

CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES

The Child and Family Studies degree is in the Department of Psychology and is coordinated by Dr. Spencer Thompson, a developmental psychologist. In this major students learn about the fascinating influences and changes that affect children and families in society. A student may choose to take classes in campus classrooms or complete the degree on-line.

Administered by the Department of Psychology within the College of Arts and Sciences in collaboration with the School of Education.

Besides being an excellent preparation for dealing with children and families in our own lives, the Child and Family Studies major is designed to provide a sound academic foundation for persons planning to work with and/or study children and their families in various contexts. Students will take course work focusing on typical and atypical development of children, roles children play in our overall society, diverse relationships within families, multicultural perspectives of the family, and methods used to research issues related to children and their families. After graduating with this major, students may have careers in teaching, early childhood program management, social agencies, non-profit foundations, or any other service/organization related to children and families. In addition, they may wish to continue their education in graduate programs or professional schools.

In the Child and Family Studies major, students must choose a focus of study from one of three tracks: **Learning and Development**; **Social Agencies**; or **Applied Research**. The **Learning and Development** track focuses on: the physical, social, emotional and cognitive development of children; issues that involve relationships among families with children; and atypical development of children. Many students in this track also seek teacher certification. For these students successful completion serves as their capstone course. Students in this track who do not wish teacher certification must complete a senior research or applied project with a faculty advisor. The **Social Agencies** track takes a multicultural perspective on issues related to children and families in society. It includes courses dealing with social work, health, and other topics related to the child and the modern family. Designed to appeal to students interested in scientifically investigating issues in child and family development, the **Applied Research** track includes: the study of life-span development; examination of social, cognitive, health and atypical development; and applications of research to developmental issues.

This major is designed to facilitate a seamless transition to The University of Texas of the Permian Basin for the community college student who has completed Texas Early Childhood Articulated (TECA) courses or the education courses that are part of the Associate of Arts in Teaching degree. The four TECA courses that will be incorporated in the program's coursework include: TECA 1303, Families, School, and Community; TECA 1311, Educating Young Children; TECA 1318, Wellness of the Young Child; and TECA 1354, Child Growth and Development. The education courses are EDUC 1301, Introduction to the Teaching Profession, and EDUC 2301, Introduction to Special Populations.

Students must complete at least 120 credits in order to receive a B. A. in Child and Family Studies. This includes a minimum of 44 credit hours in the general education core curriculum, a minimum of 36 credits (a maximum of 45 credits) in Child and Family Studies, a minimum of 18 credits in a minor other than sociology or psychology, and 22 credits in elective courses. Certification in teaching may require educational courses outside of this major. Students should consult an academic advisor to plan their course of study in the major and an education advisor to plan any educational certification.

All Child and Family Studies majors complete a capstone course. If students take student teaching, the student teaching is the capstone course. Students not involved in student teaching must complete an independent research project with a professor in Child and Family studies. Arrangements for this are made on-line through the professor of the Independent Research course, CHLD 4399, and the Coordinator of Child and Family Studies.

Degree Requirements

The minimum total credits required for a B. A. in Child and Family Studies is 120.

General Education

44 credit hours

Students must complete the requirements shown in the General Education Requirements section of this catalog. The second mathematics requirement must be CHLD 3301 or an equivalent introductory statistics course.

Computer Use

All majors must demonstrate a basic use of computing through the completion of CHLD 3301 or CHLD 3404.

Child and Family Studies Major Requirements

36 credit hours

Students majoring in Child and Family Studies must take a minimum of 36 credit hours in Child and Family Studies (CHLD) or approved courses. The maximum number of credit hours in child and family studies courses is 45. The 36 credit hours are divided into three sections: 18 credit hours of "core" courses, 12 credit hours of "track" courses and 6 credit hours of "approved electives".

The six "core" courses include:

SOCI 1301 or PSYC 1301
CHLD 3341 or TECA 1354**
CHLD 4310 or CHLD 3352 or PSYC 4341
CHLD 4314
CHLD 3349 or CHLD 4320
CHLD 4403 or CHLD 3404

Students must choose a "track" and take 4 courses from that track. The "track" courses include:

Learning and Development:

CHLD 4311 (Required)
CHLD 3342 or CHLD 3310 or TECA 1311**
CHLD 4381 or CHLD 3390 or TECA 1303**
CHLD 4310 or EDUC 2301**

Note: Students in the learning and development track must successfully complete student teaching or complete an advisor-approved child/family project or community/agency service course (CHLD 4399 or CHLD 4391).

