# Human Development and Family Science (HDFS)

## 200 Level Courses

**HDFS 200: Individual and Family Development.** 3 credits.  
Examines how individuals and families function and develop over the lifespan. Uses a multidisciplinary approach to integrate theories of family science and human development emphasizing the role of contextual factors in contemporary families' lives. Explores the impact of gender, socioeconomics, race/ethnicity, culture, and immigrant status on human development and family relationships. Introduces a basic model of scientific inquiry and theorizing. Offered by School of Education (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/). May not be repeated for credit.

**Mason Core:** Social/Behavioral Sciences (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**  
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**HDFS 250: Family Financial Literacy and Resource Management.** 3 credits.  

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**  
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

## 300 Level Courses

**HDFS 300: Individual and Family Services Delivery.** 3 credits.  
Offers an overview of human services delivery with a focus on families. Explores the historical and social contexts as well as the theoretical orientations of systems that shape delivery of services to families. Examines: 1) economic and cultural barriers that prevent families from gaining access to services; 2) social policy surrounding services for families; 3) ethical and legal issues in family services. Offered by School of Education (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/). Limited to three attempts.

**Recommended Prerequisite:** HDFS 200.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**  
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**HDFS 301: The Hospitalized Child and Family.** 3 credits.  
Examines the philosophy, purposes, and concepts of Child Life Specialists. Explores developmental and psychological needs of hospitalized children, their families, and those who provide services to children. Examines the impact of illness and illness-related stressors on the dynamics of the family and strategies for coping. Offered by School of Education (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/). Limited to three attempts.

**Recommended Prerequisite:** HDFS 200 or permission from instructor.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**  
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

## 400 Level Courses

**HDFS 400: Advanced Family Processes.** 3 credits.  
Examines family system dynamics and processes, with an emphasis on cultural and contextual factors that influence family functioning and well-being over the lifespan. Examines both healthy and dysfunctional family processes (including abuse, neglect, and family violence). Explores evidence-based practices and interventions that promote family health, resilience, and well-being. Offered by School of Education (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/). Limited to three attempts.

**Mason Core:** Synthesis (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

**Recommended Prerequisite:** HDFS 200 or permission from instructor.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**  
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**HDFS 401: Family Law and Public Policy.** 3 credits.  
Examines contemporary family life and the impact of government laws, policies, and programs on families over time and across contexts and cultures. Explores the intended and unintended consequences of policies for diverse families across a variety of policy matters, from anti-poverty and social welfare policies to health and environmental policies. Offered by School of Education (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/). Limited to three attempts.

**Specialized Designation:** Writing Intensive in Major

**Recommended Prerequisite:** HDFS 200 or permission of instructor.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**  
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**HDFS 480: Special Topics in Human Development and Family Science.** 3 credits.  
Provides study on selected topic or emerging issue in Human Development and Family Science. Offered by School of Education (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/). May be repeated within the degree for a maximum of 9 credits.

**Specialized Designation:** Topic Varies
Schedule Type: Lecture

Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

HDFS 498: Internship and Analysis in Human Development and Family Science. 1-6 credits.
Enables students to discuss work-related experiences within the context of developmental and family theories and research. Fosters and promotes professional development through class and small group discussions, activities, lectures, guest speakers, and practical assignments. This is the first course in a two-course series that supports students in their internship and in transitioning from student to professional. Offered by School of Education (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/). May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisites: HDFS 300^C or 300^XS.
^C Requires minimum grade of C.
^XS Requires minimum grade of XS.

Enrollment is limited to students with a major, minor, or concentration in Human Devl and Family Science.

Schedule Type: Internship

Grading:
This course is graded on the Satisfactory/No Credit scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

HDFS 499: Advanced Internship and Analysis in Human Development and Family Science. 1-3 credits.
Supports students in the development and implementation of a program for staff and/or clients at internship site. Examines internship-related experiences within the context of developmental and family theories and empirical research. Contemplates and prepares for the transition to professional. This course is the second required internship experience. Note: Students will have 10 hours in the classroom and complete field-based hours that align with course credit hours. A 3 credit course requires 125 hours in the field, a 2 credit course requires 83 hours, and a 1 credit course requires 42 hours. Offered by School of Education (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/education-human-development/school-education/). May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 3 credits.

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisites: (HDFS 498 or 498^XS) and (PSYC 301^C, 301^XS, SOCI 303^C, 303^XS, INTS 434^C or 434^XS).
^XS Requires minimum grade of XS.
^C Requires minimum grade of C.

Enrollment is limited to students with a major, minor, or concentration in Human Devl and Family Science.

Schedule Type: Internship

Grading:
This course is graded on the Satisfactory/No Credit scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)