

Bachelor of Arts in Human Development and Family Studies

The Bachelor of Arts in Human Development and Family Studies focuses on the classic and contemporary theories of human life development from infancy through adulthood including family and societal issues.

In addition, courses in the program can help you prepare to pursue these certifications:

- Certified Family Life Educator (<http://www.ncfr.org/cfle-certification>) (CFLE) sponsored by the National Council on Family Relations. To qualify for the academic portion of the CFLE, you'll need to complete all core requirements as well as these specific courses:

1. CHFD220 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=CHFD220>) - Human Sexuality
2. CHFD350 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=CHFD350>) - Family Life Education
3. CHFD360 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=CHFD360>) - Family Resource Management
4. CHFD348 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=CHFD348>) - Marriage and the Family
5. CHFD445 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=CHFD445>) - Family Communications
6. CHFD446 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=CHFD446>) - Families and Social Action
7. CHFD498 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=CHFD498>) - Senior Seminar in Child and Family Development

- Certified Child Life Specialist (CCLS) (<http://www.childlife.org/certification>) sponsored by the Association for Child Life Professionals. To qualify for the academic portion of the CCLS, you'll need to complete all core requirements as well as these specific courses:

1. HDFS401 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=HDFS401>) - Child Life Theory and Practice
2. HDFS402 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=HDFS402>) - Benefits of Therapeutic Play
3. HDFS403 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?P=HDFS403>) - Death, Dying and Grief
4. CHFD340 (<https://catalog.apus.edu/search/?search=chfd340>) - Family Development

- Child Development Associate (CDA) certification (<http://www.cdacouncil.org>) sponsored by the Early Childhood Education Training Institution and the Council for Professional Recognition.

Important note: This bachelor's degree does not lead to licensure to become a K-12 schoolteacher. In addition, individual states often require additional hands-on training, internships, or site visits not provided by our university. It is your responsibility to become familiar with all licensure/certification requirements in the state in which you plan to seek employment.

Degree Program Objectives

In addition to the institutional and degree level learning objectives, graduates of this program are expected to achieve these learning outcomes:

- Demonstrate fluency in the terminology, tools, and methods used in the field of child and family development.
- Describe the contributions of multiple theories or practices to the field of child and family development, both within and across disciplines.
- Demonstrate the ability to synthesize multiple information sources and points of view into a discussion of major child and family development issues.
- Present a project or paper linking knowledge from work, community, or research activities with knowledge acquired in the study of child and family development.
- Explain diverse perspectives on contested issues in child and family development, including an articulation of how these issues might be addressed in social, political, or personal settings.

Degree at a Glance

Code	Title	Semester Hours
	General Education Requirements	30
	Major Required	30
	General Concentration	27
	Final Program Requirements	3
	Elective Requirements	30
	Total Semester Hours	120

Degree Program Requirements

General Education Requirements (30 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Arts and Humanities (6 semester hours) ¹		
Select 2 courses from the following:		6
ARAB100	Arabic I	
ARAB101	Arabic II	
ARTH200	Art Appreciation	
ARTH241	Film and Literature	
DSIN141	Image Enhancement using Adobe Photoshop	
FREN100	French I	
FREN101	French II	
GERM100	German I	
GERM101	German II	
JAPN100	Introduction to Japanese	
LITR215	Literature of American Encounters, Revolution, and Rebellion	
LITR218	From Abolition to #MeToo: Literature of the American Civil Rights Movement	
LITR222	Pivotal Figures in Early British Literature	
LITR225	British Literature from Wordsworth through the Wasteland	
LITR231	Leadership in World Literature: Antiquity to the Early Modern Period	
LITR233	Literature of the Newly Globalized World: The Individual's Struggle to Adapt	
MUSI200	Music Appreciation	
MUSI250	World Music and Cultures	
PHIL101	Introduction to Philosophy	
PHIL110	Critical Thinking	
PHIL200	Introduction to Ethics	
PHIL202	Philosophy of Science	
PORT100	Introduction to Brazilian Portuguese	
RELS201	Introduction to World Religions	
RUSS100	Russian I	
SPAN100	Spanish I	
SPAN101	Spanish II	
STEM270	Thinking and Acting Ethically	
Civics, Political and Social Sciences (6 semester hours) ¹		
PSYC101	Introduction to Psychology	3
Select 1 course from the following:		3

