MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.) MAJOR IN FAMILY AND CHILD STUDIES (RESEARCH IN FAMILY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CONCENTRATION THESIS OPTION)

Program Overview
The graduate program provides students with the knowledge and expertise to attain professional positions and advancement opportunities in programs serving families and children.

Application Requirements
The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College's website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents webpage (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international/) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- $55 nonrefundable application fee
  or
- $90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts from each institution where course credit was granted
- minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- background course work
- official GRE (general test only) with competitive scores in the verbal reasoning and quantitative reasoning sections
- resume/CV
- statement of purpose (approximately 500 words)
- three letters of recommendation

TOEFL or IELTS Scores
Non-native English speakers who do not qualify for an English proficiency waiver:
- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and
  - minimum individual module scores of 6.0

This program does not offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements
The Master of Science (M.S.) degree with a major in Human Development and Family Sciences concentration in Research in Family and Human Development requires 37 semester credit hours, including a thesis. Students who do not have the appropriate background course work may be required to complete leveling courses.

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FCS 5302J</td>
<td>Statistics and Data Analysis for Family and Consumer Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCS 5310</td>
<td>Research Methods in FCS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDF 5100</td>
<td>Introduction to Human Development and Family Sciences</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDF 5340</td>
<td>Advanced Cultural Diversity of Families</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDF 5341</td>
<td>Advanced Child Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDF 5351</td>
<td>Advanced Theory in Human Development and Family Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDF 5352</td>
<td>Issues in Human Development and Family Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
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Prescribed Electives
Choose 12 hours from the following:

- HDF 5344 Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
- HDF 5353 Program Evaluation in Human Development and Family Sciences
- HDF 5355 Advanced Independent Study
- HDF 5357 Comparative Studies in Child Development
- May choose other advisor-approved courses

Thesis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HDF 5399A</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Choose a minimum of 3 hours from the following:

- HDF 5199B Thesis
- HDF 5299B Thesis
- HDF 5399B Thesis
- HDF 5599B Thesis
- HDF 5999B Thesis

Total Hours 37

Comprehensive Examination Requirement
Students pursuing the thesis option will write and defend their thesis. Students who do not successfully defend their thesis will have two additional opportunities to defend.

Students who do not successfully complete the requirements for the degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must demonstrate the student’s capability for research and independent thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with the Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or Dissertation.

The student must submit an official Thesis Proposal Form (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/forms.html) and proposal to his or her thesis committee. Thesis proposals vary by department and discipline. Please see your department for proposal guidelines and requirements. After signing the form and obtaining committee members’ signatures, the graduate advisor’s signature if required by the program and the department chair’s signature, the student must submit the Thesis Proposal Form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College. The IRB approval letter should be included with the proposal form. If the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended that the thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College by the end of the student’s enrollment in 5399A. Failure to submit the thesis proposal in a timely fashion may result in delayed graduation.

Thesis Committee

The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three approved graduate faculty members.

Thesis Enrollment and Credit

The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. For a student’s initial thesis course enrollment, the student will need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process. Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in additional thesis credits at the committee chair’s discretion. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrawn), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit ("CR") will be awarded only after the thesis has been both approved by The Graduate College and released to Alkek Library.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during the summer, the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process

Thesis deadlines are posted on The Graduate College (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/) website under ‘Current Students.’ The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee on or before the deadlines listed on The Graduate College website.

The following must be submitted to The Graduate College by the thesis deadline listed on The Graduate College website:

1. The Thesis Submission Approval Form bearing original (wet) and/or electronic signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the online Vireo submission system.

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, Alkek Library will harvest the document from the Vireo submission system for publishing in the Digital Collections database (according to the student’s embargo selection). NOTE: MFA Creative Writing theses will have a permanent embargo and will never be published to Digital Collections.

While original (wet) signatures are preferred, there may be situations as determined by the chair of the committee in which obtaining original signatures is inefficient or has the potential to delay the student’s progress. In those situations, the following methods of signing are acceptable:

- signing and faxing the form
- signing, scanning, and emailing the form
- notifying the department in an email from their university’s or institution’s email account that the committee chair can sign the form on their behalf
- electronically signing the form using the university’s licensed signature platform.

If this process results in more than one document with signatures, all documents need to be submitted to The Graduate College together.

