MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHILD LIFE

A master's degree in Child Life prepares graduates for positions in both healthcare and community settings. Completion of this degree may lead to (but does not guarantee) eligibility to pursue certification through the Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP).

The M.S. in Child Life program is 100% online.

Degree Requirements

Total Semester Credit Hours Required
37 semester credit hours

Special Requirements

No grade below B is accepted towards any graduate degree in the Department of Family Sciences. If more than one grade below B is earned while enrolled in any Family Sciences graduate program, the student will be dismissed from the program.

Final Examination

In addition to the completion of a professional portfolio, students must complete a final examination consisting of an oral defense of this document. The students advisory committee determines the outcome of the exam. The examination may be repeated if deemed appropriate by the student's advisory committee, with the approval of the department chair. The advisory committee should consist of three faculty members, all of whom must hold Graduate Faculty status, and at least two of whom must be Family Sciences faculty from the Early Childhood Development and Education program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>SCHs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FS 5113</td>
<td>Theories of Child Development (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS 5223</td>
<td>Child Growth and Development in Early Childhood (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS 5243</td>
<td>Adolescents Development Within the Family (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS 5503</td>
<td>Family Systems in Child Development (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS 5693</td>
<td>Research Methods in Family Sciences (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
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Content/Professional Competencies (21 hours)

Select 7 courses from the following 21

- FS 5013 Grief, Loss, and Bereavement (*)
- FS 5063 Developmental and Psychosocial Perspectives on Health, Illness, and Families
- FS 5073 Professional Practice and Ethics for Working With Children and Families
- FS 5193 Statistics for Family Sciences
- FS 5403 Child Life (*)
- FS 5573 Family Crises
- FS 5593 Play, Development, and the Young Learner (*)
- FS 5613 Child Guidance
- FS 5931 Child Life Practicum (**) 1
- FS 5893 Child Life Internship (**) 1

Graduation Requirement (1 hour)

FS 5931 Professional Portfolio 1

Total SCHs 37

* Classes required for certification by the ACLP eligibility assessment. Further information about course alignment with ACLP assessment can be obtained from the student’s advisor.

** Child Life clinical experiences (practicum and internship) are awarded through individual hospitals through an application and interview process. TWU does NOT place students in these experiences, but will work with students and hospitals to facilitate affiliations as needed, and students are eligible to receive course credits for clinical experiences upon approval from their advisor. While these courses are not listed in the academic eligibility assessment, they are required for certification through the ACLP. Please note that almost all Child Life internships (and ALL ACLP endorsed clinical internships) require that students complete a Child Life practicum BEFORE applying to Child Life internship.