ANTH100	Introduction to Anthropology	
ANTH202	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
CHFD220	Human Sexuality	
COMM211	Social Media and Society	
COMM240	Intercultural Communication	
ECON101	Microeconomics	
ECON102	Macroeconomics	
EDUC200	Humane Education: A Global Interdisciplinary Perspective	
GEOG101	Introduction to Geography	
HOSP110	Practical Food Safety and Awareness	
IRLS210	International Relations I	
LITR212	Forgotten America--Under Represented Cultures in American Literature	
LITR235	Four Points of the Compass: Culture and Society Around the World	
POLS101	Introduction to Political Science	
POLS210	American Government I	
SOCI111	Introduction to Sociology	
SOCI212	Social Problems	
SOCI220	American Popular Culture	
STEM280	Exploring Society and Cultures via Science Fiction	

Communication: Writing, Oral, and Multimedia (9 semester hours)

COMM120	Information and Digital Literacy	3
ENGL110	Making Writing Relevant	3
ENGL101	Proficiency in Writing	3

History

Select 1 course from the following:		3
HIST101	American History to 1877	
HIST102	American History since 1877	
HIST111	World Civilization before 1650	
HIST112	World Civilization since 1650	
HIST121	Western Civilization before The Thirty Years War	
HIST122	Western Civilization since The Thirty Years War	
HIST221	African-American History before 1877	
HIST222	African-American History since 1877	
HIST223	History of the American Indian	
HIST270	History of Science	
STEM185	The History and Context of STEM	

Mathematics and Applied Reasoning (3 semester hours)

MATH120	Introduction to Statistics	3
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Natural Sciences (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following:		3
BIOL180	Introduction to Biology	

BIOL181	Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology
CHEM180	Introduction to Chemistry
ERSC180	Introduction to Meteorology
ERSC181	Introduction to Geology
EVSP180	Introduction to Environmental Science
PHYS180	Introduction to Physics
SPST180	Introduction to Astronomy
STEM100	Introduction to STEM Disciplines
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Total Semester Hours	30

¹ All literature courses require successful completion of ENGL101 - Proficiency in Writing or ENGL110 - Making Writing Relevant.

Major Required (30 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
CHFD215	Introduction to Child Development	3
CHFD220	Human Sexuality	3
CHFD225	Introduction to the American Family	3
CHFD307	Child and Adolescent Development	3
CHFD308	Infant-Toddler Development	3
CHFD331	Parenting	3
CHFD340	Family Development	3
CHFD342	Human Life Span Development	3
SOCI331	Research Methods for Sociology	3
SOCI332	Statistics for Social Science	3
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Total Semester Hours	30	

General Concentration (27 semester hours)

A general concentration allows you to take courses across a number of areas of study within your program based on your own interests.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Child Development		
Select 5 courses from the following:		15
CHFD210	Childhood Educational Development	
CHFD212	Infant and Toddler Programs	
CHFD230	Child Welfare and Advocacy	
CHFD311	Guidance in Early Childhood	
CHFD312	Special Needs Students	
CHFD411	Child Psychopathology	
CHFD415	Children and Stress	
HDFS401	Child Life Theory and Practice	
HDFS402	Benefits of Therapeutic Play	

HDFS403	Death, Dying, and Grief	
Family Development		
Select 4 courses from the following:		12
CHFD348	Marriage and the Family	
CHFD350	Family Life Education	
CHFD360	Family Resource Management	
CHFD445	Family Communications	
CHFD446	Families and Social Action	
PSYC343	Adult Development	
SOCI404	Gender and Society	
DEFM332	Transition and the Military Family	
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Total Semester Hours	27	

Final Program Requirements (3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
CHFD498	Senior Seminar in Child and Family Development	3
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Total Semester Hours	3	

¹ Prerequisite: Senior Standing and completion of all major courses prior to enrollment.

Elective Requirements (30 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select any courses not already taken to fulfill the requirements listed above. Credits applied toward a minor or certificate in an unrelated field may be used to fulfill elective credit for the major.		
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Total Semester Hours	30	