Courses

HDFS 1800 INTRODUCTION TO HDFS (2) LEC. 2. Introduction to the department of Human Development and Family Science with a focus on professions, degree options, and a preparation of student success across the major.

HDFS 1810 INTRODUCTION TO THE FIELD OF CHILD LIFE (1) LEC. 1. Students will be introduced to the field of child life, including but not limited to the realities of child life, clinical requirements for certification, document preparation, alternative contexts for child life, and general child life skills.

HDFS 2000 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT (3) LEC. 3. Examination of marriage and family systems, including their interface with the broader socio-cultural context.

HDFS 2010 LIFESPAN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN FAMILY CONTEXT (3) LEC. 3. Human development within the context of the family and across the family life cycle with a focus on significant life transitions.

HDFS 2020 RESEARCH METHODS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL AND FAMILY SCIENCE (3) LEC. 3. The focus of this course is on the methods used to conduct research in human developmental and family sciences.

HDFS 2030 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT I AND ETHICS (2) LEC. 2. Pr. P/C HDFS 1800. Professional examination of career opportunities, graduate schools, and professional opportunities within the field of HDFS. Appraisal of career potential, formulation of a professional code of ethics, and exploration of career options.

HDFS 2040 ANALYTICS FOR THE SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (3) LEC. 3. Pr. (MATH 1100 or MATH 1120 or MATH 1123 or MATH 1130 or MATH 1133 or MATH 1150 or MATH 1153 or MATH 1610 or MATH 1613 or MATH 1617). Introduction to basic data analysis (by Excel) used in social and behavioral science research, including descriptive and inferential techniques and elements of research design.

HDFS 2050 ISSUES AND TRENDS IN EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT (3) LEC. 3. This course will examine the history of the field of early care and education, specifically in regard to young children. Theorists such as Montessori, Dewey, Piaget and Vygotsky will be discussed. Modern approaches such as Reggio Emilia, High Scope, Forest Schools and Open Schools will be examined. Students will learn about laws pertaining to young children as well as avenues for advocacy. Emphasis will be placed on the importance of building family and community relationships as well as becoming a professional in the early childhood field.

HDFS 3010 CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE FAMILY (3) LEC. 3. Pr. 2.25 GPA. Social, emotional, physical and intellectual development in early and middle childhood with a special focus on family relationships.

HDFS 3030 ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT IN THE FAMILY (3) LEC. 3. Pr. 2.25 GPA. HDFS 2010 or HDFS 2013. 2.25 GPA. Analysis of adolescent development with emphasis on family context and developmental outcomes employing an ecological framework.

HDFS 3040 HUMAN SEXUALITY OVER THE FAMILY LIFE CYCLE (3) LEC. 3. Pr. (HDFS 2000 or HDFS 2003) or (SOCY 1000 or SOCY 1007) or (PSYC 2010 or PSYC 2013 or PSYC 2017). Human sexuality from a life-cycle perspective, emphasizing developmental, familial and societal factors.

HDFS 3050 ADULT DEVELOPMENT AND AGING (3) LEC. 3. Exploration of the transformations in physical, cognitive, psychological and social functioning beginning in young adulthood and continuing through old age.

HDFS 3060 PATTERNS OF FAMILY INTERACTION (3) LEC. 3. Pr. 2.25 GPA. HDFS 2000 or HDFS 2003. Examination of family process and interaction, emphasizing major conceptual frameworks of family development.

HDFS 3080 DEVELOPMENT OF INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS (3) LEC. 3. Pr. 2.25 GPA. HDFS 2000 or HDFS 2003. Examination of the competencies necessary for development of successful interpersonal relationships.

HDFS 3110 INFANT AND TODDLER DEVELOPMENT (3) LEC. 3. Pr. P/C HDFS 2010 or P/C HDFS 2013. Infant and toddler development from pre-birth through 36 months, with a focus on theory, research, and practice.

HDFS 3461 EFFECTIVE GUIDANCE AND INTERACTION WITH YOUNG CHILDREN LAB (1) LAB. 3. Pr. P/C HDFS 3010. Coreq. HDFS 3460. Laboratory Class for HDFS 3460

HDFS 3470 LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN (3) LEC. 3, FLD/LEC. 1. Pr. HDFS 3460. Coreq. HDFS 3471. Child development knowledge applied to preschool curriculum planning.

