

HUMAN ECOLOGY: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES, PHD

This is a named option within the Human Ecology, PhD. (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/human-ecology-school-wide/human-ecology-phd/>)

Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of families and individuals across the lifespan with an emphasis on research and its application to practice, programs, and policy.

Students enrolled in one of the Human Ecology PhD program named options have the opportunity to earn the Human Ecology MS: Human Ecology Research (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/human-ecology-school-wide/human-ecology-ms/human-ecology-human-ecology-research-ms/>) degree along the way to the PhD upon successful completion of coursework and research.

The HDFS graduate program option is served by 11 full-time faculty members plus affiliated faculty members. Faculty members are professionally active with strong records of national and international scholarship. The faculty bring the perspectives of many different disciplines to their work, including psychology, human development and family studies, sociology, education, and psychiatry. Faculty members conduct basic research to understand families and their members and applied research and outreach to promote positive outcomes in human development and family life.

Faculty and graduate students in HDFS collaborate on research and outreach-engagement projects in a wide variety of substantive areas focusing on the well-being of individuals, couples, and families. Current areas of scholarly activity focus on early childhood, couple relationships, contemplative practices, mind-body well-being, parenting, family caregiving, and vulnerable populations (e.g., incarcerated parents, children with autism, and historically under-represented groups).

Reflecting the multidisciplinary orientation of the program, faculty and students employ a wide array of methods in their work. Faculty possess expertise in areas as diverse as multilevel, longitudinal, nonlinear, and dyadic modeling; physiological measurement; program evaluation; observational methods; experimental methods; survey methodology; and community-based research. The program explicitly values both qualitative and quantitative approaches to inquiry.

Central to the mission of the program is the creation, dissemination, and application of scientific knowledge to address real-world problems and issues. Applied work of current faculty and students includes public policy education, community building, outreach education, and prevention programs. This applied work is conducted throughout the state.

There is a demand for professionals trained in research, teaching, and outreach in the areas of human development and family studies in higher education, government, and human and family service programs. Regardless of whether HDFS graduates pursue careers in academic or applied settings, they are prepared for a life of scholarship and service.

ADMISSIONS

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Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).** Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	December 1
Spring Deadline	The program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline	The program does not admit in the summer.
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Not required.
English Proficiency Test	Every applicant whose native language is not English, or whose undergraduate instruction was not exclusively in English, must provide an English proficiency test score earned within two years of the anticipated term of enrollment. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Requirements for Admission policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/).
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a
Letters of Recommendation Required	3

Human Ecology Admissions Information (<https://grad.humanecology.wisc.edu/admissions/>).

FUNDING

FUNDING GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (<https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/>) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Funding opportunities for Human Ecology graduate students are available and made possible, in large part, by generous donations to SoHE. Every year, these funds are used to fund teaching or project assistantships, award academic excellence scholarships, and provide students doing their masters or doctoral research or final MFA project with conference travel scholarships and graduate research scholarships. See the School of Human Ecology Enrollment Policy on Funding Eligibility (<https://>

sohe.wisc.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-forms-deadlines/full-time-enrollment-policy-for-funding-eligibility/) and view current funding opportunities on our program website (<https://sohe.wisc.edu/graduate-students/funding/>) for more information.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

NAMED OPTION REQUIREMENTS MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	51 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	26 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/).
Other Grade Requirements	n/a

Assessments and Examinations Doctoral students are required to take a comprehensive preliminary/oral examination after they have cleared their record of all Incomplete and Progress grades (other than research and thesis). Deposit of the doctoral dissertation in the Graduate School is required.

Language Requirements Contact the program for information on any language requirements.

Graduate School Breadth Requirement All doctoral students are required to complete a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. Refer to the Graduate School: Breadth Requirement in Doctoral Training policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/>).

REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
Introductory Courses		
Students must complete the following courses.		
INTER-HE 801	Special Topics in Human Ecology (Professional Development Seminar)	1
INTER-HE 792	Theories and Perspectives in Human Ecology	2
Basic Theory Courses		9
Students must complete the following courses.		
HDFS 766	Current Topics in Human Development and Family Studies (Prenatal to Adolescence)	
HDFS 766	Current Topics in Human Development and Family Studies (Late Adolescence to Old Age)	
HDFS 865	Family Theory I (Survey)	
Content Courses		9
Students must complete at least 6 credits in Human Development and Family Studies in content courses numbered 700 and above. Independent Study credits do not satisfy content course requirement.		
Research Methods and Design		
Students must complete 6 credits in this category, including the following the course.		
INTER-HE 793	Research Methods	3
Choose an advanced research methods course in consultation with advisor.		3
Statistics		3
Students must complete at least one 3-credit, advanced level statistics course. Consult with advisor to identify a statistics course that fits with area of study.		
Research Thesis		9
Students must complete the following course.		
HDFS 990	Research and Thesis	
Elective		3
Breadth		9
Total Credits		51

POLICIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

NAMED OPTION-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to transfer up to 18 credits of graduate coursework taken at other institutions. Prior coursework taken at other institutions may not be used to satisfy the minimum graduate residence credit requirement. Credits earned ten or more years prior to admission to a doctoral degree are not allowed to satisfy requirements.

Undergraduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions or UW-Madison

Refer to the Graduate School: Transfer Credits for Prior Coursework (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/>) policy.

Credits Earned as a Professional Student at UW-Madison (Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary careers)

Refer to the Graduate School: Transfer Credits for Prior Coursework (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/>) policy.

Credits Earned as a University Special Student at UW-Madison

With program approval, students are allowed to transfer up to 9 University Special student credits in coursework numbered 300 or above. These credits are not allowed to count toward the 50% graduate coursework minimum unless taken in coursework numbered 700 or above or taken to meet the requirements of a capstone certificate and has the "Grad 50%" attribute. Credits earned ten or more years prior to admission to a doctoral degree are not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION

Refer to the Graduate School: Probation (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/>) policy.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Every graduate student is required to have an advisor. An advisor is a faculty member, or sometimes a committee, from the major department responsible for providing advice regarding graduate studies. An advisor generally serves as the thesis advisor. In many cases, an advisor is assigned to incoming students. Students can be suspended from the Graduate School if they do not have an advisor.

To ensure that students are making satisfactory progress toward a degree, the Graduate School expects them to meet with their advisor on a regular basis.

A committee often accomplishes advising for the students in the early stages of their studies.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

TIME LIMITS

Refer to the Graduate School: Time Limits (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/>) policy.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

The School of Human Ecology Graduate Program Handbook outlines the conduct expectations and grievance process.

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/>)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure>)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/>)
 - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (<https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/>)
- Employee Assistance (<http://www.eao.wisc.edu/>) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (<https://employee disabilities.wisc.edu/>) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/>) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office Student Assistance and Support (OSAS) (<https://osas.wisc.edu/>) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (<https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/>) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (<http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/>) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/>) (for concerns about discrimination)

OTHER

n/a

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

The School of Human Ecology Graduate Program values the professional development of graduate students and provides financial awards to those who are invited to present at professional conferences/exhibits. The purpose of the support is to encourage participation in professional development, scholarly research, and/or creative endeavor and to help cover expenses not covered by other sources. Students may receive a maximum award of \$650 for travel (\$750 for international travel) to support conference participation in a single academic year. Students are encouraged to seek conference and travel funding from the Graduate School as a first step and apply for supplemental funds through SoHE as needed.

In addition, each academic department within the School of Human Ecology may offer additional professional development grant opportunities. See the program Events Calendar (<https://sohe.wisc.edu/calendar-of-events/>) for the most up-to-date information on professional development opportunities.

HDFS Graduate Students (https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/uw_staff_type/graduate-student/sohe-department/hdfs/)

PEOPLE

PEOPLE

Human Ecology Directory (<https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/>): listing of all faculty, staff, and graduate students; searchable by association, department, and name

Department of Civil Society & Community Studies (Civil Society & Community Research: CSCR graduate program)

CSCS Faculty/Staff (https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/uw_staff_type/faculty-staff/sohe-department/civil-society-community-studies/)

CSCR Graduate Students (https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/uw_staff_type/graduate-student/sohe-department/civil-society-community-studies/)

Department of Consumer Science (Consumer Behavior & Family Economics: CBEF graduate program)

CS Faculty/Staff (https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/uw_staff_type/faculty-staff/sohe-department/consumer-science/)

CBEF Graduate Students (https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/uw_staff_type/graduate-student/sohe-department/consumer-science/)

Department of Design Studies (Design Studies: DS graduate programs)

DS Faculty/Staff (https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/uw_staff_type/faculty-staff/sohe-department/design-studies/)

DS Graduate Students (https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/uw_staff_type/graduate-student/sohe-department/design-studies/)

Department of Human Development & Family Studies (Human Development & Family Studies: HDFS graduate program)

HDFS Faculty/Staff (https://humanecology.wisc.edu/staff/uw_staff_type/faculty-staff/sohe-department/hdfs/)