

Fontbonne University
Master of Arts Degree in Family & Consumer Sciences
Multidisciplinary Health Communication Studies Concentration: ISPP Track

Academic Coursework and Descriptions

Below are descriptions of the courses required for students in the ISPP track. See page 3 for an outline of the course rotation throughout the ISPP program.

REQUIRED CORE COURSES (12 HOURS):

FCS 532 Framing Critical Issues in FCS (3 hrs.)

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 in home economics at the beginning to the twentieth century to the present status of family and consumer sciences 100 years later. 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.

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

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.

FCS 534 Globalization and the Human Condition (3 hrs.)

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 indemnities, 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.

FCS 535 Leadership Development for Professional Practice (3 hrs.)

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.

REQUIRED CONCENTRATION COURSES (12 HOURS):

FCS 541 Applied Health Behavior to Enhance Health Outcomes (3 hrs.)

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.

FCS 542 Interpreting and Translating Science for Consumers (3 hrs.)

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.

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FCS 543 Contemporary Applications for Health Communication (3 hrs.)

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.

ELECTIVES: SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TWO COURSES:

FCS 544 Ethical Implications for Health Communication (3 hrs.)

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.

FCS 545 Cultural Competence in Health Communication (3 hrs.)

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. Student 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.

ISPP TRACK ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

RMD 500 Statistical Methods for Research (3 hrs.)

This course provides exposure to a wide variety of descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics presented will include measure of central tendency and dispersion, t-tests, ANOVA, correlation and regression, non-parametric methods. Experimental design techniques such as blocking will be discussed. Reading the interpreting journal articles that use some of the methods from the course will be included. Use of a statistical software package is integrated into the course.

FCS 536 Preparation for Supervised Practice (1 hour)

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.

FCS 537 Medical Nutrition Therapy Simulation Seminar (2 hours)

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

FCS 546 Graduate Supervised Practice I (3hrs.)

This course is the first in the 2-course sequence of supervised practicum 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 areas of the dietetics field.

FCS 547 Graduate Supervised Practice II (6 hrs.)

This course is the second sequence of supervised practicum in the hospital, clinic, management and/or other off-campus practicum sites. The student will have the opportunity to acquire more advanced hands-on experience in various areas of the dietetics field.

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Course Rotation for ISPP Track

Year	Semester
Year # 1	Summer (Semester 1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCS 533 Advocacy and Public Policy: Addressing a World in Need (3 hrs.) • FCS 535 Leadership Development for Professional Practice (3 hrs.) <p style="text-align: right;">6 total credit hours</p>
	Fall (Semester 2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCS 536 Preparation for Supervised Practice (1 hr.) • FCS 541 Applied Health Behavior to Enhance Health Outcomes (3 hrs.) • FCS 542 Interpreting and Translating Science for Consumers (3 hrs.) • FCS 534 Globalization and the Human Condition (3 hrs.) <p style="text-align: right;">10 total credit hours</p>
	Spring (Semester 3): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCS 536 Preparation for Supervised Practice (continued from fall) • FCS 537 Medical Nutrition Therapy Simulation Seminar (2 hrs.) • FCS 532 Framing Critical Issues in FCS (3 hrs.) • RMD 500 Statistical Methods for Research (3 hrs.) • FCS 543 Contemporary Applications for Health Communication (3 hrs.) <p style="text-align: right;">11 total credit hours</p>
Year # 2	Summer (Semester 4): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCS 546 Graduate Supervised Practice I (3 hrs.) • FCS 544 Ethical Implications for Health Communication (3 hrs.) <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCS 545 Cultural Competence in Health Communication (3 hrs.) <p style="text-align: right;">6 total credit hours</p>
	Fall (Semester 5): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCS 547 Graduate Supervised Practice II (6 hrs.) <p style="text-align: right;">6 total credit hours</p>