Whether you wish to prepare for a rewarding human services career or enhance the one you have, you can do so with this program. Deepen your understanding of families, individuals, relationships and yourself. Enjoy a customizable culminating experience that focuses your training in an area that interests you.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Family and Human Development
The MS program in family and human development provides practitioner-oriented professionals with an understanding of relationships and developmental dynamics.

Students learn how to effectively evaluate and consume research, translate research into best practices, and apply these principles at work. They gain knowledge and skills necessary for promoting healthy individual and family development as they study the factors that promote successful relationships and positive outcomes for individuals, families and communities across the lifespan.

The online format provides easy access to rigorous and valuable information that informs best practices in improving the lives of families and family members. The program also includes a customizable culminating experience that allows students to focus their training in their areas of interest and work.

At a Glance

- College/School: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Location: online

Degree Requirements

30 credit hours including the required capstone course (FAS 588)
Required Core (9 credit hours)
CDE 531 Theoretical Issues in Child Development (3)
FAS 586 or SOC 586 Capstone I (3)
FAS 587 or SOC 587 Capstone II (3)

Electives or Research (18 credit hours)
FAS 500 Research Methods (3)
CDE 501 Social Statistics (3)
diversity course (3)
other elective coursework (9)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
FAS 588 Capstone III (3)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students complete the coursework and culminating experience courses in consultation with the assigned faculty advisor. The plan of study should be completed and approved by the faculty advisor once completing 50% of the minimum required credit hours for the degree. Acceptance of the proposed plan of study must be verified by the signature of the chair and faculty advisor. After approval from the program or college, the plan of study is submitted to the Graduate College for final approval.

FAS 500 and CDE 501 may be replaced by equivalent courses with approval by the academic advisor.

The diversity course and other elective coursework are chosen with approval by the academic advisor. The remaining elective credits must be from the FAS, CDE or SOC prefixes.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework
3. current resume or curriculum vitae
4. personal statement of goals relevant to the master's degree program
5. two letters of recommendation from professional or academic backgrounds
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

The personal statement must be four to five pages, double-spaced, and must address the applicant's professional goals, the applicant's strengths that will enable the applicant to succeed in the program, and relevant professional experience or responsibilities to the program.

Letters of recommendation must be from at least two academic or professional sources. Family members or friends do not meet this criterion. Applicants should see the program website for full application deadlines and admission terms and details.

Attend Online
ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Application Deadlines

Fall
Spring
Summer

Career Opportunities
Graduates often pursue careers in human, social and government agencies working with children, youth and adults in positions such as:

- caseworker
- children, youth and family services worker
- community engagement specialist
- community support program official
- family support specialist
- human service specialist
- manager
- nonprofit organization administrator
- outreach coordinator

While the information students learn in this program could be beneficial to therapists and counselors, this degree does not enable students to seek licensure as a professional counselor or marriage and family therapist. The completion of an additional program or degree is required to do so.
Contact Information

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