

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE MINOR (CHSS)

Banner Code: HDFS

Academic Advising

Email: HDFS@gmu.edu
 Website: <https://hdfs.gmu.edu/human-development-family-science/minor>

This highly relevant and contemporary minor is a 15-credit interdisciplinary program designed especially for students who are interested in how individuals develop and how to improve the quality of life for families and communities. You'll explore the psychological, social, cultural, and biological development of individuals from conception through adulthood and aging, within the contexts of their families, communities, and the broader society.

The minor is an excellent complement to many majors at Mason. And, because it is offered as a collaboration between the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS), you'll have the opportunity to learn from outstanding faculty from both colleges who are dedicated to teaching and involved in cutting-edge research.

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Eight credits of coursework must be unique to the minor. For policies governing all minors, see AP.5.3.4 Minors.

Requirements

Minor Requirements

Total credits: 15

Core Course

Code	Title	Credits
HDFS 200	Individual and Family Development	3
HDFS 400	Advanced Family Processes (Mason Core)	3
Total Credits		6

Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select at least one course from each of the two component areas (development and diversity) below		6
A third elective may be selected from any component or with permission of an HDFS advisor		3
Total Credits		9

To reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the HDFS minor, two courses must have prefixes from disciplines outside of your major area of study (e.g., for PSYC majors, two courses must come from CEHD prefixes: ATEP, ECED, EDUC, HEAL, PHED; for ECED majors, two courses must come from CHSS prefixes: ANTH, INTS, PSYC, SOCI).

Development

Code	Title	Credits
Select at least one from the following:		
ECED 401	Developmental Pathways of Diverse Learners, Birth-Adolescence	
EDUC 302	Human Growth and Development	
INTS 312	Images and Experiences of Childhood: Social Construct, Literature, and Film	
INTS 316	Introduction to Childhood Studies (Mason Core)	
INTS 319	Contemporary Youth Studies (Mason Core)	
PSYC 211	Developmental Psychology (Mason Core)	
PSYC 313	Child Development	
PSYC 314	Adolescent Development	
PSYC 415	Psychological Factors in Aging	
SOCI 360	Youth Culture and Society	

Diversity

Code	Title	Credits
Select at least one from the following:		
ANTH 315	Socialization Processes: Family, Childhood, Personality in Cross-Cultural Perspective	
ATEP 205	Cultural Competence	
ECED 405	Introduction to Early Childhood Special Education	
EDUC 203	Disability in American Culture (Mason Core)	
HEAL 350	Interventions for Populations and Communities at Risk	
INTS 320	Construction of Differences: Race, Class, and Gender (Mason Core)	
INTS 336	Poverty, Wealth and Inequality in the US (Mason Core)	
INTS 362	Social Justice and Human Rights (Mason Core)	
PSYC 379	Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology (Mason Core)	
SOCI 308	Race and Ethnicity in a Changing World	
SOCI 355	Social Inequality (Mason Core)	