Applied Human Services – Master of Science
This program is offered on both Stillwater and Tulsa campuses.

Overview
Graduates of the HDFS M.S. option in Applied Human Services provide leadership in diverse human services careers. Graduates (a) demonstrate an ability to describe, discuss, and integrate theory, research, and application to address key issues related to individual and family risk and resilience; (b) establish a solid theoretical foundation in Human Development and Family Science, and (c) gain experiences and establish competence related to professional issues in human services. Students select a specialization area based on career goals and interests.

Degree Requirements
33 credit hours (final report plan)

Theoretical Foundations in Human Development and Family Science (6 credit hours)
- HDFS 5213: Lifespan Development
- HDFS 5513: Issues in Family Science

Topics in Human Development and Family Science (6 credit hours in HDFS to be selected from the following courses or approved by advisor)
- HDFS 5153: Policy in HDFS
- HDFS 5273: Parent Education
- HDFS 5283: Developmental Disabilities
- HDFS 5493: Aging and Families
- HDFS 5563: Community and Family

Research Methods and Statistics (3 credit hours)
- HDFS 5173: Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation

Outside electives (3 credit hours; approved by advisor)
- Students work with their advisor to choose at least one elective appropriate to their career goals.

Specialization Coursework (12 credit hours)
Specialization choices include: Infant Mental Health; Developmental Disabilities; Gerontology; Non-profit management

Infant Mental Health:
- HDFS 5233: Infant Mental Health
- HDFS 5243: Infant and Early Childhood Development and Attachment
- HDFS 5343: Developmental Assessment and Interventions
- HDFS 5193: Reflective Practice

Developmental Disabilities:
- HDFS 5283: Developmental Disabilities
- HDFS 5623: Systems Theory and Applications to the Family
- HDFS 5653: Systemic Approaches to Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology
- HDFS 5193: Reflective Practice

Gerontology:
Core requirements (6 hours):
- HDFS 5423: Research Perspectives in Gerontology
- HDFS 5433: Theories of Aging

Select two of the following three courses (6 hours)
- HDFS 5413: Adult Development and Aging
- HDFS 5483: Aging Networks Seminar
- HDFS 5493: Aging and Families

**Non-profit Management (graduate certificate offered from Spears School of Business):**
- MGMT 5093: Business and non-profit organizations
- MGMT 5163: Fundraising for non-profits
- 6 hours of electives from Business (MGMT 5031: Leading Organizational Change; MGMT 5051: Creating Ethical Work Places; MGMT 5061: Managing Confrontations; MGMT 5083: Business and Social Responsibility; MGMT 5533: Leadership Challenges; MGMT 5563: Crisis in Organizations; EEE 5403: Social Entrepreneurship)

**Practicum and Creative Component** (3 hours)
- HDFS 5163: Creative Component in HDFS: Development and Application
Developmental and Family Sciences – Master of Science

This program is offered on both Stillwater and Tulsa campuses.

Overview
Graduates of the M.S. specialization in Developmental and Family Sciences demonstrate an ability to describe, discuss, and integrate theory, research, and application to address key issues related to individual and family risk and resilience. In consultation with their major advisors and advisory committees, students identify courses and experiences that focus on preparing for research related careers and/or doctoral study. Students in the DFS program seek research careers and pursue Ph.D. degrees.

Degree Requirements
30 credit hours (thesis required)

Theoretical and Research Foundations in Human Development and Family Science (6 credit hours)
- HDFS 5213: Lifespan Development
- HDFS 5513: Issues in Family Science

Topics in Human Development and Family Science (6 credit hours, selected from the following courses or approved by advisor)
- HDFS 5153: Policy in HDFS
- HDFS 5273: Parent Education
- HDFS 5283: Developmental Disabilities
- HDFS 5493: Aging and Families
- HDFS 5563: Community and Family

Research Methods and Statistics (12 credit hours)
6 hours from:
- HDFS 5173: Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation
- HDFS 5133: Research Methods and Design in HDFS

6 additional hours to be selected from the following courses and approved by advisor:
- STAT 5013: Statistics for Experimenters I
- STAT 5063: Multivariate Methods
  or
- PSYC 5304: Quantitative Methods in Psychology I
- PSYC 5314: Quantitative Methods in Psychology II

Thesis (6 credit hours)
- HDFS 5000: Thesis
Early Childhood Education – Dual B.S. & Master of Science

This program is offered on the Stillwater campus only.

Overview
The M.S. specialization in Early Childhood Education emphasizes child development as the foundation for the study and practice of professional education for children birth through age eight. To help students gain a strong understanding of how theory and research inform classroom and professional practice, students take courses in theoretical foundations, learning environments, observation, and assessment. Students also complete a field experience in early childhood education as part of the degree program.

This program is designed for undergraduate students seeking both the B.S. and M.S. specializing in Early Childhood Education prior to entering the profession of early childhood education. The program is designed to be completed in 5 years, including two summers.

Admission to the Dual B.S./M.S. option in Early Childhood Education requires that students apply to the M.S. program during the third year of undergraduate study. Students concurrently take graduate and undergraduate courses during the fourth year and complete the Dual B.S./M.S. program in approximately 5 years.

