



# Department of Human Development and Family Science Degree Program Requirements for Child Life

Degree Program Requirements include General Education courses; HES College requirements; and Professional Program courses. Students must have a **2.50 MU Cum GPA** on or before 60 hours are completed to be admitted to the HDFS Degree Program. **Please note that acceptance into this option is on a competitive, space available basis.**

## GENERAL EDUCATION

### English: 3 hours

- \*ENGLISH 1000: Exposition and Argumentation  
Two Writing Intensive courses: One must be in the major.  
Prerequisite: ENGLISH 1000
- HDFS 2400 Principles of Human Development (4)
- HDFS 3420 Early and Middle Childhood (3)

### \*Mathematics: 3 hours

- MATH 1100: College Algebra  
Math Reasoning Proficiency course. Prerequisite: MATH 1100 with a grade in the C range.
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### American History or Government: 3 hours

- HIST 1100, 1200, 1400, 2210, 2440, 4000, 4220, 4230, or POL SC 1100, 1700, 2100

### Distribution of Content: 27 hours

- Courses approved for the Distribution of Content may be found at: <http://generaleducation.missouri.edu/requirements/>
- Choose at least one course numbered 2000 or higher in **two** different areas of the distribution.

### Biological, Mathematical and Physical Sciences: 9 hours

At least one Biological or Physical Science and its related laboratory. Two different areas of science must be completed. NEP 1340 may count as Biological Science, but may not 'double count' as an HES Foundation.

(Recommend ESC PS 4170 and PTH AS 2201 and 2203)

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### Social and Behavioral Sciences: 9 hours

At least two different departments must be represented. (Recommend PSYCH 1000, RU SOC 1000 or SOCIOL 1000.)

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### Humanities and Fine Arts: 9 hours

At least one course from two different departments must be represented. COMMUN 1200 may 'double count.' (Foreign language is an exception. A minimum of 12-13 hours of the same foreign language must be taken to fulfill the Humanities requirement.)

(Recommend PHIL 2440.)

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### \*Capstone Experience

Completed during last two semesters of coursework.

- HDFS 4993 Internship in HDFS (15)

## HES COLLEGE

### Foundation Courses: 6-7 hours

- FINPLN 2183 Personal and Family Finance (3), or  
FINPLN 4380 Assessing the American Dream (3)
- GN HES 1100 Intro to Human Environmental Sciences (1)  
(Required for freshmen; recommended for transfer students.)
- NEP 1034 Nutrition, Concepts and Controversies (3), or  
NEP 2222 Landscape of Obesity (3)

### Communication: 3 hours

COMMUN 1200 may 'double-count' as Humanities, or COMMUN 3571 may 'double-count' as an upper-level Behavioral Science.

- Choose from COMMUN 1200, 3571

\* Courses in these categories must be completed with a grade of C- or better.

## Department of Human Development and Family Science

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HDFS 1600 must be taken before any 3000 or 4000-level HDFS course. **Sociology 1000 and Psychology 1000 are required for the degree and should be taken to meet the social and behavioral sciences requirement in General Education.** Admission to the professional practice phase of the child life curriculum (beginning with HDFS 4130 during the junior year) is based upon a *competitive application and interview process*. Students must have attained a 3.2 cumulative GPA, completed HDFS 3500 and be enrolled in (or have also completed) HDFS 3700 at the time of *application*.

Students are admitted to HDFS 4993 after successful completion of HDFS 4130 (grade of 3.0 or higher).

Students must be selected by approved child life clinical internship programs through a student-initiated, competitive application process.

