Undergraduate Handbook

Department of Family Science

School of PUBLIC HEALTH
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PREFACE

We are pleased to welcome you as a student in the Family Science Department. Family Science is an academic discipline which has expanded greatly over the past twenty years. There is a rapidly growing body of knowledge related to the study of families and the policies & programs that affect families, as well as an increasing national awareness of the importance of the family unit to the well-being of individuals and our entire society. Our faculty and staff are happy that you have decided to join us in your educational pursuits toward our shared goals.

Family Science is a department in the University of Maryland, School of Public Health. Our department offices are housed in the SPH building, with our main offices in Suite 1142. Completion of the requirements of the Department and the University lead to the Bachelor of Science degree. Graduates from our program are well prepared to enter graduate programs in family science, family therapy, law, social work, counseling, psychology, sociology, health education, human resource management, and other fields in which knowledge of social sciences is good professional preparation.

Graduates not seeking higher degrees are prepared for entry-level jobs as human service workers, counselors, family life educators, work and family specialists, non-profit organization administrators, and staff members of other agencies addressing family needs. The curriculum focuses on courses which acquaint our students with current knowledge regarding individual and family development. There are also required courses in law, policy, and human service management as these fields relate to families and family service systems. Electives allow students to add a particular area of interest to their knowledge base, thereby permitting greater flexibility in career preparation. Our department has a system of faculty advisors/mentors to help students individualize their curriculum plan so that students can tailor their coursework to address specific interests and prepare for particular careers. We urge you to take advantage of our system of advising and mentoring.

Again, welcome to our family!
INTRODUCTION

This handbook has been prepared for undergraduate majors in the Department of Family Science and their advisors. The information provided can be used as a reference for the most frequently asked questions concerning the program and its requirements. The requirements are based on the Revised Family Science Program which became effective during the Fall 2002 semester. All majors are responsible for the information in this booklet, each semester’s schedule of classes, and the undergraduate catalog in effect at their date of admission to UMD.
WHAT IS FAMILY SCIENCE?

The Family Science major focuses on the study of families and the problems they face in contemporary society. The major offers excellent training in scientific methods to understand family development, behavior, strengths, and to solve family problems. Students learn to describe, explain, and improve the quality of family life through education, applied research, policy analysis, and human services program management.

Our Department awards a Bachelors of Science degree in Family Science. Students in our major study families, the challenges they face, and ways to help them succeed in today's society. The curriculum focuses on individual and family development over the life span, examining social, cultural, economic, and historical trends that affect family functioning. Required coursework examines: changing family forms/lifestyles, culturally diverse families, child/family development, inter-generational relations, family law, family economics, poverty, work and family issues, family crises, research methods, and the delivery of human services to families. Each student also completes a 120-hour internship course, providing an opportunity to apply coursework in a professional position. Students can augment the requirements of the curriculum through elective courses to create a specific program of study which allows them to pursue a particular academic and/or career goal related to the primary discipline. There is no intent to orient all students toward one specialized interest or occupation.

FAMILY SCIENCE PROGRAM GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The primary goal of the Family Science Program is to provide a well-rounded scholarly understanding of the body of knowledge related to families. The program core includes exploration of this scientific, philosophical, and historical knowledge and the theoretical bases of the study of families. From this broad knowledge base, the program provides flexibility so that a student may pursue a variety of areas related to family dynamics, family policy, and human service organizations. The program’s objectives are to:

1. Develop basic knowledge, comprehension, and appreciation of:
   a. scientific, historical, cultural, and philosophical perspectives of families
   b. theoretical bases for the study of families
   c. family influences on the individual
   d. societal influences on the family
   e. implications of family theory and research for family policy and human service programs

2. Provide guidance through teaching, advising, internships, and research experiences with the goal of augmenting knowledge and skills so that the student can more sharply define educational and career goals.
OUR FACULTY

The Department’s faculty members come from diverse backgrounds, providing students with expertise and guidance in the interdisciplinary study of families, human service management, and policy analysis. They are trained in a variety of disciplines, including administration, anthropology, education, law, political science, psychology, social work, sociology, family science, human development, and economics. The faculty has an outstanding record of excellence in teaching as demonstrated by numerous college and university teaching awards. Current members of the faculty and their research interests are:

Elaine Anderson, Professor and Chair (Ph.D., Individual and Family Science, Pennsylvania State University)
   Family policy, at-risk families, fathering, work & family issues.

Amelia Arria, Director, Center on Young Adult Health and Development (Ph.D., Epidemiology, University of Pittsburg)
   Adolescent and young adult health-risk behaviors, maternal drug use patterns, evaluation of drug prevention and treatment programs, parenting, influences on youth resilience and academic achievement, help-seeking behavior and health service utilization for mental disorders.

Andrew Billingsley, Professor Emeritus (Ph.D., Social Policy and Social Research, Brandeis University)
   African American individuals and families, multicultural issues, religion and families.

Bonnie Braun, Professor (Ph.D., Family Consumer Sciences Education, University of Missouri)
   Family policy, family resiliency, low-income families, rural families, educational program evaluation.

Mia Smith Bynum, Associate Professor (Ph.D.,Clinical Psychology, University of Virginia)
   African-American families, parenting, adolescent development and mental health, racial identity.

Norman Epstein, Professor (Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, University of California–Los Angeles)
   Assessment and treatment of couples, depression, anxiety, cross-cultural research, domestic violence, and family psychoeducation for schizophrenia.

Ned Gaylin, Professor Emeritus (Ph.D., Human Development/Clinical Child Psychology, University of Chicago)
   Parent-child relationships, theory, therapy, violence.

Sandra Hofferth, Professor (Ph.D., Sociology, University of North Carolina)
   American children’s use of time, work and family, fathers and fathering, adolescent pregnancy and childbearing, childhood obesity, family policy.
Samuel “Woodie” Kessel, Professor of the Practice (M.D, Albert Einstein College of Medicine)  
/Public health, public policy, pediatrics, and maternal and child health

Jinhee Kim, Associate Professor (Ph.D., Family Resource Management, Virginia Tech University)  
Financial stress, health, and work outcome behavior of employees, credit counseling and debt management, food resource management of low-income families.

Sally Koblinsky, Professor (Ph.D., Human Development and Family Science/Psychological Assessment, Oregon State University)  
Parenting in at-risk families, homelessness, community violence, child development, scholarship of teaching and learning.

Jaslean LaTaillade, Adjunct Assistant Professor (Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, University of Washington)  
African American interracial couples and families, intimate partner violence, couple therapy, ethnic minority families.

Leigh Leslie, Associate Professor (Ph.D., Individual and Family Science, Pennsylvania State University)  
Gender issues, social support, ethnic families.

Elisabeth Fost-Maring, Faculty Research Associate (Ph.D., Family Studies, University of Maryland)  
Adolescents and families, community violence, substance abuse, healthy homes, at-risk youth and families, cross-cultural and international research on families.

