DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN FAMILY STUDIES

The Ph.D. in Family Studies prepares students for advanced career options in family and social services, family life education, public policy, research, and higher education.

The Ph.D. in Family Studies has been approved by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) as meeting the standards and criteria required for the provisional Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) designation. Courses noted with an asterisk (*) must be completed in order to qualify for the abbreviated CFLE application process.

Total Semester Credit Hours Required
A minimum of 90 semester credit hours above the bachelor's degree, including 6 semester credit hours for dissertation. 30 of the 90 hours must be research courses. Consult with advisor for approved research courses.

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.

Degree Plan
Students must submit a degree plan which follows the degree requirements listed below. The degree plan should be developed in collaboration with the student's advisor and committee, and it should be filed after the student has completed 18 hours of course work.

Research Tools
The Department of Family Sciences requires students to complete 12 hours of research tools. The department has a list of courses that meet the research tool requirement, and these courses are part of the degree requirements listed below. They are also included in the 30 hours of research focused course work required by the Graduate School.

Professional Seminars
All doctoral students in Family Studies are required to attend at least 3 professional seminars each calendar year.

Qualifying Exam
The Department of Family Sciences administers a qualifying exam for each student prior to admission to candidacy. The student must complete the required research tools before being eligible to take the exam. Students may opt to take the qualifying exam in their last or second-to-last semester of course work. In no case may a student be excused from the qualifying exam, and students may not register for dissertation hours (FS 6983 and FS 6993) until they have successfully passed the exam and have been admitted to candidacy. The qualifying exam may only be repeated once. Students who fail two attempts at the qualifying exam will be dismissed from the program.

Final Examination
A comprehensive oral examination will include a defense of the dissertation and the research on which it is based. The final examination may only be repeated one time.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FS 5843</td>
<td>Teaching Family Sciences (*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS 5883</td>
<td>Family of Origin</td>
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No more than 42 semester credit hours of online coursework will count toward the doctoral degree.