

Department of Family & Consumer Sciences

Family & Consumer Sciences (MA)

The department of family & consumer sciences at Fontbonne University offers the master of arts degree in family & consumer sciences to meet the needs of professionals and institutions responding to the needs of individuals, families, and communities throughout the St. Louis metropolitan region, the state of Missouri, and beyond.

ADMISSION

The minimum requirements for admission are:

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education;
- A minimum undergraduate cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; and
- Demonstrated effective written communication skills.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

For detailed information on academic policies and regulations, please refer to the graduate program information section in this catalog.

DUAL UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE ENROLLMENT

For detailed information on dual enrollment, please refer to the graduate program information section in this catalog.

MASTER OF ARTS (MA) DEGREE IN FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Students must successfully complete a minimum of 36 semester hours of graduate credit to earn a master of arts degree in family & consumer sciences at Fontbonne University, including:

Core Courses

- FCS 532 Framing Critical Issues in FCS (3 credits)
- FCS 533 Advocacy and Public Policy: Addressing a World in Need (3 credits)
- FCS 534 Globalization and the Human Condition (3 credits)
- FCS 535 Leadership Development for Professional Practice (3 credits)

Concentration: Multidisciplinary Health Communication Studies

- FCS 541 Applied Health Behavior to Enhance Health Outcomes (3 credits)
- FCS 542 Interpreting and Translating Science for Consumers (3 credits)
- FCS 543 Contemporary Applications for Health Communication (3 credits)

FCS Elective (3 credits)

- FCS 544 Ethical Implications for Health Communication
- FCS 545 Cultural Competence in Health Communication
- FCS 554 Critical Readings in FCS
- FCS 589 Practicum in FCS
- FCS 590 Independent Study

Track: Management/Research/ISPP

Management:

- RMD 500 Statistical Methods for Research (3 credits)
- MGT 515 Project Management (3 credits)

Choose two courses from the following (6 credits):

- MGT 507 Budgeting and Accounting for Managers
- MGT 518 Business Policy and Strategic Planning
- MGT 525 Organizational Behavior and Human Resource Management
- MGT 535 Organizational Development and Change
- MGT 540 Organizational Psychology & Behavior
- MGT 545 Leadership Development & Coaching in Organizations
- NPM 510 Marketing and Communications for Nonprofits
- NPM 520 Resource Development for Nonprofits
- NPM 550 Governance, Leadership and Management for Nonprofits
- NPM 560 Strategy, Planning and Program Evaluation for Nonprofits

Research:

- RMD 500 Statistical Methods for Research (3 credits)
- EDU 585 Research Methods in Education (3 credits)
- FCS 568 Research in FCS I (2/0 credits)
- FCS 578 Research in FCS II (1/0 credits)
- FCS 588 Research in FCS III (3 credits)

Individualized Supervised Practice Pathway (ISPP):
RMD 500 Statistical Methods for Research (3 credits)
FCS 536 Preparation for Supervised Practice (2 credits)
FCS 537 Medical Nutrition Therapy Simulation Seminar (2 credits)
FCS 546 Graduate Supervised Practice I (1-3 credits)
FCS 547 Graduate Supervised Practice II (1-6 credits)

COURSES

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES (GRADUATE) COURSES

FCS 532 Framing Critical Issues in FCS (3 credits)

Critical issues relevant to FCS will be examined through various frameworks including historical, philosophical, theoretical, political, social, and religious perspectives. Relationships will be drawn from the establishment of the field of home economics at the beginning of the twentieth century to the present status of family & consumer sciences in the 21st century. Consideration of the underpinnings of the current FCS body of knowledge will be applied to work/life responsibilities of FCS professionals and their work with, and on behalf of individuals, families, and communities. SP

FCS 533 Advocacy and Public Policy: Addressing a World in Need (3 credits)

This course investigates the relationship of FCS professionals among individuals, families, and communities in regards to advocacy and public policy, through study, practice, and critical reflection of action, advocacy, and leadership for social justice. The FCS professional responsibility of capacity building—advancing individuals, families, and communities as agents for socially just public policy—will be examined. Systemic action plans will be developed, promoting the student's individual advocacy and leadership skills within the community that seek to empower others to advocate for the improvement of their own living conditions. SU

FCS 534 Globalization and the Human Condition (3 credits)

