

Human Development & Family Science Learning Outcomes

Graduates of our program will be able to demonstrate the following:

Disciplinary Knowledge

Students will be able to understand, describe, and explain:

- The unique combination of principles in human development and family science, including ecological perspectives of lifespan human development and being relationship-focused, evidence-based, strengths-oriented, preventive, and translational.
- Major theoretical frameworks in lifespan human development and family science.
- The transactional, contextual nature of the development and function of individuals, relationships, families, and communities.

Information Literacy, Scientific Inquiry, & Critical Thinking

Students will be able to:

- Describe research methods in human development and family science research.
- Find, understand, analyze, evaluate, and effectively use information for a variety of purposes, such as writing, research, and practice.
- Integrate lifespan developmental and ecological perspectives when inquiring about factors affecting human development and interpersonal relationships.
- Consider diverse perspectives and experiences when solving problems related to various human development and family science issues.
- Evaluate and apply research and theory to implement evidence-based practice in order to support positive development and healthy relationships, and to create developmentally facilitative environments.

Scholarly & Translational Communication

Students will be able to:

- Present evidence-based arguments in writing, using a professional voice and using sources effectively and appropriately in accordance with APA style.

- Translate and apply research findings using written, oral, visual, and electronic modes of communication for various kinds of non-academic audiences.

Strengths-Based & Critically Conscious Practice

Students will be able to:

- Reflect upon and understand their own personal histories and how those histories have shaped who they are, how they learn, and how they engage with others, personally and professionally.
- Utilize socioemotional skills, such as self-knowledge, self-regulation, communication, and empathy; helping relationship skills; and strengths-based and prevention perspectives to empower individuals, relationships, families, and communities.
- Describe the historical foundations of systemic social injustice and the cumulative impact on access to resources and opportunities for individuals, relationships, families, and communities.
- Critically reflect on and attend to the ways that identities, biases, and assumptions influence human development and interpersonal interactions with others in order to more effectively address issues of diversity and social (in)justice.
- Analyze processes, policies, and contextual factors that affect the design and delivery of human services.