Social Agencies:

CHLD 4399 (Required)
CHLD 4320 or CHLD 3349 or CHLD 3390 or CHLD 4389
CHLD 3380 or CHLD 4321 or ACCT 2301 or COSC 1335
CHLD 4370 or CHLD 4381 or CHLD 4307 or TECA 1318**

Applied Research:

CHLD 4391 (Required)
CHLD 3343 or CHLD 4381 or CHLD 4370
CHLD 3311 or CHLD 4312 or CHLD 4307 or CHLD 3321 or TECA 1318**
COSC 1335 or CHLD 4351 or CHLD 4389

** Texas Early Childhood Articulated (TECA) courses and education (EDUC) courses that are part of the Associate of Arts in Teaching are available only at community colleges.

The two "approved electives" include:

Courses in English, Fine Arts, Computer Science, Math, Multicultural Education, Education for Children with Special Needs, History, Bilingual Education, Communication, Science

Minor

18 credit hours

A minor is required for this major. Students may not minor in psychology or sociology. Students may choose any other minor including, but not limited to minors in Special Populations, Women's Studies, Social Work, or Bilingual / English as a Second Language.

Electives

22 credit hours

Child and Family Studies Minor

A minor in Child and Family Studies requires that the students take 18 semester credit hours. Twelve (12) of these credits must be upper level (junior or senior level) courses from within the Child and Family Studies major. The lower level hours can be satisfied by TECA courses, by EDUC courses that are part of the Associate of Arts in Teaching degree, or SOCI1301 and/or PSYC1301.

Teacher Preparation and TExES Requirements

Please consult with your teacher certification advisor for specific details.

To meet Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board requirements, students seeking certification to teach grades EC-6 or 4-8 must take at least 9 hours of math (may include statistics) at or above college-level algebra and at least 3 science courses with a lab. They should plan accordingly when meeting general education and elective course requirements. Students seeking certification as a 4-8 Generalist must take at least 12 hours of math and 14-16 hours of science.

Degree Plan for On-line Major in Child and Family Studies

The Child and Family Studies major can be taken on-line through the REACH services at UTPB. Many but not all of the 44 credits of General Education requirements may be available on-line. The General Education course requirements may be fulfilled through community colleges, or through on-line courses offered at UTPB or other accredited colleges. Several minors are available totally on-line at UTPB that are appropriate for the Child and Family Studies major. CHLD students cannot minor in psychology or sociology, but currently they can complete on-line minors in, for example, History and Criminal Justice. Other on-line minors may be developed during the years covered by this catalog. CHLD majors taking on-line courses will take the Learning and Development track. The degree plan for on-line students is as follows:

General Education

44 credits

Students must complete the requirements shown in the General Education Requirements section of this catalog. The second mathematics requirement must be CHLD 3301 or an equivalent introductory statistics course.

Computer Use

All majors must demonstrate a basic use of computing through the completion of CHLD 3301 or CHLD 3404.

On-line Child and Family Studies Major Requirements

36 credits

Students majoring in Child and Family Studies must take a minimum of 36 credit hours in Child and Family Studies (CHLD) or approved courses. At least 18 credit hours must be at the upper level (3000-4000 level) The maximum number of credit hours in child and family studies courses is 45. The 36 credit hours are divided into three sections of minimum requirements: 18 credit hours of "core" courses, 12 credit hours of "track" courses and 6 credit hours of "approved electives".

The six on-line "core" courses include:

SOCI 1301 or PSYC 1301 (one of these courses could also serve General Education Social Science requirements. As a result most students take both SOCI 1301 and PSYC 1301)
CHLD 3341 Child/Adolescent Psychology, TECA 1354 Child Growth and Development ,

PSYC 2308 Child Psychology
CHLD 3352 the Exceptional Child
CHLD 4314 Language Development in the Young Child
CHLD 3349 Child in Society
CHLD 3404 Experimental Psychology

Students must choose four courses in the Learning and Development Track:

CHLD 4311 Social Development and Learning (Required)

And

TECA 1303 Family School and Community
TECA 1311 Educating Young Children
TECA 1318 Wellness of the Young Child
CHLD 3310 Motor Development
CHLD 3390 the Family
CHLD 4310 Early Intervention
CHLD 4329 Second Language Acquisition

All CHLD students complete a capstone course. If students take student teaching, the student teaching is the capstone course. Students not involved in student teaching must complete an independent research project with a professor in Child and Family studies. Arrangements for this are made on-line through the professor of the Independent Research course, CHLD 4399, and the Coordinator of Child and Family Studies.

