Department of Human Sciences

Dellmar Walker, Interim Chair
Ellington Human Sciences Building 100

The Department of Human Sciences offers a Master of Science in Human Sciences with a choice of two concentrations: Child Development and Family Studies or Nutrition and Food Science. In addition, the department cooperates with the Schools/Departments of Agribusiness and Agriscience; Business Education, Marketing Education, and Office Management; and Engineering Technology and Industrial Studies in offering the Master of Vocational-Technical Education (M.V.T.E.) and offers a graduate minor.

To be considered for unconditional admission, an undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 is required. Normally, a test score of either 800 on the Graduate Record Exam or 35 on the Miller Analogies Test is recommended. Conditional admission may be granted for students not meeting unconditional admission requirements. Students who are admitted on a temporary conditional basis will be expected to complete 9 semester hours in the Human Sciences Department with a grade of B or better with 6 of the 9 hours at the 6000 level and to successfully complete a departmental admission review. Letters of recommendation may be required.

Requirements for the Master of Science (5000 and 6000 level)

Candidate must

1. have completed an undergraduate minor in Child Development and Family Studies or Nutrition and Food Science or the equivalent;
2. complete 33 hours including H SC 6530, 6620, and a major of 18 hours with no more than 30 percent of the total degree hours dually listed as undergraduate/graduate hours:
   a. a concentration in Child Development and Family Studies to include CDFS 6300 or 6310, 6320, and 6330, or
   b. a concentration in Nutrition and Food Science to include N FS 6200, 6210, and 6220 or 6230;
3. file a Candidacy Form with the Graduate Office prior to the completion of 24 credit hours;
4. complete an approved research tool with grade of C or better (PSY 6280 or STAT 6160);
5. complete a thesis (H SC 6640);
6. successfully complete a written comprehensive exam (may be taken no more than twice);

Candidates may select a 12-hour minor with approval of the advisor as defined on page 19 of the Graduate Catalog.

Courses in Human Sciences [H SC]

5041- (504 A-D) Seminar in Human Sciences. Prerequisite: Permission of chair. Individual research and/or analysis of contemporary problems and issues in a concentrated area of study. For advanced students.
5041 (504A) Human Development-Family Life.
   Three credits.
5042 (504B) Foods-Nutrition. Three credits.
5043 (504C) Clothing-Textiles. Three credits.
5044 (504D) Housing-Design. Three credits.
5051- (505 A-D) Advanced Problems in Human Sciences. Prerequisite: Permission of chair. Provides an opportunity for advanced students to do independent study or conduct research in their areas of concentration. One hour seminar per week plus independent study in:
5051 (505A) Human Development-Family Life.
   Three credits.
5052 (505B) Foods-Nutrition. Three credits.
5053 (505C) Clothing-Textiles. Three credits.
5054 (505D) Housing-Design. Three credits.
5060 (506) Readings in Human Sciences. One to three credits. Prerequisite: Permission of chair. Selected readings of current trends, developments, and research in human sciences of interest to teachers and students. One hour seminar per week and independent study.
5410 (541) Consumer Economics. Three credits. Consideration of theoretical economics as related to the family. An overview of the choices available and the decision-making process confronting the family in the American economy.
5420 (542) Personal and Family Management. Three credits. Management theories applied to personal and family resources throughout the life cycle. Emphasis on the development of knowledge from which to draw conclusions about the financial elements of life. Offered once a year.
5430 (543) Resource Management. Three credits. Opportunity to coordinate the many areas of human sciences in the solution of individual and group management problems.
5450 (545) Professionalism in Consumer Services. Three credits. The role, functions, and responsibilities of consumer services professionals employed in business, government, and other organizations.
6500 (650) Issues and Trends in Human Sciences. One to three credits. An in-depth analysis of one or more current issues or trends in human sciences. Topics will vary.
6530 (653) Effective Program Management. Three credits. Integration of human sciences concepts and content with the principles of program management, including planning, organization, staffing, implementation, and evaluation.
6620 (662) Research Methods in Human Sciences. Three credits. Introduction to methods and tools of research. Selection and statement of research problems, formulation of research proposal.
6640 (664) Thesis Research. One to six credits. Selection of a research problem, review of pertinent literature, collection and analysis of data, and composition of thesis. Once enrolled, student should register for at least one credit hour of master’s research each semester until completion. S/U grading.

Courses in Textiles, Merchandising, and Design [TXMD]

5130 (513) History of Costume. Three credits. Survey of clothing and design from ancient to modern times; consideration given to social economic, and cultural conditions reflected in dress.


