

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES, B.S. (ALTOONA)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Altoona

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	3-5
Requirements for the Major	73-76

3-4 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes 3-4 credits of General Education GQ courses.

Per Senate Policy 83.80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. HDFS requires students to complete 24 credits for the major through courses taken at University Park. Courses taken at other Penn State campuses may not be counted toward this 24 credit minimum. For more information, check the Recommended Academic Plan for this major.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Knowledge Domains

- **Arts (GA):** 6 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 6 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 6 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- **Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses:** 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- **United States Cultures:** 3 credits
- **International Cultures:** 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44>).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
HDFS 129	Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies	3

HDFS 301	Values and Ethics in Health and Human Development Professions	3
HDFS 311	Human Development and Family Studies Interventions	3
HDFS 312W	Empirical Inquiry in Human Development	3
HDFS 315	Family Development ¹	3
HDFS 418	Family Relationships	3

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	3-4
or EDPSY 101	Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education	

Select 6 credits of the following: 6

HDFS 229	Infant and Child Development	
HDFS 239	Adolescent Development	
HDFS 249N	Adult Development and Aging	

Select 3 credits of United States Cultures ² 3

Requirements for the Option

Select an option 43-45

¹ This course fulfills the University's United States Cultures requirement.

² This course is in addition to the 6 credits of United States Cultures and International Cultures.

Requirements for the Option**Life Span Human Services Option (43-45 credits)**

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Brandywine, DuBois, Fayette, Harrisburg, Mont Alto, Scranton, Shenango, University Park, World Campus, York

Code	Title	Credits
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Prescribed Courses

Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better

HDFS 411	The Helping Relationship	3
HDFS 414	Resolving Human Development and Family Problems	3
HDFS 455	Development and Administration of Human Services Programs	3

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 3 credits of the following: 3

HDFS 428	Infant Development	
HDFS 429	Advanced Child Development	
HDFS 433	Developmental Transition to Adulthood	
HDFS 445	Development Throughout Adulthood	

Select 6 credits from 300- or 400-level HDFS courses 6

Select 13-15 credits in one of the following: 13-15

Approved field practice in a human service setting:

HDFS 490	Introduction to Internship Experience	
HDFS 495A	Internship: Advanced Experience	
HDFS 495B	Internship: Advanced Project	

Approved group project or field practice in human service setting:

HDFS 401	Project Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation in the Human Services	
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HDFS 402	Human Services Seminar	
HDFS 495C	Professional Practicum in Human Services	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 12 credits (minimum of 6 credits at the 400 level) in consultation with adviser from University-wide offerings that develop competency in the option (a grade of C or better is required in any HDFS course taken to satisfy this requirement) 12

Life Span Developmental Science Option (45 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Brandywine, DuBois, Fayette, Mont Alto, Scranton, Shenango, University Park, York

Code	Title	Credits
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Prescribed Courses

Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better

HDFS 494	Research Project	6
or HDFS 494H	Senior Honors Thesis	

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 6 credits of the following: 6

HDFS 428	Infant Development	
HDFS 429	Advanced Child Development	
HDFS 433	Developmental Transition to Adulthood	
HDFS 445	Development Throughout Adulthood	

Select 15 credits (minimum of 9 credits at the 400-level) from HDFS courses 15

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 18 credits (minimum of 9 credits at the 400 level) in consultation with adviser from University-wide offerings that develop competency in option (a grade of C or better is required in any HDFS course taken to satisfy this requirement) 18