No copies are required to be submitted to Alkek Library. However, the library will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Master’s level courses in Family and Child Studies: FCD (p.  ), FCS (p.  )
Family and Child Development (FCD)

Family and Child Studies (FCS)

This course provides an overview of the field of Family and Consumer Sciences as it relates to human ecology, emphasizing its interdisciplinary nature, history, theories, career opportunities, and career readiness.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 3303. Introduction to Research in Family and Consumer Sciences.
This course examines practices in the social science research process, with an emphasis on general scientific literacy. Content will focus on technical and academic writing for use in the Family and Consumer Sciences profession.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 4101. Special Problems in Family and Consumer Sciences.
A study of selected areas of Family and Consumer Sciences. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Dual Enrollment
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

The study and implementation of research procedures for use with family and consumer sciences programs. Includes instrument selection, recruitment and testing of subjects, coding, analysis and dissemination of data. Will include field based experiences using appropriate research procedures. Restricted to Senior Standing. (WI).
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 4304A. Family Finance II.
This course is a study of financial management for individuals and families. Topics include financial inequality, investments, retirement planning, and estate planning. Prerequisite: CA 3341 with a grade of 'D' or better.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 4304B. Introduction to Research Methods in Family and Consumer Sciences.
The examination of practices in the social science research process with an emphasis on general scientific literacy and technical, academic writing for use with Family and Consumer Sciences programs.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics|Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 4307. Family Policy.
This course is an examination of policy-making and the significance of national, state and local policies that affect families. Students will analyze social policies, including government programs and legislation, and discuss how to influence change in policies. Use of the Internet and computer software programs such as Word, PowerPoint, and others required. Requires Senior Standing. (WI).
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.
Course Attribute(s): Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Study of Family and Consumer Sciences topics in international settings. Emphasis will be placed on cultural awareness and its application within FCS professions. Repeatable for credit with different emphasis. (MULT) (WI).
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 4343. Occupational Education in FCS.
Its purpose is to help prepare students for teacher certification and teach occupational education content in 11-12 grade FCS classrooms. Occupational education course in 11-12 grades such as Services for Older Adults, Hospitality Services, Childcare and Guidance and Food Production, management and services are designed for students to gain extensive management skills and practical work experience.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 4347. Family Policy.
This course is an examination of policy-making and the significance of national, state and local policies that affect families. Students will analyze social policies, including government programs and legislation, and discuss how to influence change in policies. Use of the Internet and computer software programs such as Word, PowerPoint, and others required. Requires Senior Standing. (WI).
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.
Course Attribute(s): Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Students will apply knowledge and skills learned during the teacher preparation program while engaging in clinical practice with experienced Family & Consumer Sciences mentor teachers in school settings with university instruction and supervision. This culmination experience is required for Texas teacher certification. Requires departmental approval through the OEP. Prerequisites: Admittance to the Educator Preparation Program, 2.75 Overall GPA; Additional coursework may not be taken concurrently: For undergraduate students, all other degree-required course work must be completed; For graduate and post-baccalaureate students, all certification coursework must be completed.
6 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 6 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
FCS 5101. Graduate Assistant Development.
This course is required as a condition of employment for graduate teaching and instructional assistants. This course provides regular in-service and planned periodic evaluations of instructional responsibilities. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Repeatable up to 3 times.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Graduate Assistantship|Exclude from Graduate GPA
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

FCS 5301. Graduate Assistant Development.
This course is required as a condition of employment for graduate teaching and instructional assistants. It provides information about the educational needs of Texas State University's diverse student body. It also identifies educational strategies and campus resources that support the learning of undergraduate students. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Graduate Assistantship|Exclude from Graduate GPA
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

FCS 5302H. Sustainable Consumer Economy.
This course is an in-depth study of the role of consumption in the development of sustainable systems including the family, natural resources and economics.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 5302J. Statistics and Data Analysis for Family and Consumer Sciences.
This is a graduate level course covering statistical techniques commonly used in the field of family and consumer sciences. Topics include descriptive statistics, Chi-Square analysis, analysis of variance and covariance, simple and multiple linear regression, logistic regression, and use of statistical software. Data analysis to support decision-making is emphasized. Restricted to students in one of the graduate FCS programs.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 5302S. Sustainable Textiles.
This course is an in-depth study of the relationship of fibers, fabrics, finishes and textile products end-uses with a particular focus on their impact on sustainability.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Topics
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 5305. Sustainable Housing.
This course is an in-depth study of the relationship between housing and sustainability with a particular focus on the role of materials, technology, policy and human factors in fostering healthy social, economic and natural systems.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 5307. Sustainable Lighting.
This course focuses on understanding the elements and principles of sustainable lighting and explains how it meets the qualitative needs of the visual environment with the least impact on the natural environment.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 5310. Research Methods in FCS.
This course will cover the evaluation of concepts, methods, and strategies for research in the disciplines of family and consumer sciences. The course will focus on the nature and ethics of scientific research, including design, sampling, measurement, and data collection. Restricted to graduate level majors in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 5311. Statistics and Data Analysis for Family and Consumer Sciences.
This is a graduate level course covering statistical techniques commonly used in the field of family and consumer sciences. Topics include descriptive statistics, Chi-Square analysis, analysis of variance and covariance, simple and multiple linear regression, logistic regression, and use of statistical software. Data analysis to support decision-making is emphasized. Prerequisite: FCS 5310 with a grade of 'C' or better. Restricted to graduate students in FCS.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Study of Family and Consumer Sciences topics in international settings. Emphasis will be placed on an analysis of cultural differences and similarities and their application within FCS professions. Repeatable for credit. (MULT).
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

FCS 5303. Research in Family and Human Development Concentration Thesis Option