Courses in Nutrition and Food Science [N FS]

5200 (520) Diet and Disease. Three credits. Prerequisites: BIOL 2030, N FS 4270. Nutritional problems in disease and modifications of normal diet to meet dietary requirements of pathological conditions. Offered once a year.

5210 (521) Nutrition in Aging. Three credits. Prerequisite: N FS 1240 or 2220. Nutritional needs of elderly individuals and how these requirements are affected by physiological, pathological, and socioeconomic changes associated with aging. Emphasis on assessment, nutrition counseling skills, and resources to assist elderly individuals with adequate nutrient intake. Offered once a year.

5220 (522) Food Systems Management I. Three credits. Prerequisite: N FS 3200 or 3210 or permission of instructor. Principles and production of quantity foods. Emphasis on types of food service systems, delivery systems, menu planning and evaluation, procurement, receiving, quality control, inventory, cost containment, safety, and sanitation. Five hours per week.

5240 (524) Experimental Food Study. Three credits. Prerequisites: N FS 3200 and CHEM 2030 or permission of instructor. Chemical and physical factors affecting the flavor, texture, color, and appearance of food. Emphasis on evaluation of sensory qualities of food using subjective and objective measurements and new food product development. Offered once per year.

5250 (525) Child Nutrition. Three credits. Prerequisite: N FS 1240 or 2220. Nutritional needs during pregnancy, infancy, and childhood related to physical and mental development. Emphasis on cultural, social, and psychological aspects of the development of food patterns and nutrition education resources.

5260 (526) Food Safety Issues from Production to Consumption. Three credits. Food safety issues that impact food production, food storage and transportation, food processing, and food consumption within food production facilities, the home, and food service facilities. Consumer concerns evaluated based on risk theory and scientific evaluation of safety, including decision-making through critical thinking. Food standards and regulations designed to improve safety of food also discussed.


5280 (528) Food Systems Management II. Three credits. Functions of management applied to food service industry. Emphasis on systems approach to food service operation, organizational structure, personnel management, leadership and management styles, work improvement, and labor relations. Offered once a year.

5290 (529) Dietetic Practicum. Six credits. Prerequisites: N FS 4200 and 4220. Practical preparation in clinical dietetics. Clinical experience provided with the cooperation of Middle Tennessee Medical Center and other facilities. For dietetics students only. Offered summer only.

5800 (580) Diet and Disease Seminar. One credit. To be taken concurrently with N FS 5200. Nutrition and Food Science majors only. Practice in applying the knowledge base acquired in N FS 5200 to structured case studies and development of the critical thinking skills needed to design accurate and systematic nutrition care plans in the clinical setting.

6200 (620) Metabolism of Carbohydrates, Lipids, and Proteins. Three credits. Prerequisite: CHEM 3530 or equivalent. Sequential to N FS 5270 or equivalent. Advanced study of carbohydrates, lipids, and proteins with emphasis on the metabolic interactions at the cellular, tissue, and organ levels. Offered alternate years.

6210 (621) Vitamin and Mineral Metabolism. Three credits. Prerequisite: CHEM 3530 or equivalent. Sequential to N FS 5270 or equivalent. Metabolic functions and mechanisms of micro-nutrient action in human nutrition with an emphasis on physiological requirements, assessment techniques, and interrelationships in disease prevention. Offered alternate years.

6220 (622) Food Industry Applied Nutrition. Three credits. Integration of food technological considerations, nutrition attributes, consumer perceptions, and socio-demographic influences to determine food choice, and thus diet quality.

6230 (623) Advanced Clinical Nutrition. Three credits. Sequential to N FS 5200 and 5270. Integration of the principles of basic biological diseases in the pathogenesis, diagnosis, and management of the nutritional aspects of disease including nutritional assessment and dietary implication in the etiology of disease.

6290 (629) Clinical Dietetics. Six credits. Planned educational experiences in administration of food service systems and experiences in a health care facility applying principles of normal and clinical nutrition to nutritional problems occurring throughout the life cycle.

Courses in Child Development and Family Studies [CDFS]

5140 (514) Violence in the Family. Three credits. (Same as SOC 5140.) Causes, dynamics, and consequences of violence in the family. Includes the discussion of violence toward children, spouses, dating partners, siblings, and elders. Emphasizes the social conditions which lead to these types of violence.

