Human Development & Family Studies [HDFS]

INFORMATION FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS INTERESTED IN HELPING PEOPLE, THE CARING PROFESSIONS, OR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (e.g., PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE, SOCIAL WORK, SOCIOLOGY, NURSING)

- ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE HELPING PROFESSIONS?
- DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HELPING PROFESSIONS AND CAREER POSSIBILITIES?
- DO YOU WANT TO DEVELOP A STRONG UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOW THIS UNDERSTANDING INFORMS PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE?
- ARE YOU INTERESTED IN STUDYING WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SKILLED AND ETHICAL PROFESSIONAL PRACTITIONER?

If you answered “Yes” to any of the above questions, consider taking a course or two in Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS), becoming an HDFS Minor, or choosing to major in HDFS.

HDFS Introductory Courses (with No Prerequisites) To Consider

- HDFS 005, a large introductory course that explores human development across the lifespan
- HDFS 060, a large introductory course that focuses on examining family contexts of development; and
- HDFS 065, a moderate-sized introductory course on human relationships and sexuality.

Note: To keep the option open to add HDFS courses to your schedule, take HDFS 060 in the earliest spring semester you can. It is offered only in the spring, and is prerequisite for HDFS 161, which in turn, is prerequisite for all HDFS Advanced Seminars.

HDFS Intermediate Level Courses (Prerequisite: HDFS 005 or 060, OR Instructor Permission)

- HDFS 101: The Helping Relationship, a course designed to introduce students to professional skills and ethical practice in the helping professions. This course is taught by a faculty member in the Graduate Program in Counseling.
- HDFS 141: Interrogating White Identity, an approved D1 course that focuses on development and understanding of what it means to be white in U.S. society. (Pre-requisite: HDFS 005 or 060 or a comparable course equivalent)

Both courses are moderate in size and welcome students from across the university. Instructors typically accept PSYS 001 as an adequate course equivalent.

Contact the HDFS Program Coordinator, Lawrence Shelton, lawrence.shelton@uvm.edu for more information.

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