#### REQUIRED COURSES: (83 hours)

- CDS 2190 Medical Terminology (online course) (3)
- <sup>1</sup>HDFS 1600 Foundations of Family Science (3)
- <sup>1</sup>HDFS 2200 Research Methods in Human Development & Family Science (3)
- <sup>1</sup>HDFS 2300 Multicultural Study of Children and Families (3)
- <sup>1</sup>HDFS 2400 Principles of Human Development (4) (WI)
- <sup>1</sup>HDFS 3420 Early and Middle Childhood (3) (WI)
- HDFS 3430 Adolescence and Young Adulthood (3)
- <sup>1</sup>HDFS 3500 Infant-Toddler Development and Programs (6)
- HDFS 3600 Working with Parents (3)
- <sup>1</sup>HDFS 3700 Child Development Laboratory (6)
- HDFS 3800 Children's Play (3)
- <sup>3</sup>HDFS 4085 Problems in Human Development and Family Science – Child Life Volunteer Experience (1)
- HDFS 4100 Children in Healthcare Settings (3)
- HDFS 4110 Child Life Theory and Practice (3)
- <sup>2</sup>HDFS 4130 Child Life Practicum (3)
- HDFS 4400 Childhood Death and Bereavement (3)
- HDFS 4700 Children and Families in Poverty (3) **or** HDFS 4720 Child and Family Advocacy (3)
- HDFS 4993 Internship in Human Development and Family Science - Clinical Practice Internship (480 clock hours, min.) (15)
- PHIL 2440 Medical Ethics (**credit hours calculated under Humanities- General Education**) (3)
- PSYCH 1000 Introduction to Psychology (**credit hours calculated under Social/Behavioral Science- General Education**) (3)
- SOCIOL 1000 (or RU SOC 1000) Intro to Sociology (**credit hours calculated under Social/Behavioral Science- General Education**) (3)
- STAT 1200 Introductory Statistical Reasoning **or** 1300 Elementary Statistics **or** 1400 Statistical Analysis **or** ESC PS 4170 Introduction to Applied Statistics (**credit hours calculated under Mathematical Science-General Education**) (3)

#### Supporting Coursework (6 hours)

Choose 2 courses from among the following:

- HDFS 2450 Human Sexuality Across the Lifespan (3)
- HDFS 4200 Latino Youth and Families (3)
- HDFS 4300 Black Families (3)
- HDFS 4420 Environmental Influences on Lifespan Cognition (3)
- HDFS 4570 Dev & Admin of Child Services Programs (3)
- HDFS 4610 Stress in Families (3)
- HDFS 4620 Family Interaction (3)
- LTC 4510 Assessment in Early Childhood Education (3)
- NEP 2460 Eating Disorders (2)
- PSYCH 3830 Health Psychology (3)
- PSYCH 4540 Emotional Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence (3)
- SPEC ED 4300 Introduction to Special Education (3)
- SOC WK 4390 Helping Strategies with Children and Adolescents (3)

Other supporting coursework must be approved by the advisor prior to enrollment.

#### Minimum of 120 credit hours must be completed

<sup>1</sup> must earn a 2.00 or better in the course

<sup>2</sup> must earn a 3.00 or better in the course

<sup>3</sup> HDFS 4085 must be completed no later than the end of the Sophomore year

## Department of Human Development and Family Science

### Degree Program Requirements for Child Life

#### Recommended Course Sequence

##### Fall I

ENG 1000 Exposition and Argumentation	3
GN HES 1100 Intro to Human Envr Sciences	1
HDFS 1600 Foundations of Family Science	3
Humanities	3
PSYCH 1000 General Psychology	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

##### Spring I

BIO SC 1010 Gen Principles & Concepts of Bio	3
HDFS 2300 Multicultural Study Children/Family	3
HDFS 2400 Principles of Human Development	4
MATH 1100 College Algebra	3
SOC 1000 Introduction to Sociology	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

##### Fall II

COMMUN 1200 Intro to Speech Communication	3
FINPLN 2183 Personal and Family Finance	3
HDFS 3420 Early and Middle Childhood	3
HDFS 4085 Problems-Child Life Volunteer	1
History <b>or</b> Political Science	3
PTH AS 2201 Human Anatomy Lecture	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