5300 (530) Nursery School Practicum. Three credits. Prerequisites: CDFS 2350, 3310, 4370 or permission of instructor. Advanced information and skills working with three- and four-year olds. Lab interaction with children; planning and implementation of curriculum. Three-hour laboratory plus two-hour seminar per week.
5330 (533) Primary Practicum. Three credits. Prerequisites: CDFS 4300, 4380; ELED 3050; admission to teacher education. Advanced knowledge and skills in working with kindergarten and primary age students. Consists of field experiences in the appropriate development and implementation of curriculum in kindergarten and one other primary grade. Three-hour laboratory and two-hour seminar per week.

5340 (534) The Contemporary Family. Three credits. Prerequisite: CDFS 3320 or permission of instructor. An ecological approach to the study of contemporary issues, problems, questions, and lifestyles as they relate to families and individuals.


5360 (536) Day Care Perspectives. Three credits. Prerequisites: CDFS 2350 and 3310 or permission of instructor. Examination of diverse day care settings and their influence on human development. Emphasis on the organization/administration of day care programs. Participation in day care center experiences required. Three hours plus one hour observation per week.

5370 (537) Effective Instruction (Birth - 5 years). Three credits. Prerequisites: CDFS 2350, 3310, or permission of instructor. A comprehensive exploration of the knowledge and skills necessary for designing and implementing curricula appropriate for programs serving children birth to five years.

5380 (538) Infant/Toddler Practicum. Three credits. Prerequisites: CDFS 2350, 3310, and 4370/5370 or permission of instructor. Advanced information and skills in working with infants and toddlers (birth to three years). Lab participation involving interactions with children as well as planning and implementing curriculum required. Three-hour laboratory and a two-hour seminar per week.

5390 (539) Families in Later Life. Three credits. Prerequisite: Human Sciences majors - CDFS 3320; Sociology majors - SOC 2600; or permission of the instructor. Examination of families in later life from an ecological approach with emphasis on family forms and relationships.

5391 Aging Health and Development. Three credits. Prerequisite: CDFS 4390 or SOC 2600 or permission of the instructor. A service learning opportunity that seeks to provide students with understanding of the concepts and application of aging, families in later life, assessment, and gerontological program planning and implementation.

6300 (630) Application of Child Development Principles I. Three credits. A comprehensive exploration of human growth and development from conception to age six. Recognizing and assessing developmental ages and stages as well as special needs is an integral part of this course.

6310 (631) Application of Child Development Principles II. Three credits. Prerequisite: CDFS 6300 or equivalent. Advanced study of the child from the age of six through adolescence from a holistic perspective.

6320 (632) Families at Risk. Three credits. Prerequisite: CDFS 3320 or permission of the instructor. The dynamics, context, and overall impact of factors which place families at risk. Methods by which family members cope with normative and/or catastrophic stressor events analyzed from a variety of theoretical perspectives.

6330 (633) Theories of Child Development and Family Relations. Three credits. The advanced study of individual and family theory, as well as theory principles and evaluation criteria.

6700 (670) Practicum in English as a Second Language for Pre K-3. One credit. Includes ten hours field experience in the ESL classroom with Pre K-3 students from different cultures.

Courses in Family and Consumer Sciences Education [FCSE]

5501- (550 A,B) Occupational Field Experience. Three credits each. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Directed participation in planned and supervised occupational experiences of eight hours field experience per week. Must apply previous semester.

5502 (550A) Care and Guidance of Children. Three credits.

5502 (550B) Food Management, Production, and Services. Three credits.

5540 (554A) Teaching Home Economics. One to six credits. Synthesis and application of relevant concepts relating to educational planning; changes relating to the development of effective home economics education programs. A maximum of six semester hours credit may be applied toward a degree.

5550 (555) Curriculum Development. Three credits. Review of recent advances in home economics education. Analysis and evaluation of selected topics, materials, and methods in terms of their appropriateness for reaching curriculum objectives in home economics.

5560 (556) Problems in Teaching Materials. One to three credits. Prerequisite: Permission of chair. Application of principles and techniques involved in the selection and preparation of effective teaching materials and visual aids.

5570 (557) Occupational Home Economics Seminar. Three credits. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Examination and analysis of program development, execution, and evaluation in a selected occupational area.

Courses in Interior Design [IDES]

5700 (570) History of Interiors. Three credits. Historical interiors: survey analysis, application. Emphasis on major design characteristics of interior furnishing styles. Offered once a year.

5710 (571) Survey of Contemporary Interior Design. Three credits. Prerequisite: IDES 4700/5700 or consent of instructor. Development of contemporary interiors from the early nineteenth century to the present with consideration given to style characteristics, cultural influences, designers, and relationships among styles. Offered once a year.