Frances Goldscheider, College Park Professor (Ph.D., Demography, University of Pennsylvania)  
Youth in transition to adulthood, changes in family structure, stepfamilies, family consequences of child disability.

Stephanie Grutzmacher, Faculty Research Associate (Ph.D., Family Studies, University of Maryland)  
Health and nutrition literacy, social welfare policy, engaged/experiential pedagogy, food security and nutrition education for low income populations, health program planning and evaluation.

Pauline Mendola, Adjunct Associate Professor (Ph.D., Epidemiology and Community Health, State University of New York at Buffalo)  
The major research focus of my work is targeted towards understanding the impacts of environmental contaminant exposures on reproductive health, pregnancy, and infant and child development.

Manouchehr Mokhtari, Associate Professor (Ph.D., Economics, University of Houston)  
Microeconometric analysis of household behavior, economics of family behavior in former Soviet Union nations, family tax policy in economies in transition.
Marian Moser Jones, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., Sociomedical Sciences, Columbia University)

History and ethics of public health and human services, health policy and communications, sociomedical science

Noel Myricks, Professor Emeritus (Ph.D., Counseling Psychology and Higher Education, American University)

Family law, children’s legal issues, family mediation.

Suzanne Randolph, Associate Professor Emeritus (Ph.D., Psychology, University of Michigan)

African-American families, HIV/AIDS, community violence, evaluation of maternal/child health programs

Kevin Roy, Assistant Professor (Ph.D., Human Development and Social Policy, Northwestern University)

Men in low-income families, fathering, social policy, qualitative methods, poverty across the life course.

Roger Rubin, Associate Professor Emeritus (Ph.D., Child Development and Family Relationships, Pennsylvania State University)

African American families, mental illness and families, family policy, and delayed fatherhood.

Edmond D. Shenassa, Associate Professor (Sc.D., Dual Doctorate in Epidemiology and Maternal and Child Health, Harvard University)

Developmental consequences of prenatal and perinatal exposure to toxins, social disparities in health with a focus on the role of housing and other built environments.

Kerry Tripp, Senior Lecturer (J.D., University of Notre Dame)

Family law

Jacqueline Wallen, Associate Professor (Ph.D., Human Development, University of Chicago)

Women and substance abuse treatment, treatment of PTSD, adoption and foster care, work & family programs.

Carol Werlinich, Instructor (Ph.D., Human Development, University of Maryland)

Family therapy, domestic violence, couples communication.

Robyn Zeiger, Senior Lecturer (Ph.D. Health Education, University of Maryland)

LGBT issues, family pets, adult children, drugs & alcohol, loss & bereavement
OUR FACULTY (cont.)

The Department is proud of the rich ethnic and gender diversity of its faculty, staff, and students. The Department is a campus leader in promoting sensitivity to gender, class, religious, and cultural issues. Faculty address diversity issues both inside and outside the classroom. Family Science was named the "Outstanding Academic Unit" by the University's President's Commission on Ethnic Minority Issues for the third time in 2004. In 1990, the President’s Commission named a Family Science faculty member as the University’s Outstanding Faculty Member. In 1996, another faculty member was named the University’s Outstanding Faculty Woman of Color.

Family Science faculty members have earned national and international reputations for their research on culturally diverse and high-risk families in the U.S., as well as their pioneering studies of families and children in the former Soviet Union, China, and Columbia. Faculty members have provided insight into contemporary American families from all socioeconomic backgrounds through widely-acclaimed books on such topics as African-American families, family policy, family therapy, depression in families, addictions and recovery, alternative family lifestyles, and gender and close relationships.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Family Science, a student must earn at least 120 credits comprised of major required courses, CORE or General Education requirements, and general electives. All students in the Family Science major must complete all major requirements and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 to graduate with the degree. The Family Science major requires a minimum of three semesters of coursework from the time you enter the program; however, completion of the degree may require additional terms as course availability allows.

Major Required Courses (45 credits)
Major requirements are comprised of 15 courses which enable the student to examine fundamental knowledge in Family Science. These courses provide the student with knowledge about family theory, research methods in family science, strengths and weaknesses in family functioning, child development and intergenerational family roles, family economics and family law, the needs of special populations, and the management and significance of human services and family policy. In addition to the student’s didactic learning, an experiential learning component is required for all majors – a 120-hour semester-long internship.*

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Prerequisite(s)</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC100 – Introduction to Psychology</td>
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<td>SOCY100 – Introduction to Sociology or SOCY105 – Introduction to Contemporary Social Problems</td>
<td>(see individual course descriptions on <a href="http://www.testudo.umd.edu">www.testudo.umd.edu</a> for prerequisites)</td>
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<td>STAT100 – Introduction to Statistics or EDMS451 – Introduction to Educational Statistics or PSYC200 – Statistical Methods in Psychology or SOCY201 – Statistical Methods for Sociology or CCJS200 – Statistics for Criminology and Criminal Justice or MATH214 – Elements of Probability and Statistics</td>
<td>(see individual course descriptions on <a href="http://www.testudo.umd.edu">www.testudo.umd.edu</a> for prerequisites)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMSC302</td>
<td>Research Methods in Family Science</td>
<td>Approved Statistics Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMSC330</td>
<td>Family Theories and Patterns</td>
<td>45 Earned Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMSC332</td>
<td>Children in Families</td>
<td>FMSC105 or PSYC100</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMSC381</td>
<td>Poverty, Affluence, and Families</td>
<td>SOCY100 or SOCY105</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMSC383</td>
<td>Delivery of Human Services to Families</td>
<td>FMSC330</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMSC432</td>
<td>Adult Development and Aging in Families</td>
<td>FMSC332</td>
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<td>FMSC477</td>
<td>Internship and Analysis in Family Science*</td>
<td>FMSC 330, FMSC383, &amp; 90 earned credits</td>
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<td>FMSC487</td>
<td>Legal Aspects of Family Problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMSC290- Family Economics</td>
<td>ECON200-Principles of Microeconomics or ECON201- Principles of Macroeconomics</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMSC elective (any FMSC Elective)***</td>
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<td>FMSC elective (any FMSC Elective)***</td>
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*See “Student Guide to Internship” on page 32
***Must be selected from FMSC courses. No field work or independent study is allowed to fill this requirement. FMSC290 cannot be used as an FMSC elective. FMSC105 and FMSC298F may be counted as required FMSC electives if taken before 60 credits, but may not be counted as fulfilling the FMSC elective requirement if taken after 60 credits. Both courses can be used as general electives.
University CORE and General Education Requirements

In addition to completing a major course of study, students are required to complete a set of general education requirements (CORE or General Education) intended to provide exposure to broad areas of historic and contemporary human thought and experience. The program that each student must follow is determined by his/her date of matriculation at the University of Maryland-College Park.

