

## ***Individual and Family Development Specialization***

This specialization is for students with a broad interest in working with families. This specialization provides knowledge about specific life stages of individuals within the context of family systems with a focus on system dynamics, diverse family systems, gender, and cultural differences. This plan of study is designed particularly for those expecting to attend graduate school and those who desire a general background in lifespan development and family dynamics. Students in this specialization may participate in the Family Internship. Further information and criteria is listed under *Internship* below.

### **Departmental Requirements**

FS 525	Human Development
FS 545	Family Relations
FS 623	Developmental Perspectives on Infancy and Early Childhood
FS 624	Developmental Perspectives on Adolescence and Early Adulthood
FS 641	Parenting Across the Lifespan
FS 653	Family Economics
FS 746	Human Sexuality
FS 757	Race, Class and Gender
FS 794	Families and the Law

### **Major Requirements**

PSYCH 402 or SOC 502 or HHS 540

### **Supporting Courses**

FS 750	Advanced Adolescent Development
FS 760	Family Programs and Policies
FS 776	Children, Adolescents, and the Law
FS 782	Family Internship
FS 792	Family Internship Seminar
Research Methods course (e.g., PSYCH 502 Research Methods in Psychology)	
PSYCH 552, 581, 582	
NURS 535	
SOC 540	
A foreign language	
Work with the Institute on Disabilities	

### **Internship**

In the optional Family Internship (FS 782), students will apply knowledge gained from their academic studies in a supervised environment. The internship involves a commitment of sixteen hours per week for two semesters, plus a three hour seminar (FS 792) every other week. In addition, some organizations may require a criminal background check before placement is finalized. Arrangements for criminal background checks are the responsibility of the student and the requesting organization, not the Department of Family Studies. Students apply for the internship during spring semester of their junior year. Internship applicants must have completed a minimum of twenty credits of departmental coursework prior to their senior year with a minimum departmental GPA of 3.0. Internship courses (782/792) count toward the twenty credits required in supporting courses.

***Students are responsible for insuring they have met all requirements.***