HUMAN ECOLOGY: 
CONSUMER BEHAVIOR AND 
FAMILY ECONOMICS, M.S.

This is a non-admitting named option within the Human Ecology, M.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/human-ecology-school-wide/human-ecology-ms/)


ADMISSIONS

Beginning fall 2017, the Consumer Behavior & Family Economics M.S. option is no longer offered as a terminal degree option to which students can apply. This degree is earned along the way to the Consumer Behavior and Family Economics Ph.D. option in Human Ecology. Students interested in pursuing a terminal master of science degree specializing in Consumer Behavior & Family Economics should apply directly to the Master of Science in Human Ecology (no named option) (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/human-ecology-school-wide/human-ecology-ms/#requirementstext).

Additional information is available here (http://sohe.wisc.edu/cbfe/).

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/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

NAMED OPTION REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction Definitions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements Detail</th>
<th>Minimum Credit Requirement</th>
<th>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</th>
<th>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.00 GPA required.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Other Grade Requirements | The Graduate School requires an average grade of B or better in all coursework (300 or above, not including research credits) taken as a graduate student unless conditions for probationary status require higher grades. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.
or more years prior to admission to a master's degree are not allowed to
minimum graduate coursework (50%) requirement. Credits earned five
or more years prior to admission to a master's degree are not allowed to
satisfy requirements. Use of Special student credit may require payment
of tuition difference.

PROBATION
The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who
earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300
or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result
in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being
suspended from the Graduate School.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE
Every graduate student is required to 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.
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. An advisor is a
faculty member, or sometimes a committee, from the major department
responsible for providing advice regarding graduate studies.
A committee often accomplishes advising for the students in the early
stages of their studies.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED
12 credits

TIME CONSTRAINTS
Master's degree students who have been absent for five or more
consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their
absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students
completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that
coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS
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/)
- Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for all
  students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- 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://
  employeedisabilities.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 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)

Any student who feels that he or she has been treated unfairly by a Human Ecology faculty or staff member has the right to complain about the treatment and to receive a prompt hearing of the grievance, following the grievance procedures outlined below. To ensure a prompt and fair hearing of any complaint, and to protect both the rights of the student and the person at whom the complaint is addressed, the procedures below are used in the School of Human Ecology.

The person whom the complaint is directed against must be an employee of the School of Human Ecology. Any graduate student or graduate applicant may use these procedures unless the complaint is covered by other campus rules or contracts.

Note: These procedures do not cover appeals of admissions decisions or other decisions made by departmental or Human Ecology committees. For information on appeals of decisions, students should contact the chair of the committee or the chair of the department that made the decision.

Contacts

Civil Society and Community Studies: Brian McInnes (https://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/brian-mcinnnes/) (Graduate Program Chair), Cynthia Jasper (http://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/cynthia-jasper/) (Department Chair)

Consumer Science: J. Michael Collins (https://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/j-michael-collins/) (Graduate Program Chair), Nancy Wong (http://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/nancy-wong/) (Department Chair)

Design Studies: Jung-hye Shin (https://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/jung-hye-shin/) (Graduate Program Chair), Roberto Rengel (http://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/roberto-rengel/) (Department Chair)

Human Development and Family Studies: Kristin Litzelman (https://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/kristin-litzelman/) (Graduate Program Chair), Jeanean Dilworth-Bart (https://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/janean-dilworth-bart-2/) (Department Chair)

Master of Science in Human Ecology: Sarah Halpern-Meekin (https://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/sarah-halpern-meekin/) (Graduate Program Chair)

Students are encouraged to keep written documentation of their experience of unfair treatment both before and during the grievance proceedings.

Graduate Student Grievance Procedures

STEP 1. The student should first consider talking directly with the person(s) against whom the grievance is directed.

Some issues can be settled at this level, and some cannot be. Although students are encouraged to talk directly with the person(s) involved, we recognize that this may not always be possible. If the complaint cannot be resolved satisfactorily by talking with the person(s) involved, the student may continue to Step 2.

