

Human Environmental Sciences

Family and Consumer Sciences (MA)



The department of human environmental sciences at Fontbonne University is the only institution of higher learning in the St. Louis metropolitan region offering a graduate program in family and consumer sciences (FACS), leading to a master of arts degree in FACS. The program includes coursework that can be applied to FACS certification and/or professional development while adding depth and breadth in the FACS content areas. Graduates in family and consumer sciences are in very high demand across the state and nation.

For information and for application materials contact:
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ADMISSION

The minimum admission requirement for a master of science degree in family and consumer sciences is a bachelor's degree from an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education. A minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale is required for unrestricted admission. Please refer to the admissions regulations specific to the graduate program information section in this catalog.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Please refer to the academic regulations specific to graduate programs listed in the graduate program information section in this catalog. Other academic regulations listed in the academic regulations section in this catalog apply to graduate students as well as to undergraduate students.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Participants must successfully complete 32 semester hours of graduate credit for the master of arts degree in family and consumer sciences. **Six core courses totaling 15 hours are required of all candidates for the major:**

- HES 539 Child, Family, and Consumer Advocacy (3 hours)
- HES 556 Child and Family Theory (3 hours)
- HES 572 Program Design and Administration (3 hours)
- HES 568 Research in HES I (2/0 hours)
- HES 578 Research in HES II (1/0 hours)
- HES 588 Research in HES III (3 hours)

Individual courses may be waived if evidence of the completion of a comparable course is provided. In the case of a waived course, another course will be selected to substitute for the waived course in consultation with the student's advisor. (Waived courses/credits are not included as part of the degree program.)

In addition to the above noted core FACS courses, the two following courses from the department of education/special education are also required as support courses for the master's degree program:

EDU 542 The Teacher as Leader (3 hours)

This course will examine the changing role of the teacher in contemporary schools. Students will learn leadership skills and methods for impacting educational organizations. Students will be introduced to strategies for creating a climate for new ideas, to include grant writing and implementation.

EDU 585 Research Methods in Education (3 hours)

This course provides an introduction to educational research for students from both the qualitative and quantitative research paradigms. Topics will include the nature and purposes of research, planning, and conducting research; critiquing and evaluating research; sampling; survey and experimental design; evaluation research; naturalistic observation and inquiry; measurement and methods of data collection; ethics; and the use of computers in data analysis. Methods are considered for collecting both quantitative and qualitative data. A major focus will be to prepare students to conduct a graduate research project.

Elective Courses

HES 530 Administration of Early Childhood Programs (2 hours)

HES 531 Dynamics of Early Childhood Curriculum (4 hours)

HES 555 Family Centered Intervention (3 hours)

Additional Professional FACS Education Course Required for Certification

For certification purposes, the following course is required.

HES 570 Strategies for Professional Practice (4 hours)

The courses listed above may be used as a part of the graduate major. A candidate seeking certification must also meet the content area certification requirements in addition to student teaching or field experience.

The FACS graduate student may also choose a minor area of study, a strand from education/special education, or select a collection of courses from another graduate area, where such agreements exist, to provide additional emphasis to their programs. The accumulation of nine semester hours in an approved area can constitute a minor area of study and interested candidates should inquire about eligible coursework at the time of admission. Examples of such combinations include, but are not

limited to: the curriculum and instruction strand or a graduate certificate in computer education.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

In order to be eligible for dual enrollment (see dual enrollment in both the undergraduate academic policies and regulations section and the graduate program information section in this catalog) a student in the family and consumer sciences program in the human environmental sciences department must be classified as a senior (a minimum of 90 credit hours earned) and have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0.

Graduate courses may be taken by dually enrolled students on a space-available basis and must be approved by the graduate program director, since preference is given to students enrolled in the graduate program.

A maximum of nine graduate credit hours taken during dual enrollment may be applied to the total required for the master's degree. Graduate credit hours may not be used toward the 128 hour requirement for an undergraduate degree.

COURSES**HES 530 Administration of Early Childhood Programs (2 hours)**

Study of preschool, child care, and nursery school management, planning, and financing; emphasis on the director's role in staff relations and program planning. Offered in odd academic years. SP

HES 531 Dynamics of Early Childhood Curriculum (4 hours)

Program planning and evaluation based on principles of development and a variety of theoretical constructs. The principles of Project Construct are applied in the development of activities using a variety of resources to meet the needs of individual children and groups. FA

HES 539 Child, Family, and Consumer Advocacy (3 hours)

Study of the process of advocacy as applied to child, family, and consumer issues. The focus is on the study of the processes of social policies, legislation, and regulations that affect children and families at the local, state, and federal levels. The course emphasizes current issues and the need for the involvement of professionals in the

development of social policies. Policy activities are integrated into the course. SP

HES 555 Family-Centered Intervention (3 hours)

Focus on the key elements of family-centered intervention. Discussion will center on the partnership of family members with professionals in all aspects of early intervention, conducting assessments, prioritized intervention goals, designing intervention plans, and implementation. SP

HES 556 Child and Family Theory (3 hours)

A comparative study of the major theories utilized in child and family studies. Attention is given to structure, content, and major research findings. FA

HES 568 Research in HES I (2 hours)

Research in HES I is the first of three research courses in HES leading to the completion of the graduate research project. Students will complete a literature review, develop the methodology for their project, and submit a proposal to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the project approval relating to human subjects. Dependent on the scope of the project and adequate progress, as determined by the graduate advisor, students may repeat this course for one additional semester (0 credits). P/NP grade. FA, SP, SU

HES 570 Strategies for Professional Practice (4 hours)

Study of the philosophy and mission of the discipline and its practice, and the roles and responsibilities of the professional, including ethics. Evaluation of client/learner needs, including learning styles, strategies, methods, resources, and technology that facilitate meeting needs on a one-to-one, small/large group basis. Assessment processes to facilitate accountability and systemic changes as well as professional growth and development are included. Practice opportunities are an integral part of the course. Prerequisites: EDU 234; EDU 337 or consent of instructor. FA

HES 572 Program Design and Administration (3 hours)

Study of family and consumer sciences program design, development, and administration with particular attention to program types, including youth and adult education programs. Coordination and supervision techniques vital to successful program development and implementation are also integral to the course. SP

HES 578 Research in HES II (1 hour)

Research in HES II is the second of three research courses in HES leading to the completion of the graduate research project. Students will complete the active phase of their research, collect data, and begin data analysis. Dependent on the scope of the project and adequate progress, as determined by the graduate advisor, students may repeat this course for one additional semester (0 credits). P/NP grade. FA, SP, SU

HES 588 Research in HES III (3 hours)

Research in HES III is the final of three research courses in HES leading to the completion of the graduate research project. Students will complete data analysis and prepare their written paper for professional presentation and/or submission for publication. FA, SP, SU

HES 590 Independent Study (1-3 hours)

Individualized study in an area not covered by courses offered.

HES 594 Special Topics (1-3 hours)

Course offered to supplement regular course listings. Offered on a one-time or periodic basis.