CORE: The following students are required to complete CORE requirements:
- New freshmen who entered the University of Maryland after Spring 1990 and before Fall 2012.
- Transfer students who matriculated the University of Maryland--College Park after Spring 1990 and before Fall 2012.
- Transfer students who attended a Maryland public institution of higher education prior to Fall 2012 and matriculate to the University of Maryland--College Park prior to Fall 2016.

To learn more about the CORE program, please visit http://www.ugst.umd.edu/core/.

General Education: The following students are required to complete General Education requirements:
- New freshmen who matriculate in Fall 2012 or later.
- Transfer students (from private or non-Maryland public institutions of higher education) who matriculate to the University of Maryland--College Park in Fall 2012 or later.
- All transfer students who matriculate to the University of Maryland--College Park starting in Fall 2016 regardless of the date of their matriculation to another Maryland public institution.
- Returning or transfer students who have had a separation from the University of Maryland--College Park of five or more continuous years.

To learn more about the General Education program, please visit http://www.gened.umd.edu/.
**CORE Requirements** (46 credits)

**Fundamental Studies (9 credits)**
- **Fundamental English (FE):** 3 credits (ENLG 101, 101_) This may also be fulfilled with AP, SAT, or portfolio evaluation.
- **Fundamental Math (FM):** 3 credits (MATH 110, 112, 113, or 115, or any 100- or 200-level MATH or STAT course that satisfies the University’s Fundamental Math requirement, except MATH 199, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, and 274)
- **Professional Writing (JE):** 3 credits (most classes with the ENGL 39_ course code) Must be taken after a student has earned 60 credits. Students who have earned an “A” in ENGL101 (not ENGL101A or ENGL101X) are exempt from Professional Writing. No exemption from the Professional Writing requirement will be granted for achievement on the SAT verbal exam, AP scores, or portfolio.

**Note:** Students must attempt Fundamental English and Fundamental Math by 30 credits and complete by 60 credits.

**Distributive Studies (28 credits)**
- **HL:** Literature, 3 credits
- **HA:** History/Theory of the Arts, 3 credits
- **HO:** Other Humanities or HL or HA, 3 credits
- **Lab Science – LL (Life Science), or PL (Physical Science),** 4 credits
- **Science – LL, LS, PL, PS, 3 credits**
- **Science of Mathematics and Formal Reasoning – LL, LS, PL, PS or MS, 3 credits**
- **SH:** Social or Political History, 3 credits
- **SB:** Behavioral and Social Sciences, 6 credits

Note: For the Math/Science CORE requirement, students cannot take all life science or all physical science courses. Only two courses can be from the life science categories (LL or LS) or the physical science categories (PL or PS).

**Optional: Interdisciplinary and Emerging Issues (IE)**
- **IE is an optional CORE Distributive Studies category.**
- **Students may fulfill CORE requirements without taking an IE course.**
- **Only one IE course may be counted toward CORE Distributive Studies.**
- **One IE course may be counted in the last HO/HL/HA; PS/PL/MS; or SB category.**

**Human Cultural Diversity (3 credits)**
- Typically a course that focuses on cultural minorities, women, or non-western culture.

**Advanced Studies (6 credits)**
Two courses of 300 or 400 level courses (outside of the major) taken during any semester after a student has completed 60 credits. The following do NOT meet Advanced Studies requirements:
- Professional Writing courses that meet the CORE Fundamental Studies requirement
- Courses which are used to meet CORE Distributive Studies requirements
Internships, practica, or other experiential-learning types of courses

- Any course taken on a Pass/Fail basis

For more information on the University’s Advanced Studies requirement, go to www.ugst.umd.edu/core(elements/AdvanSt.html.

**General Electives** (Approximately 29 credits)

Family Science majors often have room for several elective courses to complete their 120-credit graduation requirement. These elective credits are in addition to the two required FMSC elective courses. Technically, electives may be any University course, but to maximize your educational opportunities and best prepare for a particular career or professional path, you should carefully select electives that meet your future goals. Select electives from courses that address personal and career interest. Electives should be selected from related areas in coordination with your interests. (You may also use the course clusters listed on pages 26-30 as a guide.) If you have any questions or would like some feedback on your elective choices, please consult with your faculty advisor.

**THINGS TO REMEMBER:**

- You must earn a minimum of 120 credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. Because some courses may meet more than one requirement (i.e.: major and CORE), you may need more than 29 credits of electives to reach 120 total credits earned;
- All major requirements must be passed with grades of “C-” or higher;
- Twelve credits of FMSC courses must be taken during the student’s last thirty credits;
- Fifteen credits of 300- and 400-level coursework must be taken during the student’s last 30 credits (can be FMSC courses);
- If you register for a class that has prerequisites in which you have not received a grade of “C-” or better, you will be dropped from the class.
- Students must be a declared Family Science major when registering for their final 15 degree credits to be eligible to earn a Bachelor of Science in Family Science degree.
**General Education Requirements:**

**Fundamental Studies (15 credits)**

- Academic Writing [AW], 3 credits (ENGL 101, 101) This may be fulfilled with AP credit. This may NOT be fulfilled with SAT or portfolio evaluation.
- Math [MA], 3 credits (MATH 110, 111, 112, 113, or 115, 130, 140, 220, or STAT100)
- Professional Writing [PW], 3 credits (most classes with the ENGL 39_ course code) Must be taken after a student has earned 60 credits. Exemption from the Professional Writing requirement will NOT be granted for any student.
- Analytic Reasoning [AR], 3 credits: EDMS451 or STAT100 (either of these courses can double count with the General Education requirement and the major statistics requirement.)
- Oral Communication [OC], 3 credits. COMM107 (this course can double count with the General Education requirement and the major communication requirement).

**Note:** Students must attempt Academic Writing and Math by 30 credits and complete by 60 credits.

**Distributive Studies (25 credits)**

- Natural Sciences (lab) [NL]:
- Natural Sciences (without lab) [NS]: PSYC100, 3 credits (this course is also required for all majors and will double count with the General Education requirement)
- History & Social Sciences [HS]: SOCY105, 3 credits (this course can double count with the General Education requirement and the major sociology requirement)
- History & Social Sciences [HS]: FMSC332, 3 credits (this course is also required for all majors and will double count with the General Education requirement)
- Humanities [HU]: 3 credits
- Humanities [HU]: 3 credits
- Scholarship in Practice [SP]: FMSC302, 3 credits (this course is also required for all majors and will double count with the General Education requirement)
- Scholarship in Practice [SP]: 3 credits – must be outside of the FMSC Major.