The scope of globalization will be examined from multiple perspectives to understand how it impacts individuals, families, and communities. Locus of production and consumption, prevalence and dependence upon global trade, geographic and cultural identities, and sociological aspects will be analyzed through theoretical lenses and applied to real life situations. Students will be asked to reflect on the interrelatedness of systems and quality of life issues. FA

FCS 535 Leadership Development for Professional Practice (3 credits)

Beginning with the historical exploration of leadership theory and the related leadership literature from multiple contexts, this course addresses perspectives on the

relationship between leadership and change, the transformative dimension of leadership, and the application of leadership models to impact change. There is a strong emphasis on the use of case studies and self-assessment exercises so students can develop a vision of their role as leaders. SU

FCS 536 Preparation for Supervised Practice (2 credits)

Students will engage in various hands on activities aimed at preparing them for supervised practice rotations. A focus is placed on developing professional attributes and refining skills to succeed in clinical, community, and food service settings. FA

FCS 537 Medical Nutrition Therapy Simulation Seminar (2 credits)

Students will complete Medical Nutrition Therapy Case Study Simulations to advance their knowledge and skill in utilizing the nutrition care process. SP

FCS 541 Applied Health Behavior to Enhance Health Outcomes (3 credits)

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to health behavior theories as a means to enhance health outcomes in diverse populations. Emphasis is given to the ecological perspective as a means to provide a framework for understanding where family and culture intersect with health institutions that work for the prevention and management of disease. FA

FCS 542 Interpreting and Translating Science for Consumers (3 credits)

Students will examine adult health literacy in the US and the ability of various populations to access and use health information and services. This course places heavy emphasis on applied learning techniques. Students practice how to interpret and translate science-based information for the consumer in both the written and spoken word. FA

FCS 543 Contemporary Applications for Health Communication (3 credits)

This course will focus on modern applications for health communications, including the Internet, making it an ideal venue for online delivery. Students will develop technological skills ultimately transferable to professional roles in the global communication of health messages. Students will evaluate sources of subject matter and will experience first-hand the use of technology to communicate reliable information to the consumer in an ethical way. This course places a heavy emphasis on applied learning techniques. SP Online

FCS 544 Ethical Implications for Health Communication (3 credits)

This course provides an introduction to the application of ethical theories to a wide range of health issues, utilizing a

variety of analytical tools to evaluate the responsibilities to and practices of ethical health communication. SU

FCS 545 Cultural Competence in Health Communication (3 credits)

This course explores concepts related to cultural competence. Students will examine their own cultural world view, beliefs and attitudes toward the cultural differences that exist, and knowledge about different cultural practices. Students will be presented with a model for intercultural communication that will become a foundational piece for the development, delivery and evaluation of health promotion and disease prevention messages and campaigns that are relevant to racial and ethnic minorities and individuals who primarily speak a language other than English. SU Online

FCS 546 Graduate Supervised Practice I (1-3 credits)

The first in the two course sequence of supervised practice in the hospital, clinic, management and/or other off-campus practicum site. The student will have the opportunity to acquire hands-on experience in various area of the dietetics field. SU

FCS 547 Graduate Supervised Practice II (1-6 credits)

The second in the sequence of supervised practice in the hospital, clinic, management and/or other off-campus practicum site. The student will have the opportunity to acquire additional hands-on experiences in the various areas of the dietetics field. A focus will also be placed on preparation for the registration exam for dietitians. FL

FCS 554 Critical Readings in FCS (3 credits)

Developed around student need and interest, a selection of readings will be identified. Students will participate in discussions, provide written summaries of readings, and develop an analysis of the current scene, synthesizing the given body of readings in an effort to evaluate current issues. FA

FCS 568 Research in FCS I (2 credits)

Research in FCS I is the first of three research courses in FCS 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

FCS 578 Research in FCS II (1 credit)

Research in FCS II is the second of three research courses in FCS 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

FCS 588 Research in FCS III (3 credits)

Research in FCS III is the final of three research courses in FCS 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

FCS 589 Practicum in FCS (1-3 credits)

An individually arranged practicum providing graduate students the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills in a community-based setting. FA, SP, SU

FCS 590 Independent Study (1-3 credits)

Individualized study in an area not covered by courses offered. FA, SP, SU

FCS 594 Special Topics (1-3 credits)

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