HDFS 3471 LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN LAB (1) LAB. 3. Pr. HDFS 3010 and HDFS 3460 and HDFS 3461. Coreq. HDFS 3470. Laboratory Class for HDFS 3470

HDFS 3500 HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES (3) LEC. 3. Pr. P/C HDFS 3010. Sophomore standing in HDFS major or a major in a related field. Theories and research about children and their families in hospital settings. Course is taught by Certified Child Life Specialist through an ePortfolio.

HDFS 3510 THERAPEUTIC PLAY (3) LEC. 3. Pr. P/C HDFS 3010. Theories and research on play, play's use in many contexts, and the many therapeutic qualities of play will be discussed. Course is taught by Certified Child Life Specialist through an ePortfolio.

HDFS 3910 PRACTICUM (1-6) PRA. SU. Pr., Departmental approval. Directed experience in a professional setting. A) Human Development; B) Family Studies; C) Marriage and Family Therapy. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credit hours.

HDFS 3930 SERVICE LEARNING IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (1-6) AAB/LEC. Application of HDFS-relevant knowledge to real-life situations through active participation in a directed community service experience. A.) Auburn University Early Learning Center; B.) Harris Early Learning Center of Birmingham; C.) Other Community Placements. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credit hours.

HDFS 3940 CHILD LIFE PRACTICUM (3) PRA. Pr. P/C HDFS 4500. Directed experience in a healthcare setting under the supervision of a certified child life specialist. Application and Interview process required. Departmental approval required.

HDFS 3980 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND STUDY (1-5) AAB/LEC. SU. Directed research under faculty supervision. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 5 credit hours.

HDFS 4380 STUDY AND TRAVEL IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (2-12) AAB/FLD. Pr. (CAHS 2000 or CADS 2000 or CADS 2003 or CADS 2007) and (HDFS 2000 or HDFS 2003) and (NTRI 2000 or NTRI 2003 or NTRI 2007 or NUFS 2000 or NUFS 2003 or NUFS 2007). Departmental approval. Provide students with opportunities to reach beyond the classroom to study topics relevant to human development and family science abroad. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 12 credit hours.

HDFS 4470 ADVANCED LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN (3) LEC. 3, FLD/LEC. 1. Pr. HDFS 3010 and HDFS 3460 and HDFS 3461 and HDFS 3470 and HDFS 3471. This course applies child development knowledge to advanced curriculum planning, family engagement and child assessment.

HDFS 4471 ADVANCED LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN LAB (1) LAB. 4. Pr. HDFS 3010 and HDFS 3460 and HDFS 3470 and HDFS 3461 and HDFS 3471. Coreq. HDFS 4470. Laboratory course for HDFS 4470

HDFS 4520 DYING, DEATH AND BEREAVEMENT (3) LEC. 3. Exploration of end of life issues from individual, relational and cultural perspectives.

HDFS 4660 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES, AND FAMILIES (3) LEC. 3. An understanding of the decisions individuals and families make about developing and allocating resources.

HDFS 4670 PARENT EDUCATION (3) LEC. 3. Pr. HDFS 3010 or HDFS 3013 or HDFS 3030 or HDFS 3050 or HDFS 3053. Principles of working with parents on individual and group bases. Must be in junior standing.

HDFS 4680 FAMILY IN CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE (3) LEC. 3. Pr. 2.25 GPA. HDFS 2000 or HDFS 2003. Examination of family function and diversity in cultures and family systems around the world.

HDFS 4700 GENDER ROLES AND CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS (3) LEC. 3. Pr. HDFS 2000 or SOCY 1000 or SOCY 1007 or PSYC 2010 or PSYC 2013 or PSYC 2017 or COUN 2000. Analysis of changing roles and their effects on romantic, marital, and parent-child relationships.

HDFS 4910 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT II AND CAPSTONE (2) LEC. 2. Pr. HDFS 1800 and HDFS 2030. Professional Development aimed at student preparation for graduate school and career. The cumulation of the professional development courses requires an in-depth examination and advanced design of the professional, outward-facing ePortfolio.
HDFS 4920 INTERNSHIP IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (12) INT. Pr. HDFS 4910. HDFS major with current background check, all required coursework for the major complete, a grade of C or better in all HDFS major core classes at the 3000-level or higher, and an overall minimum GPA of 2.25. Internship applications must be submitted 2 semesters in advance. A computer and internet access is required.