**I-Series (6 credits—needs to double count with Distributive Studies courses)**

- I-Series [IS]: 3 credits
- I-Series [IS]: 3 credits

**Diversity (4-6 credits—can double count with Distributive Studies courses)**

- Understanding Plural Societies [UP]: FMSC330, 3 credits (this course is also required for all majors and will double count with the General Education requirement)
- Understanding Plural Societies [UP] OR Cultural Competency [CC]: FMSC381, 1-3 credits (this course is also required for all majors and will double count with the General Education requirement)
General Electives (Approximately 35 credits)

- Students can utilize college-level courses in which they have earned credit at UMD or that credit was earned at another institution of higher education as long as it is approved by the UMD and SPH in accordance with UMD transfer credit policies as general electives.
- The number of electives a student must complete is subject to change, depending on double-counting between General Education and major requirements, or the number of Diversity credits taken.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- You must earn a minimum of 120 credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. Because some courses may meet more than one requirement (i.e.: major and CORE), you may need more than 35 credits of electives to reach 120 total credits earned;
- All major requirements must be passed with grades of “C-” or higher;
- Twelve credits of FMSC courses must be taken during the student’s last thirty credits;
- Fifteen credits of 300- and 400-level coursework must be taken during the student’s last 30 credits (can be FMSC courses);
- If you register for a class that has prerequisites in which you have not received a grade of “C-” or better, you will be dropped from the class.
- Students must be a declared Family Science major when registering for their final 15 degree credits to be eligible to earn a Bachelor of Science in Family Science degree.
FAMILY SCIENCE BENCHMARKS

University of Maryland policy stipulates that full-time degree seeking students are expected to complete their undergraduate degree program in four years. To meet this expectation, students must plan carefully in consultation with an academic advisor; complete 30 credits each year (which is usually accomplished through a course load of 14 to 16 credits per semester); satisfy general education, prerequisite and other course requirements with acceptable grades in a timely manner; and meet the benchmarks.

Students are required to map out individualized academic plans, consistent with these guidelines and benchmarks, and are responsible for updating them as circumstances change. Students will have two attempts to earn a “C-” or better in their benchmark requirement by the appropriate benchmark deadline and those who are unable to do so are required to select a more suitable major.

Students who change to the FMSC major must submit a realistic graduation plan for approval. Any student who completes ten semesters or 130 credits without completing a degree is subject to mandatory advising prior to registration for any subsequent semester. Students with exceptional circumstances or those who are enrolled in special programs are required to develop a modified graduation plan that is appropriate to their situations. In all cases, students are responsible for meeting progress expectations and benchmarks required for their degree programs.

FAMILY SCIENCE COURSE SEQUENCE GRID

**Benchmark 1- Semester 2**

Students must complete the following courses with grades of “C-” or higher by the end of their second semester in the major:

1. PSYC100
2. SOCY100 or 105
3. COMM100, 107, or 125

**Benchmark 2- Semester 3**

Students must complete the following courses with grades of “C-” or higher by the end of 3 semesters into the major:

1. STAT100 or EDMS451
2. FMSC Elective

**Benchmark 3- Semester 4**

Students complete the following courses by the end of 4 semesters into the major with grades of “C-” or higher:

1. FMSC330 (but not before 45 credits)
2. FMSC290, ECON200, or ECON201
Family Science Course Sequence

Foundation Courses

COMM100, COMM107, or COMM125

One Statistics Course*  
"STAT 100, EDMS 451, PSYC200, SOCY201 or CCJS200 may be used to satisfy the statistics requirement.

PSYC 100

SOCY 100  
OR  
SOCY 105

FMSC 290, ECON 200, or ECON 201

AFTER 45 CREDITS

FMSC 330  
Family Theories and Patterns

FMSC 302  
Research Methods in Family Science

FMSC 383  
Delivery of Human Services to Families

FMSC 332  
Children in Families

FMSC 381  
Poverty, Affluence, and Families

AFTER 60 CREDITS

FMSC 477  
Internship and Analysis in Family Science

FMSC 432  
Adulthood and Aging in Families

FMSC 487  
Legal Aspects of Family Problems

AFTER 90 CREDITS

Two additional FMSC electives required (based on course level)

100/200  
Freshman/Sophomore Year  
(FMSC280 may be used in Junior/Senior Year)

300/400  
Junior/Senior Year

1) FMSC ________  
2) FMSC ________

1 During their final 30 credits at UMCP, FMSC majors must take 12 credits of FMSC courses, and 15 credits of 300- or 400- level courses.
2 FMSC 399 and FMSC 498 (independent study) and FMSC290 cannot be used as FMSC electives and FMSC105, FMSC280F cannot be used as FMSC electives if taken after 60 credits earned.
--- denotes Benchmark courses, consult FMSC Handbook for more information
FMSC HONORS PROGRAM

The Department of Family Science Honors Program is designed to provide academically talented students with a more advanced and enriching educational experience in Family Science. The Honors Program gives students an opportunity to participate in scholarly independent study, interact with FMSC faculty, and examine a range of intellectual topics in greater depth than is possible in the traditional Family Science program.

Admission into the FMSC Honors Program

Any FMSC major who meets the following criteria is eligible for the Honors Program:

- An overall GPA of 3.3 with at least 45 credits completed
- Completion of FMSC290 with a grade of “B” or better
- Completion of an additional three credits in FMSC
- A GPA of 3.5 in all FMSC courses

Students meeting the criteria and wishing to participate in the Honors Program must apply three semesters (not including summer) prior to graduation. Application forms are available from the FMSC Honors Program Coordinator.

Continuation in the Program

Students must maintain a 3.3 overall GPA and a 3.5 FMSC GPA to remain in the program. If a student falls below either of these standards, he or she will have one semester to meet the standard or be dropped from the program.

Requirements for Graduation with Honors

Completion of the FMSC Honors Program requires:

- Nine credits of FMSC Honors courses* (either Honors section or Honors option)
- Six credits of Honors thesis under the direction of an FMSC faculty advisor, culminating in a thesis and satisfactory oral defense of the thesis to a committee of at least two full-time UMCP faculty (including the advisor)

Requirements for Graduation with High Honors

Students in the FMSC Honors Program may graduate with High Honors from the department by meeting the following requirements:

- Completion of the graduation requirements listed above
- Completion of a thesis and oral defense rated “Outstanding” by members of the student’s Honors Thesis Committee
- Completion of a Bachelor of Science degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher
- No grade below a B in any FMSC course

For more information on the FMSC Honors Program, please contact Dr. Jinhee Kim at (301) 405-3500 or jinkim@umd.edu.

* Three credits of 300-level or higher coursework from the University Honors Program can be substituted with the approval of the FMSC Honors Program Coordinator.
ADVISING POLICY

To become a Family Science major, a student must first attend a Change of Major workshop. If you are a current student at the University who would like to become a Family Science major, go online to [http://www.sph.umd.edu/studentservices/declaresph.cfm](http://www.sph.umd.edu/studentservices/declaresph.cfm) for step by step instructions regarding the SPH Change of Major process. New freshmen and new transfer students will have an orientation with the School of Public Health Student Service Center, which is located at 1304 School of Public Health Building. Registration for new student orientation programs are managed by the UND New Student Orientation office at [www.orientation.umd.edu](http://www.orientation.umd.edu).

