



## *Degree Requirements* *Childhood Studies*

[www.integrative.gmu.edu](http://www.integrative.gmu.edu)

### **Description**

This concentration is designed to enhance understanding of effectively working in the context of childhood experiences and family structure. Students will develop an appreciation of the diverse developmental path children and adolescents take and enhance their commitment to children's welfare. This concentration is excellent for students who are interested in graduate school programs in counseling or social work, and students who are interested in working as child-life specialists, child and family advocates, and in non-profit settings.

### **About Integrative Studies/Philosophy**

The bachelor of arts degree program in integrative studies is based on intensive, interdisciplinary learning communities coordinated with traditional academic programs. The result is an integrated program of study that emphasizes collaboration, experiential learning, and self-reflection. The degree program requires mastery of eight essential competencies: communication, global understanding, group interaction, aesthetic awareness, critical thinking, civic engagement, digital literacy, and well-being.

### **Learning Communities (24 credits)**

Learning communities are interdisciplinary courses that combine different subjects into a single course that is usually 3 or 6 credits. In learning communities, faculty and students explore various ways to understand a topic. Learning communities are structured to help promote a greater sense of identity with an academic community. Hallmarks of learning communities are team teaching, collaborative projects, emphasis on writing and critical thinking, and opportunity for independent study. They often include experiential learning, either as an integral part of the class or as an optional add on.

### **Experiential Learning (12 credits)**

Experiential learning includes internships, study abroad, community service learning, course field trips, and other field study opportunities. The learning sites may change each semester and are usually off campus. George Mason provides student liability insurance for the experiential learning internship, but students are responsible for their own transportation and health care. Accident and health insurance is available from George Mason.

No more than 24 credits of experiential learning can count toward a student's total credits for graduation.

## Required Courses

### Psychology

- PSYC 100\* - Basic Concepts in Psychology
- PSYC 211 - Developmental Psychology
- PSYC 313 - Child Psychology

### NCC Learning Communities

- INTS 312 - Images and Experiences of Childhood
- INTS 316 - Introduction to Childhood Studies
- INTS 317 - Issues in Family Relationships

### Statistics:

- STAT 250 - Introductory Statistics I OR SOCI 313 - Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences

### Three elective courses chosen from the following

- ANTH 315, ENGH 452, HEAL 330, 350 INTS 231, NCLC 305, 310, 320, 331,
- NUTR 295, 420, 421, 422, 423, 466, PSYC 314, 324, 325, 330, SOCW 415, 423, SOCI 315

## Sample 4-year plan

First Year				Second Year			
Fall Semester		Spring Semester		Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
*INTS Core	6	*INTS Core	6	INTS 312	4	INTS 316	4
*Western Civ/ History	3	*ENGH 101	3	*PSYC 100	3	PSYC 211	3
*Global Understanding	3	*IT 104	3	INTS 3xx/4xx	3	SOCI 302	3
*Science w/ Lab	4	*STAT 250	3	Elective/Minor	3	Elective/Minor	3
				Minor	3	Minor	3
<b>Total:</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>16</b>
Third Year				Fourth Year			
Fall Semester		Spring Semester		Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
INTS 317	4	INTS 331	4	INTS 3xx/4xx	4	INTS 490	4
INTS 3xx/4xx	4	PSYC 314	3	PSYC 325	3	INTS 3xx/4xx	4
PSYC 313	3	HEAL 330	3	Elective/Minor	3	Elective/Minor	3
Elective/Minor	3	Elective/Minor	3	Minor	3	Minor	3
		Minor	3				
<b>Total:</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b>14</b>

\*these courses also fulfill general education requirements

## Advising/Further Information

[Integrative.gmu.edu/programs/la-ba-ints-chds](http://Integrative.gmu.edu/programs/la-ba-ints-chds)

### Integrative Studies

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