Career and Educational Opportunities
The Dual BS/M.S. specialization in Early Childhood Education prepares graduates for careers including:

- Child, Family, and Educational Advocate
- Early Childhood Consultant
- Staff Training and Development
- Administration and Evaluation
- State Agencies
- Early Childhood Teacher Educator
- Early Childhood Classroom Teacher

Degree Requirements
Students complete both the BS and MS degrees with 151 credit hours of credit (121 undergraduate and 30 graduate) in either the thesis or final report plans.

Undergraduate Courses (121 credit hours)

Graduate Courses (30 credit hours)

Thesis option: 30 hours total

Non-thesis (creative component) option: 32 hours total

HDFS ECE Core (21 hours):
HDFS 5173: Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation
HDFS 5213: Lifespan Development
HDFS 5513: Issues in Family Science
HDFS 5323: Issues in Early Childhood Education
HDFS 5333: Early Childhood Education History and Theory
HDFS 5343: Developmental Assessment and Intervention
HDFS 5363: Early Childhood Development and Education

Individual Research or Creative Project [requires MS Advisory Committee Approval] (9-11 hours):

For students in the thesis option (9 hours):
HDFS 5133: Research Methods and Design in HDFS

or

REMS 5953: Elementary Statistics

HDFS 5000 – Master’s Thesis (6 hours)

For students in the non-thesis option (11 hours):

- Electives in HDFS or related areas (6 hours)
- HDFS 5160 – Master’s Creative Component (5 hours)
Family and Community Services – Master of Science

This program is offered online only.

Overview
Family and Community Services is an online graduate program provided by seven universities working in collaboration on The Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (GP-IDEA) Family and Community Services Program. Students in this program will demonstrate:

- A research-based perspective to understand individual, family, interpersonal, and community dynamics across the lifespan
- Knowledge and skills related to the design, implementation, evaluation, and sustainability of family and community service programs
- Essential knowledge and skills for leadership and management of family and community service programs

Degree Requirements
36 credit hours

Core Courses (30 credits of core courses)
- HDFS 5913: Foundations and Principles of Community Service Programs
- HDFS 5213: Human Development in the Context of Family and Community
- HDFS 5223: Resilience in Individuals and Families
- HDFS 5443: Interpersonal Relationships
- HDFS 5543: Coping with Family Crises
- HDFS 5553: Perspectives on Parenting and Parent Education
- HDFS 5713: Individual and Family Resource Management
- HDFS 5753: Leadership and Management of Community Service Programs
- HDFS 5923: Dynamics of Family Interaction
- HDFS 5173: Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation in HDFS

Outside Electives (3 credit hours; approved by advisor)
- Students work with their advisor to choose at least one elective appropriate to their career goals. Students choosing to complete a thesis may select three hours of thesis as their elective.

Creative Component (3 hours)
- HDFS 5160: Master’s Creative Component
Gerontology – Master of Science

This program is offered on the Stillwater Campus only.

Information on the online MS degree in Gerontology through GP-IDEA is available at: http://gpidea.okstate.edu/programs/gerontology

Overview
Graduates of the M.S. specialization in Gerontology provide leadership in Gerontology programs or agencies or pursue doctoral studies. Graduates (a) demonstrate an ability to describe, discuss, and integrate theory, research, and application to address key issues associated with risk and resilience in adulthood, during late and very late life, and among intergenerational family ties (b) establish a solid theoretical foundation in both the interdisciplinary field of Gerontology as well as the broader field of Human Development and Family Science, and (c) gain knowledge relevant to professional issues in Gerontology.

Degree Requirements
Students may decide to complete a 33-hour thesis plan or a 33-hour non-thesis option. Coursework includes:

**Gerontology (15 hours)**
- HDFS 5423: Research Perspectives in Gerontology
- HDFS 5433: Theories of Aging
- HDFS 5493: Aging and Families
- HDFS 5413: Adult Development and Aging
- HDFS 5483: Aging Networks Seminar

**Human Development and Family Science (6 hours)**
- HDFS 5253: Social and Emotional Development
- HDFS 5513: Issues in Family Science

Or
- HDFS 5523: Family Theory

**Research Methods and Statistics (6 hours)**
- HDFS 5133: Research Methods in HDFS
- REMS 5953: Statistical Methods in Education

**Thesis/Non-Thesis Hours (6 hours)**
- HDFS 5000: Thesis Option (6 hours)
- HDFS 5110: Directed Study in HDFS (6 hours)
**Marriage and Family Therapy – Master of Science**

*This program is offered on the Stillwater Campus only.*

**Overview**

The Marriage and Family Therapy MS degree program prepares students to competently assess for individual and family risk and to foster resilience and positive transformation in the face of adversity from a systemic perspective. The program emphasizes parallel development in the areas of clinical skills, self-awareness, and the establishment of a personalized model of family therapy, with a progressive integration of the three areas as the student develops basic competence in each area.

For more information on the Marriage and Family Therapy MS degree program, please visit the [MFT webpage](#).