All students declare a major within the SPH must complete an Academic Plan which outlines all courses required to meet major and University requirements. This Plan will be kept in the student’s file and should be updated periodically during advising sessions. Students are required to attend an Academic Plan workshop. At that time their academic plan will be created and approved within 10 business days of attending the Academic Plan workshop.

After the initial mandatory advising session, advising is optional. However, the University requires that students in the following categories must receive mandatory advising prior to registering for classes:

- Newly admitted freshmen and transfer students
- Students who are on academic probation
- Students seeking reinstatement after dismissal or withdrawal
- Student athletes

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SENIOR AUDIT

When a student has earned approximately 75 credits, the Undergraduate Coordinator will review his/her record and create an official audit of remaining credits – commonly referred to as a “senior audit.” This document will notify the student of the outstanding requirements needed in order to graduate. The student will be contacted via university email when the audit has been prepared and asked to schedule an advising appointment to review remaining requirements. If the student is unable to schedule an advising appointment for any reason, he/she should contact the Undergraduate Coordinator as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements. It is then the responsibility of the student to review the audit either during an advising appointment or on his/her own and to notify the Undergraduate Coordinator of any discrepancies immediately. The student must meet the requirements stated in the audit in a satisfactory manner if graduation is to be assured. Students may not participate in graduation ceremonies until all requirements for graduation are met. Only one senior audit will be completed per student.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you need:</th>
<th>Please see:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Change of Major to FMSC</td>
<td>Zainab Okolo</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Scholarship Information</td>
<td>Undergraduate Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Permission to Enroll in 17 credits</td>
<td>1142 School of Public Health Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Internship Information</td>
<td><a href="mailto:zokolo@umd.edu">zokolo@umd.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Senior Audits (after approx. 70 credits earned)</td>
<td>(301) 405-4003</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Study Abroad Course Evaluation</td>
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<td>• Registration Questions</td>
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<td>• General advising information</td>
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<td>• Career planning</td>
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<td>• FMSC Course Equivalency Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Internship Ideas</td>
<td>Family Science Internship Database:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Program</td>
<td><a href="http://sph.umd.edu/studentservices/current_students/internships/">http://sph.umd.edu/studentservices/current_students/internships/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Research Opportunities</td>
<td>Faculty are available to mentor Family Science students in the areas of:</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Undergraduate Research Assistant Program, Senior Summer Scholars,</td>
<td>• Career planning and organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>McNair Scholars, etc.)</td>
<td>• Graduate School preparation</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Graduate programs</td>
<td>• Research opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Career planning</td>
<td>• Independent Study options</td>
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<td>• Internship Ideas</td>
<td>• Teaching Assistantships</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Program</td>
<td>• Employment in the Family Science field</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Research Opportunities</td>
<td>Please feel free to schedule meetings to meet with faculty via email.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Undergraduate Research Assistant Program, Senior Summer Scholars,</td>
<td>A list of our faculty, along with their emails, can be found on the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McNair Scholars, etc.)</td>
<td>Family Science website at the link below:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Graduate programs</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sph.umd.edu/fmsc/people/index.html">http://www.sph.umd.edu/fmsc/people/index.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Career planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Athlete Advising</td>
<td>Student Service Center:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Academic Probation/Dismissal Advising</td>
<td>University of Maryland School of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Exceptions to policy requiring Dean’s approval</td>
<td>1304 School of Public Health Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Permission to Enroll at Another Institution</td>
<td><a href="mailto:SPhadvising@umd.edu">SPhadvising@umd.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Late Add/Drop/Withdrawal</td>
<td>(301) 405-2357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Registering for a course more than two times</td>
<td>Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Late application for graduation</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sph.umd.edu/studentservices">http://www.sph.umd.edu/studentservices</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Permission to enroll (for 17+ credits)</td>
<td>Exception to Policy Request form:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Orientation</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sph.umd.edu/polexcl">http://www.sph.umd.edu/polexcl</a></td>
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</table>
REGISTRATION AND OVERSUBSCRIPTION FOR FMSC COURSES

To ensure that Family Science majors are able to register for the courses they need when they are supposed to have them, the Department holds a limited number of seats in particular courses for FMSC majors. To qualify for one of the seats, be sure to follow the FMSC Course Sequence Guide on page 14 and the following steps:

1) Register as close to your registration time as possible.

2) If the FMSC course that you need is closed, add your name to the waitlist. The waitlist is periodically checked for Family Science majors. (If FMSC is not your primary major, please tell the Undergraduate Coordinator that you are on the waitlist.)

3) Contact the Undergraduate Coordinator to request an oversubscription to the course. If additional seats are available, you will be given permission to register for the course. You will have no more than one week from the date of permission to add the requested course to your schedule. If you do not register for the course within the given timeframe, your permission will expire and you will not be able to register for the course.

4) If additional seats are not available when you request an oversubscription, stay on the waitlist. You will be notified via e-mail if a seat becomes available.
DESCRIPTION OF FAMILY SCIENCE COURSES

**FMSC 105 Individuals in Families (3 cr.)**
Personal growth and development within the family context. Exploration of self-awareness, sex-role image, life transitions, and interpersonal and family relations. *Will not fulfill the FMSC elective requirement if taken after 60 credits earned.*

**FMSC 260 Couple Relationships (3 cr.)**
Couple relationships and their alternatives in contemporary dating, courtship and marriage.

**FMSC 290 Family Economics (3 cr.)**
Application of economic methodology to the study of families under various economic situations. Examination of how decisions about marriage, divorce, fertility, consumption and time use are influenced by labor/housing markets, tax structure, social welfare benefits and other economic considerations.

**FMSC 298F Future of Families (3 cr.)**
Examination of current trends and controversial issues in family life, including issues of marriage, reproductive technologies, adoption, child custody, remarriage, and marital violence. *Will not fulfill the FMSC elective requirement if taken after 60 credits earned.*

**FMSC 302 Research Methods in Family Science (3 cr.)**
Prerequisite: Introductory statistics course. For FMSC majors only. Introduction to the methods of the social and behavioral sciences employed in family science. The role of theory, development of hypotheses, measurement, design, and data analysis.

**FMSC 330 Family Theories and Patterns (3 cr.)**
*Prerequisite: Junior standing required. 45 earned credits for FMSC majors.*
Theory and research on the family, including a cross-cultural analysis of family patterns.

**FMSC 332 Children in Families (3 cr.)**
*Prerequisite: FMSC 105 or PSYC 100.*

**FMSC 341 Personal and Family Finance (3 cr.)**
Individual and family financial strategies with emphasis on financial planning, savings, investments, insurance, income taxes, housing, and use of credit. Planning, analyzing, and controlling financial resources to resolve personal/family financial problems and to attain financial security.

