

# HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY STUDIES, PHD

*for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Human Development & Family Studies*

The HDFS doctoral program prepares students to be researchers, educators, policy developers, or professionals who develop, evaluate, and implement programs for children, families, and communities.

Students who enter the doctoral program without a master's will complete one as the first part of their doctoral requirements.

## Admission

Admission is based upon both academic record and the applicant's fit with faculty research programs. We examine grade point average (GPA), Graduate Record Examination (GRE, we will accept MCAT scores for Medical Scholar applicants) scores, letters of recommendation, and a personal statement. International applicants from non-English speaking countries must have an official paper Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of at least 103 on the internet based test. We will not admit anyone with a GPA less than 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. All applicants are required to submit official GRE scores (MCAT in the case of Medical Scholar applicants) and to have previous coursework in a relevant area of social or behavioral sciences. GRE, MCAT and TOEFL scores should be taken no more than two years prior to application. Our application deadline is December 15 for possible admission the following fall semester. We admit students for fall enrollment only. Please refer to our department website for further information.

## Graduate Teaching Experience

We do not require our students to teach but recognize the importance of teacher development for their future marketability. Thus, we make teaching assistantships available and encourage students to pursue a variety of teaching experiences as well as mentorship from experienced instructors. We also encourage our students to utilize the variety of teacher training resources that are available across campus.

## Faculty Research Interests

Faculty information is available on our department website (<http://hdfs.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/>).

## Centers, Programs, and Institutes

Child Care Resource Service (<http://ccrs.illinois.edu/>)  
 Child Development Lab (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/human-development-family-studies-phd/www.cd.illinois.edu>)  
 Pampered Chef Family Resiliency Program (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/human-development-family-studies-phd/www.familyresiliency.illinois.edu>)  
 Family Resiliency Center (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/human-development-family-studies-phd/www.familyresiliency.illinois.edu>)  
 University of Illinois Extension (<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/state/>)

## Facilities and Resources

Bevier Hall  
 Child Development Lab  
 Doris Kelly Christopher Hall  
 Early Child Development Lab

## Financial Aid

We are committed to funding all of our students who are making timely progress. The duration and amount of our commitment varies by program. Funding may include fellowships, research assistantships, and/or teaching assistantships. These opportunities typically include stipends and tuition waivers. In some cases, fees are also waived. All applicants are automatically considered for all department funding opportunities; there is no separate application process. Federal and state financial aid is completely separate from the support provided by our department. Visit the Office of Student Financial Aid (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/human-development-family-studies-phd/www.osfa.illinois.edu/>) for information regarding federal and state financial aid.

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Those entering the doctoral program without a master's degree will complete one within their first two years in the doctoral program. Students entering with a non-thesis master's will be required to complete a "thesis equivalency" paper within the first two years of their doctoral program. Requirements for the Ph.D. include 64 graduate hours beyond the M.S. degree, completion of the written qualifying examination, defense of the written dissertation proposal, and a final thesis defense upon completion of the dissertation. Doctoral students may also complete a supporting program in "applied HDFS." This 16 graduate hour option includes 4 hours in program development or policy studies, 4 hours in program evaluation, and two 4 hour internships. The applied optional supporting program prepares students to enter careers in administration, human services, social policy, international aid agencies, and government, as well as traditional careers in teaching and research.

For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Program Information (<http://hdfs.illinois.edu/graduate/handbook/>) and the Graduate College Handbook (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/>).

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Theory Courses</b>		<b>8</b>
HDFS 501	Human Development Theories	
HDFS 521	Family Theories	
<b>Substantive Courses</b>		
Select four of the following:		8-16
HDFS 503	Social-Emotional Development	
HDFS 505	Advanced Adolescence	
HDFS 523	Ethnic Families	
HDFS 526	Intimate Partner Violence	
HDFS 527	Family Resiliency	
HDFS 528	Parenting	
HDFS 529	Youth and Family Acculturation	
HDFS 533	Community In American Society	
HDFS 534	Neighborhoods and Human Dev	
HDFS 539	Youth, Culture and Society	
HDFS 540	Gender & Sexuality	
HDFS 541	Inequalities In A Diverse Society	
HDFS 543	Ethnography Urban Communities	
HDFS 561	Child and Family Program Dev	
HDFS 562	Child & Family Program Eval	