HDFS 4930 INTERNSHIP IN CHILD LIFE (12) INT. Pr. HDFS 4910. Departmental approval. HDFS major with current background check, all required coursework for the major complete, a grade of C or better in all Child Life option core classes at the 3000-level or higher, and an overall minimum GPA of 3.0. Students who enroll in this course must complete their internship under the supervision of a certified child life specialist. Internship applications must be submitted 2 semesters in advance. A computer and internet access are required.

HDFS 4940 INTERNSHIP IN EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT TOWARD CERTIFICATION (12) INT. Departmental approval. Pr. HDFS 3460 and HDFS 3470 and HDFS 4470 and HDFS 4910. Intensive capstone teaching experience of at least 450 hours. HDFS major with all required coursework for the major complete, a grade of C or better in all Early Child Development option core classes at the 3000-level or higher, ALSDE background check, and an overall minimum GPA of 2.75. Students who enroll in this course will complete requirements for Ed TPA. Internship applications must be submitted 2 semesters in advance. A computer and internet access are required.

HDFS 4950 ADVANCED SEMINAR (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Departmental approval. Topical seminar in HDFS. A) Advanced Research B) Child Development; C) Family Studies; D) Marriage and Family Therapy. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours.

HDFS 4960 SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (1-3) IND. SU. Supervised readings in one or more topical areas. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 3 credit hours.

HDFS 4980 ADVANCED UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES (1-5) IND. Pr., Departmental approval, Junior standing. Conduct research under the direction of a human development and family studies faculty member on a topic of mutual interest. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 5 credit hours.

HDFS 4997 HONORS THESIS (2-6) IND. SU. Pr. Honors College. Research in specialized topics. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credit hours.

HDFS 5200 APPLIED RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODS (3) LEC. 3. Junior standing. Application of research to the development and evaluation of programming for children and families.

HDFS 5300 HDFS AND SOCIAL POLICY (3) LEC. 3. Junior standing. Examination and critique of social policies from a family perspective.

HDFS 5400 PROGRAM DESIGN FOR COMMUNITIES, SCHOOLS, AND FAMILIES (3) SEM. 3. Program design for schools, communities, and families is a course designed to help students learn about program design approaches used to improve the lives of people. Students will learn the basics of the program planning process, the complexity of assessing need, evaluation, and program implementation to targeted populations of people.

HDFS 5930 SOCIETY AND HEALTH (3) LEC. 3. This course provides an overview of population-level theories of health and introduces students to concepts in society and health, with a focus on major themes related to social determinants of health and health inequities. May count either HDFS 5930 or HUSC 5930.

HDFS 5950 SEMINAR ON HEALTH ECOLOGY AND EQUITY (3) SEM. 3. This is a seminar course that features distinguished lecturers. This course provides knowledge on special topics in health ecology and equity, delving into specific research programs.

HDFS 5970 SPECIAL TOPICS IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Junior standing. Study of topics of special interest beyond the current departmental offerings. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours.

HDFS 6200 APPLIED RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODS (3) LEC. 3. Graduate standing. Application of research to the development and evaluation of programming for children and families.

HDFS 6300 HDFS AND SOCIAL POLICY (3) LEC. 3. Graduate standing. Examination and critique of social from a family perspective.

HDFS 6400 PROGRAM DESIGN FOR COMMUNITIES, SCHOOLS, AND FAMILIES (3) SEM. 3. Program design for communities, schools, and families is a course designed to teach the basics of the program planning process, the complexity of assessing need, program evaluation, and program delivery to targeted populations of people.
HDFS 6930 SOCIETY AND HEALTH (3) LEC. 3. This course provides an overview of population-level theories of health and introduces students to concepts in society and health, with a focus on major themes related to social determinants of health and health inequities. May count either HDFS 6930 or HUSC 6930.

HDFS 6950 SEMINAR ON HEALTH ECOLOGY AND EQUITY (3) LEC. 3. This is a seminar course that features distinguished lecturers. This course provides knowledge on special topics in health ecology and equity, delving into specific research programs.

HDFS 6970 SPECIAL TOPICS IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Graduate standing. Study of topics of special interest beyond the current departmental offerings. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours.