**FMSC 370 Interpersonal Communication Processes (3 cr.)**
Training in interpersonal communication skills. Relevant concepts, principles, and models.

**FMSC 381 Poverty, Affluence, and Families (3 cr.)**
*Prerequisite: SOCY 100 or SOCY 105.*
Social, political, cultural, and economic factors influencing income and wealth in American families.

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1 Note: Not all of the listed Family Science courses are offered regularly. Consult the course listings at [www.testudo.umd.edu](http://www.testudo.umd.edu) and with the Undergraduate Coordinator for an updated list of offered Family Science courses.
FMSC 383 Delivery of Human Services to Families (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: FMSC 330.
Processes of service delivery with special emphasis upon relationships among managers, service providers and clients. The impact of human service systems on families.

FMSC 399 Independent Study (1-6 cr.)
Prerequisite: Permission of the department.

FMSC 430 Gender Issues in Families (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: SOCY 100, SOCY 105, PSYC 100, or permission of the department.
The development of historical, cultural, developmental, and psychosocial aspects of masculinity and femininity within the context of contemporary families, and the implications for interpersonal relations.

FMSC 431 Family Crises and Intervention (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: PSYC 100.
Family crises such as divorce, disability, substance abuse, financial problems, intrafamilial abuse, and death. Theories and techniques for intervention and enhancement of family coping strategies.

FMSC 432 Adult Development and Aging in Families (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: SOCY100 or SOCY105 or PSYC100 and FMSC332 (or comparable development course)
The development of historical, cultural, developmental, and psychosocial aspects of masculinity and femininity within the context of contemporary families and the implications for interpersonal relations.

FMSC 444 Family Services and Human Service Organizations (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: FMSC 383 or equivalent.
Review and analysis of well-functioning human service organizations, including issues of management, decision-making, workplace culture, budgeting, and evaluation of the workforce.

FMSC 452 Family Policy Analysis (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: Permission of the department.
Examination of public, private, and non-profit sector policies and their impact on the quality of family life. Emphasis on policy formation, implementation, and evaluation.

FMSC 460 Violence in Families (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: PSYC 100 or SOCY 100 or SOCY 105.
Theories of child, spouse, and elder-abuse in the family setting. Emphasis on historical, psychological, sociological and legal trends relating to physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. Introduction to methods for prevention and remediation.

FMSC 477 Internship and Analysis in Family Science (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: FMSC 330 and FMSC 383, plus an additional six (6) FMSC credits and permission of the department. For FMSC majors only.
A supervised internship and a seminar requiring analysis. Opportunities to integrate theory and practice including 120 hours of contracted field experience.
FMSC 480 Work and Family Issues and Programs (3 cr.)
The purpose, nature, organization and administration of worksite, or employer-based, family support resources, including child and elder care referral and subsidies, parenting education, health and wellness programs, parental and sick child leaves, and flexible work scheduling.

FMSC 485 Introduction to Family Therapy (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: FMSC 330 or FMSC 370, or one (1) psychology course at 300 level or above.
The fundamental theoretical concepts and clinical procedures of marital and family therapy including pre-marital and divorce therapy issues.

FMSC 487 Legal Aspects of Family Problems (3 cr.)
Laws and legal procedures, with emphasis on adoption, marriage, divorce, annulment, and property rights, and how they affect family life.

FMSC 490 Addiction and Recovery in the Context of the Family (3 cr.)
Theory, research and clinical practice in the area of addictions and recovery as they relate to family processes.

FMSC 497 The Child and the Law (3 cr.)
Legislation and case law regarding children's legal rights with emphasis on the rights of children in the juvenile justice system, and rights to medical, educational, and other social services.

FMSC 498 Special Topics: Family Science (1-3 cr.)
Prerequisite: Permission of the department.

FMSC498A Special Topics: Family Science: Maternal and Child Health (3 cr.)

FMSC 498F African American Families (3 cr.)
History, structure, and diversity of African American families, including strengths and challenges. Theoretical perspectives and skills for examining and advancing research on African American families.

FMSC 498M Family Mediation (3 cr.)
Introduction to family mediation as an approach to helping families deal effectively with the issues associated with separation and divorce. Theory, practice, and techniques of negotiation, with an emphasis on custody, property division, and constructive restructuring of family relationships.

FMSC 498S Sexuality: Issues in Family Therapy and Service Delivery (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: A basic course in human sexuality and permission of instructor.
Typical, dysfunctional, and pathological sexual functioning: effects on individuals, couples, and family systems. Sensitizes students to sexual issues, explores how perceptions of such issues affect work with people, and emphasizes implications for marriage and family therapy.

FMSC 498V Community Violence Research (3 cr.)
Prerequisite: Permission of the department.
Review of processes and tools for researching the impact of community violence on family coping, parenting, and child development.
SCHEDULING OF FAMILY SCIENCE COURSES*

Not every course can be offered every semester. Therefore, it is important for you to note which semester courses are offered and to plan accordingly if you wish to promptly complete your requirements.

Required Courses

All FMSC required courses are offered during both fall and spring semesters. Offerings during the winter and spring sessions vary.

302 – Research Methods  
330 – Family Theories and Patterns  
332 – Children in Families  
381 – Poverty, Affluence, and Families  
383 – Delivery of Human Services to Families  
432 – Adult Development and Aging in Families  
477 – Internship and Analysis in Family Science  
487 – Legal Aspects of Family Problems  
290 – Family Economics

FMSC Electives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Courses</th>
<th>Spring Courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>105 – Individuals in Families**, ***</td>
<td>105 – Individuals in Families**, ***</td>
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<tr>
<td>260 – Couple Relationships</td>
<td>260 – Couple Relationships</td>
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<tr>
<td>341 – Personal and Family Finance</td>
<td>341 – Personal and Family Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>431 – Family Crisis and Intervention</td>
<td>431 – Family Crisis and Intervention</td>
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<tr>
<td>460 – Family Violence</td>
<td>460 – Family Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>498A- Maternal and Child Health</td>
<td>485 – Introduction to Family Therapy***</td>
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<td>498A- Maternal and Child Health</td>
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<td></td>
<td>498M – Family Mediation***</td>
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</table>

* This schedule is the typical plan. Changes in class offerings will be necessary to accommodate faculty availability.

** Only fulfills the FMSC elective requirement if taken before 60 credits are completed.

*** Course offered only on a periodic basis.
SPECIAL COURSE CLUSTERS IN FAMILY SCIENCE

We believe that Family Science offers many varied career options for our graduates. Students can select courses from our career preparation “clusters” to prepare them for a specific career path. Included are four illustrations of the possibilities. Completion of a cluster is not required for graduation. Please check all course prerequisites before registering for listed courses.

Family Mediation Cluster

Family mediation has been defined by Erickson as a communication process by which a husband and wife resolve the practical and emotional issues of divorce, separation, child custody, visitation, and other family disputes in a mutual, cooperative manner as opposed to an adversarial, competitive manner. The role of the mediator is to guide the communication of family members to help them make the best possible decisions in the settlement of their family disputes. A major goal of family mediation is a negotiated settlement of specific, substantive issues in dispute.

