General Education requirements.
3. Minimum institutional GPA of 2.00 based on work taken at NDSU.
4. Minimum of 30 credits in resident at NDSU.
5. Minimum of 36 upper level credits (courses numbered 300 or higher).
6. Students with transfer credit must meet the NDSU 30 credits in residence (#4). Of these 30 credits in residence, a minimum of 15 credits must be in courses numbered 300 or above, and 15 credits must be in the student's declared major curricula.

University General Education Requirements

A list of university approved general education courses along with the administrative policies governing the requirement and the categories is available here (<https://catalog.ndsu.edu/academic-policies/undergraduate-policies/general-education/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Category C: Communication		12
Category R: Quantitative Reasoning		3
Category S: Science and Technology		10
Category A: Humanities and Fine Arts		6
Category B: Social and Behavioral Sciences		6
Category W: Wellness		2
Category D: Cultural Diversity		
Category G: Global Perspectives		
Category L: Digital Literacy		
Total Credits		39

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Human Development & Family Science Core Requirements		
HDFS 230	Life Span Development	3
HDFS 242	Couples, Marriages and Families	3
HDFS 250	Introduction to Research Methods in Human Development and Family Sciences	3
HDFS 275	Diversity and Multiculturalism in Individual and Family Life	3
HDFS 353	Children, Families and Public Policy	3
HDFS 389	Pre-Field Experience	2
HDFS 390	Career Development	1
HDFS 496	1	3
PSYC 111	Introduction to Psychology	3
SOC 110	Introduction to Sociology	3
Select one of the following:		3
ENGL 320	Business and Professional Writing	
ENGL 325	Writing in the Health Professions	
ENGL 358	Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences	
ENGL 459	Researching and Writing Grants and Proposal	

Option Selection

Select one option from the three listed below: Adult Development & Aging; Child & Adolescent Development; Family Science 21

Minor Plan of Study

A minor plan of study is required outside of the HDFS department for all options. 16

Total Credits 67

Adult Development and Aging Option

Code	Title	Credits
HDFS 357	Personal and Family Finance	3
HDFS 360	Adult Development and Aging	3
HDFS 480	Community Resources of Later Life	3
HDFS 482	Family Dynamics of Aging	3
HDFS 300-400 Level	Major Electives (can include up to 3 credits of HDFS 496 or HDFS 491)	9

Total Credits 21

Child and Adolescent Development Option

Code	Title	Credits
HDFS 320	Prenatal, Infant and Toddler Development	3
HDFS 330	Child Development	3
HDFS 340	Adolescent Development	3
HDFS 483	Best Practices, Play and Activities from Birth through Adolescence	3
HDFS 300-400 Level	Major Electives (can include up to 3 credits of HDFS 496 or HDFS 491)	9

Total Credits 21

Family Science Option

Code	Title	Credits
HDFS 341	Parent-Child Relations	3
HDFS 357	Personal and Family Finance	3
HDFS 448	Issues In Sexuality	3
HDFS 462	Methods of Family Life Education	3
HDFS 300-400 Level	Major Electives (can include up to 3 credits of HDFS 496 or HDFS 491)	9

Total Credits 21

¹ In the semester prior to taking field experience credits, students are required to take HDFS 389 Pre-Field Experience. Note: HDFS 491 Senior Thesis may be completed as elective.

Degree Requirements and Notes

- A grade of C or better is required for all HDFS courses, regardless of whether they are used for the major core, major electives, general education, or free electives.
- A 2.50 cumulative GPA is required in the HDFS prefix major courses and the HDFS courses required for the 21 credit option.
- Courses taken *Pass/Fail* will not be used to satisfy any requirement other than total credits.
- STAT 330 is recommended to fulfill the Quantitative Reasoning General Education requirement, particularly for students intending to apply to graduate school.

Accelerated Program in HDFS

- A combined/accelerated program will allow high-achieving students to complete both a bachelor's and master's degree in HDFS in five years.
- Only students with a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 and who have completed at least 60 credits are eligible to apply. Interested students should speak with an HDFS advisor about how to proceed.
- 15 credits at the master's level may be used to meet the requirements for a bachelor's degree.
- The programs will map as follows:
 - BS-HDFS program with an option in Adult Development and Aging may enter the master's option Gerontology.
 - BS-HDFS program with an option in Child and Adolescent Development may enter the master's option in Youth Development.
 - BS-HDFS program with an option in Family Science may enter the master's option in Family Financial Planning