HDFS 7010 CHILD AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT IN CONTEXT (3) LEC. 3. Survey and critical examination of research on development from birth through adolescence.

HDFS 7020 ADULT DEVELOPMENT IN CONTEXT (3) LEC. 3. Survey and critical evaluation of research on development in the adult and aging periods of the life cycle.

HDFS 7030 LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT IN CONTEXT (3) LEC. 3. Survey and critical examination of research on human development from infancy through adulthood.

HDFS 7040 FAMILY PROCESSES (3) LEC. 3. An orientation to family theories and their role in contemporary studies of family processes.

HDFS 7050 RESEARCH METHODS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Departmental approval. Survey of principles and methods for studying individuals, dyadic relationships and families.

HDFS 7060 RESEARCH METHODS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE II (3) LEC. 3. Pr. HDFS 7050. Pr., Departmental approval. Survey of principles and advanced methods for studying individuals, dyadic relationships, and families.

HDFS 7070 RESEARCH LITERACY IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (3) LEC. 3. Research literacy course informs students' as research consumers to identify, understand, discuss, and evaluate different types of research methods and statistical analyses, to communicate the findings of such research to others, and to use findings of quality research to impact future academic research and professional policy and practice.

HDFS 7100 PSYCHOSOCIAL CARE OF MEDICALLY AND EMOTIONALLY VULNERABLE CHILDREN (3) LEC. 3. Departmental approval. Child development theories, the impact of hospitalization on children and families, the impacts of trauma on development and coping, and common child life interventions are explored.

HDFS 7110 PLAY AND THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS IN CHILD LIFE (3) LEC. 3. Child development theory, play theory, adaptive play, and therapeutic interventions are explored in the context of helping children cope with stressors such as hospitalization, bereavement, and trauma. Undergraduate degree in child life, child development, human development and family studies, or another related field.

HDFS 7130 CHILD LIFE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION (3) LEC. 3. Methods of creating and implementing Child Life programs; documenting and assessing program activities; and supervising child life students and professionals will be discussed. Department Approval.

HDFS 7140 DEATH, DYING AND BEREAVEMENT FOR CHILD LIFE SPECIALISTS (3) LEC. 3. LAB. 0. Pr. HDFS 7100. Exploring children's understanding of death, and the child life specialist's role in caring for the bereaved family.

HDFS 7600 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY THEORY I (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Departmental approval. Overview of theoretical and historical foundations, classic and contemporary therapy models, and integrative frameworks for marriage and family therapy.

HDFS 7601 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY THEORY LABORATORY I (1) LAB. 3. Pr., Departmental approval. Basic clinical skills and self-of-the-therapist issues.

HDFS 7610 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY THEORY II (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Departmental approval. Current theory and conceptual issues in the practice of marriage and family therapy.

HDFS 7620 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY CLINICAL ISSUES I: FAMILY SYSTEMS (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Departmental approval. Advanced study of conceptual models and clinical approaches utilized in treating family systems.

HDFS 7630 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY CLINICAL ISSUES II: INDIVIDUALS (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Departmental approval. Assessment and treatment of children, adolescents, adults, and sexuality issues from a systemic perspective.

HDFS 7631 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY LABORATORY III (1) LAB. 3. Coreq. HDFS 7620. Departmental approval. Application of clinical skills with families, couples and individuals.


HDFS 7650 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY PROFESSIONAL ISSUES (3) LEC. 3. Pr., Departmental approval. Professional, ethical, and legal issues associated with the practice of marriage and family therapy.

HDFS 7660 SYSTEMIC IMPACT OF ILLNESS, MEDFT, & PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY (3) LEC. 3. Three components related to the practice of marriage and family therapy in healthcare settings: 1) Systemic Impact and Treatment of Illness, 2) Treatment in Collaborative Health Care teams, and 3) Psychopharmacology.

HDFS 7670 INDIVIDUAL, COUPLE, AND FAMILY DYNAMICS OF ADDICTION, RECOVERY, AND TREATMENT (3) LEC. 3. An overview of the scope of the dynamics of addiction treatment and recovery in individuals, couples, and families. This course focuses on both substance use disorders and process addictions and will deal directly with preferred treatments of these issues in individual and systemic therapy.

