

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE - B.S.

College of Education and Human Services
School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences
www.kent.edu/ehs/ldes

About This Program

Earn your B.S. in Human Development and Family Science and make a difference in people's lives! This interdisciplinary program equips you with the skills to support individuals and families in social services, nonprofit work, community outreach and more. With a focus on lifespan development, relationships and diverse needs, you'll graduate ready for an impactful career. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Maureen Blankemeyer** | mblankem@kent.edu | 330-672-9397
- Speak with an Advisor
 - Kent Campus
 - Salem Campus
 - Stark Campus
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor: Kent Campus | Regional Campuses

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus
 - Salem Campus
 - Stark Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Child, family, and school social workers

- 3.4% about as fast as the average
- 399,900 number of jobs
- \$58,570 potential earnings

Childcare workers

- -2.9% decline
- 991,600 number of jobs
- \$32,050 potential earnings

Clinical and counseling psychologists

- 11.2% much faster than the average
- 76,300 number of jobs
- \$95,830 potential earnings

Community and social service specialists, all other

- 4.6% about as fast as the average
- 119,200 number of jobs
- \$54,940 potential earnings

Counselors, all other

- 12.6% much faster than the average
- 69,100 number of jobs
- \$49,830 potential earnings

Family and consumer sciences teachers, postsecondary

- 3.4% about as fast as the average
- 3,200 number of jobs
- \$77,280 potential earnings

Marriage and family therapists

- 12.6% much faster than the average
- 77,800 number of jobs
- \$63,780 potential earnings

Social and community service managers

- 6.4% faster than the average
- 219,800 number of jobs
- \$78,240 potential earnings

Social and human service assistants

- 6.4% faster than the average
- 449,600 number of jobs
- \$45,120 potential earnings

Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors

- 16.8% much faster than the average
- 483,500 number of jobs
- \$59,190 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students or graduates who have not attended another college or university since Kent State may complete the reenrollment or reinstatement form on the University Registrar's website.

Current Kent State and Transfer Students: Active Kent State students who wish to change their major must have attempted a minimum 12 credit hours at Kent State and earned a minimum 2.000 overall Kent State GPA to be admitted. Students who have not attempted 12 credit hours at Kent State will be evaluated for admission based on their high school GPA for new students or transfer GPA for transfer students. Transfer students who have not attempted 12 credit hours of college-level coursework at Kent State and/or other institutions will be evaluated based on both their high school GPA and college GPA.

Transfer students visit the admissions website for transfer students for more information.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program's Coursework tab

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
GERO 44030	RELATIONSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT ACROSS ADULTHOOD (WIC) ¹	3
HDF 14027	INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE	3
HDF 24011	INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND FAMILIES	3
HDF 24012	RELATIONSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT ACROSS CHILDHOOD	3
or PSYC 20651	CHILD PSYCHOLOGY (KSS)	
HDF 25512	MANAGEMENT OF FAMILY RESOURCES	3
HDF 34031	CULTURAL DIVERSITY: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HELPING PROFESSIONS	3
HDF 44018	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE	3
HDF 44020	RELATIONSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT ACROSS ADOLESCENCE AND EMERGING ADULTHOOD	3
or PSYC 30651	ADOLESCENT PSYCHOLOGY	
HDF 44021	FAMILY INTERVENTION AND ADVOCACY	3
HDF 44023	BUILDING FAMILY STRENGTHS (WIC) ¹	3

HDF 44028	PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS	3
HDF 44029	FAMILY POLICY	3
HDF 44030	FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION AND PREVENTION	3
HDF 44035	TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIES	3
HDF 44092	PRACTICUM IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (ELR) ²	3-6
Content Elective, choose from the following:		3
HDF 42089	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE (ELR)	
HDF 44022	FAMILIES, GENDER AND POWER	
HDF 44039	BEREAVEMENT AND LOSS	
HDF 44089	FAMILIES IN FLORENCE, ITALY: LOVE, PARENTING AND POLICY (ELR)	
HDF 45089	LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES AND OUTCOMES: THE ITALIAN EXPERIENCE (ELR)	

Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)

PSYC 11762	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (KSS)	3
PSYC 21621	QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY I	3-4
or SOC 32220 & SOC 32221	DATA ANALYSIS and DATA ANALYSIS LABORATORY	
PSYC 31574	RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY (ELR)	3
or SOC 32210	RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC)	
SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (KSS)	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
American Civic Literacy Requirement ³		3
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities ³		6-9
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional ³		3-6
Minor or Undergraduate Certificate requirement and General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours) ⁴		29

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

² Students may complete 3-6 credit hours of HDF 44092. Credit hours taken beyond 3 will count towards general electives.

³ If students complete the American Civic Literacy requirement by taking HIST 12061, the course will apply to the Kent Core Humanities category. If they complete it with POL 10101, the course will apply to the Kent Core Additional category.