STEP 2. Does the complaint involve someone in a Human Ecology academic department (Civil Society and Community Studies, Consumer Science, Design Studies, and Human Development & Family Studies)?

• Yes: The student should contact the chair of the department. The student will submit the grievance to the chair in writing. This must be done within 60 calendar days of the alleged unfair treatment. The department chair will refer the matter to the department’s Graduate Program Committee or to another appropriate departmental committee (standing or ad hoc) for review. The committee will share the student’s written complaint with the person at whom the complaint is directed, and will obtain a written response from this person. This response will be shared with the student filing the grievance. The committee chair will provide a timely written decision to the student on the action taken by the committee (the departmental decision). If either party is unwilling to accept the departmental decision, the department chair will refer the matter to the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies (see contact information below). The Associate Dean will bring the grievance to the Human Ecology Graduate Program Council for review. (NOTE: if the grievance is against the department chair, the written complaint should be referred to the chair of the department’s graduate program committee; contact information given below.)

• No: The student should contact the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. (https://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/connie-flanagan/) The student will submit the grievance to the Associate Dean in writing. This must be done within 60 calendar days of the alleged unfair treatment. The Associate Dean will refer the grievance to the Human Ecology Graduate Program Council for review.

STEP 3. Human Ecology Graduate Program Council review.

To ensure fairness, the Graduate Program Council chair may appoint a subcommittee to review the complaint (e.g., excluding faculty from the student’s department). The Graduate Program Council may ask for additional information from the parties involved and may hold a hearing at which both parties will be asked to speak separately in closed session. The Graduate Program Council will then make a written recommendation to the Associate Dean who will render a decision and submit it to the Dean of the School for final approval. The Associate Dean will provide the Dean’s final decision in writing to the student and to the person against whom the grievance was filed. Unless a longer time is mutually agreed upon by the individuals involved, this written decision shall be made within 30 working days from the date when the written grievance was filed with the Associate Dean’s Office.

Students not willing to accept the final decision of the Dean may appeal to the Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/grievances-and-appeals/).

Questions about these procedures can be directed to Connie Flanagan, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies (https://sohe.wisc.edu/staff/connie-flanagan/).
State law contains provisions regarding discrimination and harassment. Wisconsin Statutes 36.12 reads, in part: “No student may be denied admission to, participation in or the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any service, program, course or facility of the system or its institutions or centers because of the student’s race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital status or parental status.”

In addition, the UW-System prohibits discrimination based on gender identity or gender expression.

Students have the right to file discrimination and harassment complaints with the Office for Equity and Diversity (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/), 179-A Bascom Hall, 263-2378, Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay Service: 7-1-1

Other
n/a

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.

People

Faculty:

Civil Society and Community Studies

Professors: Cynthia Jasper (chair), Lori Bakken, Constance Flanagan

Associate Professors: Brian McInnes

Assistant Professors: Kasey Keeler, Jennifer Gaddis, Leah Horowitz, Carolina Sarmiento, Mariaelena Huambachano

Consumer Science (Consumer Behavior & Family Economics)

Professors: Nancy Wong (chair), Judith Bartfeld, J. Michael Collins

Associate Professors: Clifford Robb

Assistant Professors: Fenaba Addo, Lydia Ashton, Megan Bea, C. Yiwei Zhang

Design Studies

Professors: Roberto Rengel (chair), Jennifer Angus, Wei Dong, Majid Sarmadi, Mary Hark

Associate Professors: Carolyn Kallenborn, Marina Moskowitz, Kevin Ponto, Jung-hye Shin

Assistant Professors: Marianne Fairbanks, Kristin Thorleifsdottir

Human Development and Family Studies

Professors: Janean Dilworth-Bart (chair), Charles Raison, Julie Poehlmann-Tynan

Associate Professors: Larissa Duncan, Sarah Halpern-Meekin, Sigan Hartley, Heather Kirkorian, Robert Nix, Lauren Papp

Assistant Professors: Kristin Litzelman, Margaret Kerr, Alvin Thomas