HDFS 7680 SYSTEMIC ASSESSMENT, DIAGNOSIS, & TREATMENT OF PSYCHOPATHOLOGY (3) LEC. 3. This course will examine current research, theory, and clinical best practices for assessing and diagnosing psychopathology in the context of individual, couple, and family therapy.

HDFS 7850 CHILD LIFE PRACTICUM (1-3) PR1. 3-9. Pr. P/C HDFS 7100. Supervised clinical experience under the supervision of a Certified Child Life Specialist. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 3 credit hours.

HDFS 7900 DIRECTED STUDIES (1-3) AAB/IND. SU. Pr., Departmental approval. A) Child Care and Programs for Young Children; B) Family Relations; C) Human Development; D) Marriage & Family Therapy; E) Parent Education; F) Social Policy. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours.

HDFS 7910 PRACTICUM (1-9) AAB/PRA. SU. A) Child Care and Programs for Young Children; B) Family Relations; C) Human Development; D) Marriage and Family Therapy; E) Parent Education; F) Social Policy; G) Teaching. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours.

HDFS 7920 MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY INTERNSHIP (3) INT. Pr., Departmental approval. Clinical practice of marriage and family therapy. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours.

HDFS 7930 SEMINAR IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (1-3) SEM. Pr., Departmental approval. A) Infancy/Childhood; B) Adolescence/Young Adulthood; C) Adulthood/Aging; D) Family as a Microsystem; E) Family and Mesosystem; F) Family in the Macrosystem; G) Child and Family Program Planning and Evaluation. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 16 credit hours.

HDFS 7940 DIRECTED FIELD EXPERIENCE (1-9) AAB/FLD. SU. Pr., Departmental approval. A) Child Care and Programs for Young Children; B) Family Relations; C) Human Development; D) Marriage and Family Therapy; E) Parent Education; F) Social Policy. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours.

HDFS 7950 INTERNSHIP IN CHILD LIFE (12) INT. 3. Pr. HDFS 7010 and HDFS 7040 and HDFS 7100 and HDFS 6300 and HDFS 7110 and HDFS 8010 and HDFS 7130 and HDFS 7070. Supervised on-the-job experiences, along with rigorous evaluations of student’s work.

HDFS 7970 SPECIAL TOPICS IN HDFS (1-4) LEC. 1-4. Students will learn about key issues in sleep research, especially with those related to family functioning and social/emotional, behavioral, and physical health. Students will have assigned readings to prepare them for discussions during the lectures. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 18 credit hours.

HDFS 7990 RESEARCH AND THESIS (1-10) AAB/MST.

HDFS 8010 RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PROCESS IN CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE (3) LEC. 3. Theoretical and empirical themes focused on processes and dynamics of relationships in childhood adolescence.
HDFS 8020 RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PROCESS IN ADULTHOOD (3) LEC. 3. Theoretical and empirical themes focused on processes and dynamics of relationships in adulthood and aging.

HDFS 8050 ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS: COVARIANCE STRUCTURE ANALYSIS (3) LEC. 3. Pr. HDFS 7060. In-depth examination of research methods, designs, and data analytic strategies commonly used in child and family research.

HDFS 8060 MULTILEVEL MODELING (3) LEC. 3. Pr. HDFS 7060. In-depth examination of multilevel modeling as an analytic strategy for research in nested data structures.

HDFS 8070 MEDIATION AND MODERATION ANALYSIS (3) LEC. 3. Pr. HDFS 7060. Methods for evaluating mediation and moderation hypotheses by addressing both study designs and statistical analyses.

HDFS 8080 MIXTURE MODELING (3) SEM. Pr. HDFS 7060. Methodological advances in latent variable analysis have provided promising avenues for researchers interested in answering questions about latent (unobserved) classes and profiles. These two analytic techniques will be the focus of this course.

HDFS 8090 QUALITATIVE METHODS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (3) LEC. 3. This course prepares graduate students to conduct and evaluate qualitative research in social science disciplines.

HDFS 8970 ADVANCED SPECIAL TOPICS IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (1-3) LEC. Departmental approval. Study of advanced topics of special interest beyond the current departmental offerings. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 9 credit hours.

HDFS 8990 RESEARCH AND DISSERTATION (1-10) DSR.