HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

What is Human Development and Family Studies?

The minor in Human Development and Family Studies helps you understand human behavior, learn how people relate to one another and learn how to make a difference in their lives. HDFS takes an interdisciplinary approach to helping you understand how individuals develop and change from birth to old age, how families and communities influence individual development, and how you can apply this knowledge to develop, implement and evaluate interventions designed to improve the lives of individuals and families. You will explore the biological, psychological, and sociological facets of life in order to learn how to develop, implement and evaluate interventions designed to improve the lives of individuals and families.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want to understand how individuals develop and change from birth to old age, how families and communities influence individual development, and how to apply this knowledge to improve the lives of individuals and families.
- You plan to pursue a career in which knowledge about individual and family development can be useful, such as human services, health professions (speech pathology, occupational therapy, nursing, medicine) education and business (marketing, human resources).

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES (http://hhd.psu.edu/hdfs/Undergraduate/hdfs-minor)

Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Minor</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDFS 129</td>
<td>Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

| Select 9 credits of HDFS courses | 9       |
| Select 6 credits of 400-level HDFS courses | 6       |

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

University Park

Devon Thomas
Academic Adviser
119 Health and Human Development
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-8000
dmc233@psu.edu

Abington

Michael Bernstein
Associate Professor of Psychology
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7479
mjb70@psu.edu

Altoona

Lauren P. Jacobson
Assistant Teaching Professor, Human Development and Family Studies
Hawthorn Building 123
3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5333
lpj100@psu.edu

DuBois

James Kuterbach
Human Development and Family Studies Program Coordinator
1 College Place
DuBois, PA, 15801
814-375-4852
jmk110@psu.edu

Fayette

Elaine S. Barry, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of HDFS and Program Coordinator for HDFS and Psyc
2201 University Drive
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456
724-430-4284
esb12@psu.edu
**Harrisburg**  
Barbara Carl, Ph.D.  
Program Coordinator  
Olmsted Building, W314  
Middletown, PA 17057  
717-948-6386  
bec109@psu.edu

**Scranton**  
Janet Melnick  
Teaching Professor  
111B Dawson Building  
Dunmore, PA 18512  
570-963-2674  
jam81@psu.edu

**Shenango**  
Claudia Brown  
Instructor  
147 Shenango Avenue  
101 McDowell Hall  
Sharon, PA 16146  
724-983-2979  
cmb2@psu.edu

**World Campus**  
Undergraduate Academic Advising  
301 Outreach Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-8000  
advising@outreach.psu.edu

**York**  
Jean Marie St. Clair-Christman  
Assistant Teaching Professor in HDFS / Field Coordinator  
15 Romano Adminstration Building  
York, PA 17403  
717-771-4161  
jxs176@psu.edu

**Career Paths**

**Careers**

The career paths of HDFS students vary, but generally, they fall into one of the categories below. Some jobs can be pursued with an HDFS minor, when combined with an appropriate major field of study, but others will require additional education, training or certification. See the more detailed career pages for each of the following career categories to learn more about how a degree in HDFS can support your career development plans:

- Social work, counseling and psychology
- Teaching and education
- Advocacy and non-profit work
- Business careers (marketing, development)
- Health careers
- Research

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES WITH A MINOR IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES (http://hhd.psu.edu/hdfs/Undergraduate/what-you-can-do-hdfs-degree)

**Opportunities for Graduate Studies**

The HDFS minor, when combined with an appropriate major field of study, can provide useful preparation for graduate school in the social, behavioral, and health sciences. In recent years, HDFS students have pursued graduate studies in:

- Counseling (e.g., school counseling, counseling psychology)
- Social work
- Health professions (e.g., nursing, occupational therapy, medicine)
- Psychology and Human Development & Family Studies
- Elementary and Secondary Education
- Law and business

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (http://hhd.psu.edu/hdfs/Undergraduate/what-you-can-do-hdfs-degree)

**Contact**

**University Park**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES  
119 Health & Human Development  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-8000  
sdg10@psu.edu  
http://hhd.psu.edu/hdfs/Undergraduate

**Abington**  
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
1600 Woodland Road  
Abington, PA 19001  
215-881-7479  
mjb70@psu.edu  
http://abington.psu.edu/michael-bernstein-ph-d

**Altoona**  
DIVISION OF EDUCATION, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Hawthorn Building 123  
3000 Ivyside Park  
Altoona, PA 16601  
914-949-5333  
ljp100@psu.edu  
http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/human-development-family-studies/request-information

**DuBois**  
1 College Place  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-375-4852  
jmk110@psu.edu

**Fayette**  
2201 University Drive  
Lemont Furnace, PA 15456  
724-430-4284
esb12@psu.edu

**Harrisburg**
SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION
Olmsted Building, W314
717-948-6059
dlk33@psu.edu


**Scranton**
111B Dawson Building
Dunmore, PA 18512
570-963-2674
jam81@psu.edu

**Shenango**
147 Shenango Avenue
101 McDowell Hall
Sharon, PA 16146
724-983-2979
cmb2@psu.edu

http://shenango.psu.edu/hdfs

**World Campus**
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES
119 Health and Human Development Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-8000
sac301@psu.edu

https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/human-development-and-family-studies-minor/overview

**York**
15 Romano Administration Building
York, PA 17403
717-771-4161
jxs176@psu.edu

http://york.psu.edu/academics/baccalaureate/minors