The mediation process can be therapeutic, in the widest sense, if a practical agreement can be reached and bitterness and conflict reduced (but this is a bonus and not the primary objective). The parties in mediation are regarded as competent both to define the issues for themselves and to come to their own decisions. Their perceptions are seen as essential to an accurate understanding of their dispute and its context. Mediation requires, among other things, in-depth knowledge of family law, budgeting, and negotiation. The end result of family mediation is a Memorandum of Understanding covering all agreements reached in mediation.

Family mediation and family therapy are both forms of intervention, but they are quite different in both objective and method. Family therapy has as its prime objective the modification of deviant behavior by challenging and changing the organization of the family in such a way that the perceptions and experiences of family members change. By contrast, mediation is focused on families which are changing their structure and must address such issues as child custody, child support, and visitation rights. An assumption underlying mediation is that the best interests of children, parents, and society are served by keeping hostilities to a minimum.

Many states such as California and Florida have job positions for family mediators, and other jurisdictions – including Maryland and Washington, DC – are using mediators to settle many of the family problems that come before the courts.

Family Mediation Cluster

All of the required FMSC courses are considered fundamental for the Family Mediation Cluster. To become qualified to become a family mediator, a student should include the following courses in their program:

- FMSC341 Personal and Family Finance
- FMSC431 Family Crisis and Intervention
- FMSC460 Violence in the Family
- FMSC487 Legal Aspects of Family Problems*
- FMSC498M Family Mediation

Students should select two courses from the above list (in addition to FMSC487) to be used for the six credits of FMSC electives required of all majors. The remaining 12 credits of the above courses may be taken as general University electives.
In addition to the above FMSC courses, two of the following Psychology courses should be taken:

- PSYC353 Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC354 Cross-cultural Psychology
- PSYC424 Communication and Persuasion
- PSYC433 Basic Helping Skills: Research and Practice
- PSYC435 Personality Theories
- PSYC452 Psychology of Individual Differences

There may be other courses that are equally suitable that we have not listed. Check with your advisor if a course you would like to take is not on this list. Keep in mind, however, that this cluster is a suggestion to best prepare you for future endeavors in family mediation.

**Family Policy Cluster**

Many students who enter Family Science are interested in becoming professionals who work in the area of policymaking and analysis. Those who wish to be professionals usually are competitive in finding entry-level jobs in local, state, or federal government. These jobs are typically with the executive or legislative branches of government. For example, one might work as a staff person for one of the numerous committees in Congress to help develop policy initiatives and analyze the impact of specific policies on families. Or, one might work for a state’s Department of Education, helping to develop program and policy initiatives to address the educational needs of homeless children. The Department of Family Science offers many courses that are excellent preparation for these endeavors. Those students who are interested in family policymaking should consider clustering their courses using the plan below.

**Family Policy Cluster**

Among the required courses for FMSC majors, the following courses are particularly suitable for students in this cluster:

- FMSC290 Family Economics
- FMSC330 Family Theories and Patterns
- FMSC332 Children in Families
- FMSC381 Poverty, Affluence, and Families
- FMSC383 Delivery of Human Services to Families
- FMSC477 Internship and Analysis in Family Science
- FMSC487 Legal Aspects of Family Problems

Students interested in this cluster should also consider choosing two FMSC courses from the following list to fulfill the six credits of FMSC electives required of all majors:

- FMSC430 Gender Issues in Families
- FMSC444 Family Services and Human Services Organizations
For your other electives, it is suggested that you consider taking other courses from the previous list of Family Science courses that you did not choose for your FMSC electives. Other courses you might consider are:

- AASP101  Public Policy and the Black Community
- CCJS105  Introduction to Criminology
- CCJS350  Juvenile Delinquency
- ECON350  Introduction to Public Sector Economics
- ECON401  Current Issues in American Economic Policy
- ECON451  Public Choice
- ECON465  Health Care Economics
- GVPT170  American Government
- GVPT210  Introduction to Public Administration and Policy
- GVPT231  Law and Society

There may be other courses that are equally suitable that have not been included in these lists. Check with your advisor if a course you would like to take is not on this list. Keep in mind, however, that this cluster is a suggestion to best prepare you for future endeavors in family policymaking and analysis. Beyond requiring expertise in the areas of family studies and policymaking, it is important that students wanting to pursue family policy endeavors have good writing skills as well as the ability to make oral presentations, use a variety of resources to obtain information, understand and translate simple demographic statistics, and critically analyze research material.

**Pre-Counseling/Pre-Therapy Cluster**

The majority of students who enter Family Science are interested in becoming professionals or paraprofessionals in the fields of therapy or counseling. Those who wish to become professionals continue their education at the graduate level in marriage and family therapy programs, schools of social work, or psychology. The Family Science Department offers many courses that are excellent preparation for these endeavors. Those students who are interested in therapy or counseling should consider clustering their courses using the plan below:

**Pre-Counseling/Pre-Therapy Cluster**

Among the required courses for FMSC majors, the following courses are particularly helpful for students in this cluster:

- FMSC290  Family Economics
- FMSC432  Intergenerational Aspects of Family Living
FMSC487  Legal Aspects of Family Problems
COMM107  Oral Communication: Principles and Practices or
COMM125  Introduction to Interpersonal Communication
PSYC100  Introduction to Psychology
SOCY100  Introduction to Sociology or
SOCY105  Introduction to Contemporary Social Problems

Also required are two FMSC courses to fulfill the six required elective credits in FMSC. Students in this cluster should consider choosing these two FMSC elective courses from the following list:

FMSC341  Personal and Family Finance
FMSC431  Family Crises and Intervention
FMSC460  Violence in Families
FMSC485  Introduction to Family Therapy
FMSC497  The Child and the Law
FMSC498M  Family Mediation

For your other electives, it is suggested that you consider the Family Science courses that you did not choose for your FMSC electives and the following:

EDHD320  Human Development Through the Life Span
EDHD400  Introduction to Gerontology
EDHD413  Adolescent Development
EDHD445  Guidance of Young Children
HLTH106  Drug Use and Abuse
HLTH230  Introduction to Health Behavior
HLTH285  Controlling Stress and Tension
HLTH377  Human Sexuality
HLTH476  Death Education
PSYC221  Social Psychology
PSYC332  Psychology of Human Sexuality
PSYC334  Psychology of Interpersonal Relationships
PSYC336  Psychology of Women
PSYC353  Abnormal Psychology
SOCY227  Introduction to the Study of Deviance
SOCY230  Sociological Social Psychology
SOCY325  The Sociology of Gender

There may be other courses that are equally suitable that we have not listed. Check with your advisor if a course you would like to take is not on this list. Keep in mind, however, that this cluster is a suggestion to best prepare you for future endeavors in therapy or counseling.
Work and Family Cluster

Increasingly, employers are becoming aware of the importance of the connection between home and work as it affects absenteeism, productivity, turnover, recruitment, and the cost of employee health benefits. More and more employers are coming to the conclusion that it is to their advantage to provide family-supportive benefits and programs for their employees.