HDFS 595	Seminar	
RST 586	Health and Leisure in Recreation, Sport and Tourism	
<b>Quantitative Methods</b>		<b>12</b>
HDFS 590	Advanced Research Methods	
HDFS 594	Intermed Statistical Analysis	
HDFS 597	Advanced Statistical Analysis (Students may substitute another advanced statistics course for HDFS 597)	
<b>Qualitative Methods</b>		<b>8</b>
Select two of the following:		
HDFS 591	Qualitative Methods (Student must select from HDFS 591 E and/or HDFS 591 G)	
HDFS 582	Discourse Analysis in the Social Sciences	
<b>Professional Development</b>		<b>28</b>
HDFS 500	Professional Development	
HDFS 599	Thesis Research	
Elective Courses (required hours depend upon content of M.S. degree)		0-16
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>64</b>

**Other Requirements**

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
MS equivalent, or student will earn MS in first two years of PhD program	
Qualifying Exam Required	Yes
Preliminary Exam Required	Yes
Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required	Yes
Dissertation Deposit Required	Yes
Minimum GPA:	2.75

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**HDFS Graduate Student Learning Outcomes**

- HDFS graduate students will demonstrate subject matter expertise, including theoretical and substantive expertise in a specialized area
  - Recall key principles, theories, and concepts used in HDFS
  - Apply key principles, theories, and concepts to the study of HDFS
  - Critique current theories and empirical knowledge regarding HDFS
  - Evaluate current knowledge in a specific substantive area using two distinct theories
  - Identify knowledge gaps in a specific substantive area
  - Pose questions to remedy said gap
- HDFS graduate students will demonstrate social science methodology expertise
  - Apply key principles, concepts and analytic strategies used in quantitative research
  - Apply key principles, concepts and analytic strategies used in qualitative research

- Use data management and analysis software (e.g., SPSS, NVivo, MAXQDA; HLM, R)
  - Evaluate the methodological strengths and limitations of empirical studies
  - Design and defend a complete research project
  - Complete an IRB application
  - Complete an ethics certificate relevant to project
  - Conduct a research project as per protocol and ethical standards
- HDFS graduate students will demonstrate professional competence skills
    - Identify career and professional goals
    - Develop leadership skills (e.g., through formal positions; informal mentoring of undergraduates or new graduate students; representing the department; participation in class or lab teamwork)
    - Develop professional network to support career and professional goals (e.g., relationships with mentors; participation in professional organizations)
    - Create and maintain a CV and other job-related materials (e.g., cover letter; teaching philosophy; research statement)
    - Exhibit professional and ethical behavior
    - Make decisions and solve problems
    - Collaborate to achieve group goals
  - HDFS graduate students will demonstrate scholarly communication skills in English
    - Use effective written communication
      - Use appropriate grammar and writing mechanics
      - Demonstrate a working knowledge of APA style
      - Respond to constructive criticism (e.g., revision process, peer review)
      - Produce written work that is organized, logical, and fully developed
    - Use effective oral communication
      - Clearly and logically present ideas aloud through presentation to class or group
    - Use effective visual communication
      - Use clear and logical charts, graphs, and other visual displays to present ideas
  - HDFS graduate students will demonstrate a critical and reflexive orientation toward and sensitivity to issues of diversity and inclusion
    - Critically examine one's own beliefs, assumptions, values, attitudes, and biases regarding diverse individuals and families
    - Reflect on one's own interconnected positions, privileges, and disadvantages across multiple contexts
    - Demonstrate awareness of and sensitivity to issues of diversity and inclusion in one's own work (written, oral, and visual communication)

**Graduate Majors:**

- Human Development and Family Studies, MS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/human-development-family-studies-ms/>)
- Human Development and Family Studies, PhD (p. 1)

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**Department of Human Development & Family Studies**

Department Head: Ramona Faith Oswald, Interim Dept Head

Director of Graduate Studies: Brian Ogolsky

Human Development & Family Studies website (<https://hdfs.illinois.edu>)

Human Development & Family Studies Faculty (<https://hdfs.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/>)

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(217) 333-3790

Human Development & Family Studies email ([hdfs@aces.illinois.edu](mailto:hdfs@aces.illinois.edu))

College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences (<https://aces.illinois.edu/>)

**Admissions**

Graduate College Admissions & Requirements (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)

ACES College Admissions & Requirements (<https://hdfs.illinois.edu/graduate/admissions/>)