##### Spring II

HDFS 2200 Research Methods in HDFS	3
HDFS 3430 Adolescence & Young Adulthood	3
HDFS 3500 Infant-Toddler Dev & Programs	6
PTH AS 2203 Human Anatomy Lab	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>

##### Summer II

CDS 2190 Medical Terminology	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

##### Fall III

HDFS 3700 Child Development Laboratory	6
HDFS 4100 Children in Health Care Settings	3
NEP 1034 Nutrition Concepts & Current Controversies	3
Statistics	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

##### Spring III

HDFS 3600 Working with Parents	3
HDFS 4110 Child Life Theory & Practice	3
HDFS 4400 Childhood Death & Bereavement	3
HDFS 4700 Children & Families in Poverty, <b>or</b> HDFS 4720 Child & Family Advocacy	3
Supporting Course	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

##### Fall IV

General Elective	1-3
HDFS 3800 Childrens Play	3
HDFS 4130 Child Life Practicum	3
PHIL 2440 Medical Ethics	3
Supporting Course	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>13-15</b>

##### Spring IV

HDFS 4993 Internship in HDFS	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

## Human Development & Family Science

### Careers of Recent HDFS Graduates

Graduates of Human Development and Family Science have a wide array of career options, many of which are available to graduates of any of the HDFS emphasis areas. Currently, only Child Life positions require certification that is available only to those students completing all Child Life program requirements and passing the Child Life Council's Certification Exam.

- **Independent Living Specialist** with Services for Independent Living
- **Trainer for Child Care Providers** with Community Partnerships
- **Teach for America Campus Coordinator.** *Recruit teachers from campuses across US*
- **Director of Residential Life** on a college campus
- **HIV Case Management Supervisor**
- **Quality Assurance Officer and Project Director** for Phoenix Programs
- **Counselor's Assistant** at the Family Counseling Center
- **Drug Court Counselor**
- **Certified Child Life Specialist** at St. Louis Children's Hospital, Hematology & Oncology
- **Exceptional Education Teacher** at Metropolitan Public School in Nashville, TN
- **Associate Director - Webster University Office of Admissions,** St. Louis
- **Director of Program Development** for the Boys' Club of New York
- **Early Childhood Educator** at the Family Center in St. Louis
- **Lead Toddler Teacher** at Southeast Missouri State's Child Development Center
- **Child Life Specialist III** at the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, CA
- **Restorative Justice Coordinator** for the Center for Women in Transition, St. Louis
- **Community Support Specialist** - Burrell Behavioral Health Child & Adolescent Services
- **County Extension Agent** in Family and Consumer Sciences at University of Arkansas
- **Marriage and Family Therapist** at McCambridge Center for Women
- **Therapist Dealing with Co-occurring Disorders** at Missouri Institute of Mental Health
- **Legislative Aid** for U.S. Senator in Washington, D.C.
- **Infant/Toddler Teacher** at Child Development Center of St. Louis Children's Hospital
- **Child Advocacy Center Clinical Coordinator** for Rainbow House
- **Owner and Director of Private Child Care Facility**
- **Intake Counselor** at the St. Louis Crisis Nursery
- **Foster Care Case Manager** for Boys and Girls Town of Missouri
- **Development Officer** for the University of Missouri Children's Hospital
- **Eligibility Specialist** for Section 8 Housing
- **Child and Family Advocate** at the Howard County Head Start
- **Special Events Coordinator** for the St. Louis Children's Hospital Foundation
- **Youth Advisor** for YMCA teen leadership program
- **Child Protection Caseworker** for Family Integrated Treatment Court
- **Employment and Training Coordinator** with Central Missouri Community Action
- **Director of Development** for Open Arms Pregnancy Resource Center
- **Child Life Specialist** at Ranken Jordan Pediatric Specialty
- **Pre-Kindergarten teacher** in an inclusion classroom
- **Director of Kay Senior Care Center**
- **Lead teacher** for a 4 to 5-year-old classroom at the YMCA
- **Family Specialist** with Division of Youth Services