The trend toward employer concern with family issues is creating new jobs in an exciting and expanding field. Some large corporations have already created custom positions for “family issues experts” or “work and family specialists” to help them design and manage family support programs for their employees. Family specialists in personnel or human resources department may be responsible for such benefits as subsidized child care or elder care, maternity benefits, family leave policies, and flexible work schedules. Other family support services may be provided by occupational health units (e.g. prenatal care and education) or employee assistant programs (e.g. services for employees with financial problems, job stress, domestic violence, substance abuse, or other family problems). Large private corporations often contract with consulting firm or non-profit agencies to help them provide work/family benefits and programs for their employees. Some of these organizations, in turn, are seeking to hire professionals who are able to help them provide services for or market programs to corporations. Students interested in this field may want to consider clustering their courses to support a work and family focus.

Work and Family Cluster

All of the required FMSC courses are considered fundamental for the Family Mediation Cluster. For the six FMSC elective credits required of all FMSC majors, the following two courses are recommended:

FMSC444 Family Services and Human Services Organizations
FMSC480 Work and Family Issues and Programs

For your other electives, it is suggested that you consider the Family Science courses that you did not choose for your FMSC electives and the following:

FMSC260 Couple Relationships
FMSC341 Personal and Family Finance
FMSC431 Family Crises and Intervention
FMSC452 Family Policy
FMSC460 Violence in Families
FMSC498M Family Mediation
FMSC498S Sexuality: Issues in Family Therapy and Service Delivery
HLTH106 Drug Use and Abuse
HLTH230 Introduction to Health Behavior
HLTH285 Controlling Stress and Tension
HLTH430 Health Education in the Workplace
HLTH471 Women’s Health
PSYC357 Psychology of Adulthood and Aging

There may be other courses that are equally suitable that we have not listed. Check with your advisor if a course you would like to take is not on this list. Keep in mind, however, that this cluster is a suggestion to best prepare you for future endeavors in work and family issues.
The Family Science internship is a practical experience designed to integrate department and other coursework with a real-time work experience. In addition to a field placement, students are required to attend a weekly capstone seminar. Students in the seminar integrate classroom theory with their field placement and share work-related activities, broadening their exposure to work in the discipline of Family Science and their knowledge of specific career opportunities for FMSC graduates. The internship course is open to all FMSC majors who have completed FMSC330 and FMSC383 plus a minimum of six additional credits of FMSC coursework. All Family Science majors are required to complete an internship experience during their senior year.

Interns must work a minimum of 120 hours in the field and attend all seminars. The first meeting of the internship seminar will be held the first week of the semester during the day and time listed in the Schedule of Classes. Only university-approved excuses will be accepted for seminar absences. Please refer to the Schedule of Classes for the class meeting day and time.

The student is responsible for obtaining his/her internship placement within the guidelines of the department. All internships must be negotiated, contracted, and approved BEFORE a student can register for the course. Completed contracts must be received in the Family Science Office no later than 4:30 PM on the following dates:

- Fall internships: May 1st (during the preceding Spring semester)
- Spring internships: December 1st
- Summer internships: May 1st

If these deadlines fall on a non-business day, the last business day before the deadline applies.

[Deadlines for submitting contracts for approval are strictly enforced.]

How to Secure Your Internship Placement

Before you begin your search for an internship placement, think about the kinds of work you might like to try in preparation for your job after graduation. Also, think about the population(s) you would like to serve. Your internship placement must be consistent with the FMSC major and your future career goals. So, keep that in mind when searching for an appropriate placement.

If you are unsure about what you would like to try, make an appointment with your faculty advisor to discuss some internship possibilities. Points to ponder during your discussion:

- Is this a good time for an internship? Would more academic work be beneficial?
- Does your academic background fit the types of placements that interest you?
- What is your target client population (i.e.: children/youth, elderly, disadvantaged, immigrants, etc.)?
- What fields of work seem the most interesting to you?

Your faculty advisor may also suggest internship placements with organizations based on your interest area(s).

Once you have a good idea of what you would like to do for your internship, you can search the FMSC Internship Database for potential internship placement ideas. Here you will find a listing...
of organizations that have worked with Family Science interns in the past. You can search the database for internships based on your placement preferences (i.e.: target population, service area, location, etc.). To search for internships, please visit the database website at http://www.sph.umd.edu/studentservices/current_students/internships/.

You are **not** restricted to the internship placements listed in the database or suggested by your faculty advisor. Feel free to use your own network of resources for ideas and contacts. **While searching for an internship site, keep in mind that your internship responsibilities must be directly related to family concerns.**

### Negotiating Your Internship Placement

From your internship search, you should have a few good leads for possible internships. Contact each of the organizations that interested you to explore a possible placement. Many of the agencies will require an interview, so be prepared to meet with your potential internship supervisor in person. Don’t forget: you will be spending a great deal of time and energy on your job. Does it offer you good opportunities (training, supervision, establishment of a network, future job possibilities)? Remember to ask what your responsibilities would be, the number of hours the organization would like you to work, the length of the placement, the name of the on-site director, and any special requirements in order to do the job (i.e.: computer skills, access to reliable transportation, etc.). Also, bring a copy of the internship contract to your interview. You can either pick up a copy of the internship contract from the FMSC Office (1142 SPH) or download it online at http://www.hhp.umd.edu/FMSC/ugrad/internship.html. You want to make sure that your supervisor is aware of the requirements of the internship course while utilizing your time in the best possible way. The clearer all parties are, the less chance for disappointment, confusion, and a poor overall experience.

After your agency interviews, decide which internship you would like to accept as your placement. Feel free to discuss your choice with an advisor, the FMSC Internship Director, or her teaching assistant.

### Contracting and Approving Your Internship Placement

Congratulations! You have just found your placement and need to formalize the internship arrangement. The internship contract represents the agreement you and your internship placement dually negotiated regarding your duties, supervision, work hours, and length of internship. **Remember that you must work 120 hours within the semester but you can negotiated how these hours will be distributed over the course of the semester.** Make certain that you and your supervisor **sign** the contract. This becomes the commitment that the both of you make for the internship semester.

Once you and your supervisor have completed the contract, bring the **signed** contract to the FMSC Internship Director for approval and permission to register for the course. This is a “Permission Only” course and your contract must be approved before you will be given permission to register for FMSC477. The size of the class is not limited; however, your contract must be received by the deadline in order to be considered for entry into the course.

**We will not accept students into the internship course – regardless of their class status – unless they follow the appropriate contract procedures.**