

# BS in Human Development and Family Science

## Degree Program Description

The Human Development and Family Science (<https://hdfs.missouri.edu/>) program is developed from a foundation of human development and family science courses. It is essential for the student working with children, adolescents or adults to understand and to be able to maximize the resources offered by the family. It is equally important for the student concerned with the quality of family life to recognize the intricate spiral of changing needs in the growing individual.

## Major Program Requirements

A students must choose an emphasis area and complete a minimum of 120 credit hours to receive the degree.

Majors in all of the emphasis areas in HDFS must complete the core courses and additional course requirements (including General Education (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegree/requirements/general-education-requirements/>) courses and Requirements in Related Areas) specific to each emphasis area. Requirements for each emphasis area are listed on their respective catalog pages: Child Life Specialist (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofeducation/humandevlopmentfamilyscience/bs-human-development-family-science-emphasis-child-life-specialist/>), Early Childhood Education in a Mobile Society (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofeducation/humandevlopmentfamilyscience/bs-human-development-family-science-emphasis-early-childhood-education-mobile-society/>), and Family and Lifespan Development (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofeducation/humandevlopmentfamilyscience/bs-human-development-family-science-emphasis-family-lifespan-development/>).

All students must earn a grade of C- or higher and a minimum 2.0 GPA overall in all HDFS courses taken to meet the HDFS degree requirements.

## Background Checks, Health Screenings and Other Required Elements:

It is essential that HDFS majors develop professional relationships with vulnerable populations, thus during the course of the degree program, and prior to beginning any practical or clinical education experience, students may be required to:

- pass multiple criminal background checks
- pass mandatory drug screens
- pass other qualification checks required by the practical or clinical education sites
- provide proof of health insurance coverage
- provide proof of required immunizations
- provide proof of student professional liability insurance coverage

The student is responsible for all costs incurred with these requirements. Failure to provide appropriate documentation, or pass required checks prior to the beginning of practical or clinical experiences may result in dismissal from the degree program in HDFS.

## Accelerated BS in Human Development and Family Science to MA in Human Development and Family Science

**Total credits required for graduation must be at least 138 total credit hours:**

- Total undergraduate credit hours: 102
- Total dual enrollment credit hours\*: 14
- Total graduate credit hours: 22

16 credit hours required at 8000-level. All students must be on-campus and physically present in courses. There is no requirement to become a Missouri resident.

\*Dual enrollment credit hours are graduate credits that will be listed on both your Bachelor's and Master's plans of study. You need 36 hours of graduate credit to earn the Master's degree.

### Required Core Courses

H_D_FS 8200	Research Methods in Human Development and Family Science	3
H_D_FS 8210	Theories of Human Development	3
H_D_FS 8220	Family Theories	3
H_D_FS 8087	Seminar in Human Development and Family Science	1
H_D_FS 7001	Topics in Human Development and Family Science	1-3
ESC_PS 7170	Introduction to Applied Statistics	3
H_D_FS 8090	Research in Human Development and Family Science	3
<b>Diversity Course Requirement (choose one course)</b>		<b>3</b>
H_D_FS 8770	Poverty	3
H_D_FS 8300	Advanced Seminar on Multicultural Families	3
H_D_FS 7300	Black Families	3
<b>Developmental Course Requirement (choose one course)</b>		<b>3</b>
H_D_FS 8450	Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood	3
H_D_FS 8410	Infancy and Childhood	3

Additional graduate level electives may be needed to reach 36 graduate credit hours. Students must have a minimum of 36 graduate credit hours to complete the degree.

Each student must enroll in and complete a 3-credit-hour capstone project that demonstrates their ability to understand and apply HDFS content, theory, and research. All projects require a written paper and an oral defense, but the project itself may be varied depending on student interest and career choice.

## Semester Plan

The BS in Human Development and Family Science (<https://hdfs.missouri.edu/>) has emphasis areas in Child Life Specialist (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofeducation/humandevlopmentfamilyscience/bs-human-development-family-science-emphasis-child-life-specialist/>), Early Childhood Education in a Mobile Society (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofeducation/humandevlopmentfamilyscience/bs-human-development-family-science-emphasis-early-childhood-education-mobile-society/>), and Family and Lifespan Development (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofeducation/humandevlopmentfamilyscience/bs-human-development-family-science-emphasis-family-lifespan-development/>).

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emphasis-family-lifespan-development/). Please see the individual  
emphasis area pages for semester plans specific to each emphasis area.