⁴ Students are required to declare and complete a minor or a certificate as part of the human development and family science program. Students may select any minor or certificate available at Kent State, but it should be aligned with the student's overall educational and career goals. Number of credit hours depends on the program selected. A minimum of 6 credit hours in the minor must be outside of the course requirements for any major or other minor the student is pursuing.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.250	2.000

- State/federal background checks may be required for some practicum/internship sites. Results indicating one of the disqualifying

offenses, whether expunged or current, may result in the inability to be placed in select practicum/internship sites.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
HDF 24011	INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND FAMILIES	3
PSYC 11762	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (KSS)	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Two		Credits
HDF 14027	INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE	3
SOC 12050	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (KSS)	3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Three		Credits
HDF 24012	RELATIONSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT ACROSS CHILDHOOD	3
or PSYC 20651	or CHILD PSYCHOLOGY (KSS)	
HDF 25512	MANAGEMENT OF FAMILY RESOURCES	3
HDF 34031	CULTURAL DIVERSITY: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HELPING PROFESSIONS	3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Four		Credits
HDF 44020	RELATIONSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT ACROSS ADOLESCENCE AND EMERGING ADULTHOOD	3
or PSYC 30651	or ADOLESCENT PSYCHOLOGY	
Content Elective		3
American Civic Literacy Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Minor/Certificate Course or General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Five		Credits
HDF 44023	BUILDING FAMILY STRENGTHS (WIC)	3
HDF 44035	TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIES	3
PSYC 21621	QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY I	3-4
or SOC 32220	or DATA ANALYSIS <i>and</i> DATA ANALYSIS LABORATORY	
<i>and</i> SOC 32221		
Minor/Certificate Course or General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15
Semester Six		Credits
HDF 44021	FAMILY INTERVENTION AND ADVOCACY	3

HDF 44028	PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS	3
PSYC 31574	RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY (ELR)	3
or SOC 32210	or RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC)	
Minor/Certificate Course or General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15
Semester Seven		Credits
GERO 44030	RELATIONSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT ACROSS ADULTHOOD (WIC)	3
! HDF 44018	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE	3
HDF 44030	FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION AND PREVENTION	3
Minor/Certificate Course or General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15
Semester Eight		Credits
HDF 44029	FAMILY POLICY	3
! HDF 44092	PRACTICUM IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE (ELR)	3
Minor/Certificate Course or General Electives		8
Credit Hours		14
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
American Civic Literacy	3 credit hours
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Identify (a) physical, cognitive, emotional and social dimensions of human development and family relationships; and (b) reciprocal influences of family, school, work and community contexts on human development.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of program development, delivery and evaluation and identify practical implications of human development and family relationship concepts.
3. Access scholarly sources and critically evaluate empirical research; demonstrate an understanding of theories, methods and principles of research; and effectively communicate ideas.
4. Recognize the unique strengths and needs of individuals and families and apply knowledge through involvement with and study of diverse populations.

Admission GPA for Undergraduate Students

For admissions, the College of Education and Human Services considers a student to have established a Kent State University GPA after the student has successfully completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours.

New Students and Transfer Students: Undergraduate students who have not completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours will be evaluated for admission into an academic program, advanced study and the professional phase based on their high school GPA for new students or transfer GPA for transfer students. Once a student has successfully completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours, only the student's Kent State overall GPA will be considered for admission into a program, advanced study and professional phase. Transfer applicants who have completed fewer than 12 semester credit hours of college-level coursework will be evaluated on both collegiate and high school records.

Current Students: Students who have completed 12 or more credit hours of previous college-level coursework — either at Kent State University or at another accredited institution — need an overall GPA of 2.00 or higher to declare a College of Education and Human Services major, minor or certificate unless a higher minimum GPA is specified by the program.

The following degree programs require a minimum 2.750 overall GPA for current students who have an established GPA to declare a major:

- American Sign Language/English Interpreting
- Early Childhood Education
- Integrated Language Arts
- Integrated Mathematics
- Integrated Science
- Integrated Social Studies
- Middle Childhood Education
- Physical Education, Health and Sport Exploration (only Health and Physical Education concentration or Physical Education Licensure concentration)
- Special Education

Undergraduate Graduation Requirements

- Students declared in a teacher licensure major or certificate must earn a minimum C grade in all major/certificate and professional coursework.
- Students declared in the Education certificate must earn minimum 2.500 content GPA.
- Students may apply a maximum 4 credit hours of Physical Activity, Wellness and Sport (PWS) courses toward their degree.
- Students may apply a maximum of 4 credit hours of variable-titled workshop (xxx93) toward an undergraduate degree. Identical workshop topics that are repeated for credit will not count towards graduation requirements. All workshops are graded S/U (satisfactory/unsatisfactory). Some program areas may be more restrictive. Students are advised to consult their program regarding application of workshop credit toward degree requirements.

To see graduation requirements for a specific program, please select a major from the undergraduate program listing.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Science offers an interdisciplinary approach to individual and family development. Students receive the knowledge and skills needed to help individuals and families across the lifespan to flourish in a global society. The degree prepares students for a wide range of careers in diverse settings, including family and community-based social services, prevention, nonprofit administration and family and community intervention. Core coursework focuses on development across the lifespan and understanding family relationships, the environments in which individuals live and learn and the unique strengths and needs of diverse individuals and families.

The Human Development and Family Science major requires students to complete a minor or certificate related to their career interest.

Students may apply early to the M.A. degree in Human Development and Family Science and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degrees. See the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program Policy in the University Catalog for more information.

Professional Licensure Disclosure

This program is designed to prepare students to sit for applicable licensure or certification in Ohio. If you plan to pursue licensure or certification in a state other than Ohio, please review state educational requirements for licensure or certification and contact information for state licensing boards at Kent State's website for professional licensure disclosure.