CHLD 4399 Senior Research Seminar

Students on-line taking Senior Research take one elective course. Students may choose from any of the following areas: Courses in English, Fine Arts, Computer Science, Math, Multicultural Education, Education for Children with Special Needs, History, Bilingual Education, Communication, Science

A minor is required for this major. Students may not minor in psychology or sociology. Students may choose any other minor including, but not limited to minors in Criminal Justice, History, Special Populations, Women's Studies, Social Work, or Bilingual/English as a Second Language.

Electives

22 credit hours

Course Listing

CHLD 3301 Introductory Statistics (3)

Measures of central tendency, variability, correlation and hypotheses testing, with emphasis on the application of statistical methods to research in the behavioral sciences and education. Prerequisite: must have fulfilled one general education mathematics requirement. F,S

CHLD 3310 Motor Development (3)

An examination of the factors affecting physical growth, those influencing the acquisition of fundamental motor skills, and the effects of aging upon physical performance. F, Sm

CHLD 3311 Social Psychology (3)

Interrelationships between individuals and their social environment, considering social influences upon motivation, perception, behavior and development, and change of attitudes and opinion. Prerequisite: PSYC 1301. S

CHLD 3321 Abnormal Psychology (3)

Variables involved in the development, maintenance and treatment of a variety of behavior disorders. Prerequisite: PSYC 1301. F,S

CHLD 3341 Child/Adolescent Psychology (3)

Developmental aspects of physical, mental, social and emotional growth from prenatal through adolescent periods. Recommended: PSYC 1301. F, S, Sm

CHLD 3342 Development of Creativity (3)

This course focuses on understanding creativity and the development of skills to assist and encourage young children to express their creative natures. Planning and production of materials that enhance creativity in self-expressive thought and play are emphasized. Prerequisite: PSYC 3341 and Visual/Performing core credit. F,S

CHLD 3343 Adult Development and Aging (3)

Personality, cognitive, social, emotional and biological processes involved in development from young adulthood through old age. Prerequisite: PSYC 1301. S

CHLD 3349 Child in Society (3)

This course examines children and childhood in a cross-cultural perspective. Special attention is given to the position of children in the diverse US family structure and the educational system. Problems related to adoption, divorce, and the criminal justice system is examined. Prerequisite: SOCI 1301.

CHLD 3352 The Exceptional Child (3)

This course presents the preservice teacher with a general overview of exceptionalities of children and youth to include characteristics, etiology, and education programs and practices. Topics also include historical and legislative events affecting special education and an overview of the special education process including referral, screening, assessment and educational planning. A field experience is included. Co/prerequisite: CHLD 3341. F, S

CHLD 3380 Social Work I-Introduction to Social Work (3)

History of social work and its knowledge base and values; professionalization of social work; social service clientele and issues confronting the profession. F

CHLD 3390 The Family (3)

A historical and comparative approach in the examination of changing structure and functions of the family institution. The course provides a broad-based but intensive understanding of the family. Issues include the effect of economic, demographic and cultural changes on male-female relationships, sex roles, marriage and child care. Prerequisite: SOCI 1301

CHLD 3404 Experimental Psychology (4)

Introduction to the planning and execution of psychological research. Prerequisites: PSYC 1301, CHLD 3301. F, S

CHLD 4307 Health Psychology (3)

Examination of the role of behavioral science knowledge and techniques in understanding, assessing, testing and preventing medical-psychological and social problems. Prerequisite : PSYC 1301 or approval of Instructor. F

CHLD 4310 Early Intervention (3)

This course focuses on issues related to young children who exhibit atypical development including the roles families and professionals in the field play in facilitating development. Prerequisite: CHLD 3341 or permission of the instructor. F

CHLD 4311 Social Development and Learning (3)

Investigation of social-emotional development in young children. Emphasis is on using knowledge of social-emotional development to establish a positive learning environment. Prerequisite: CHLD 3341 or permission of instructor. F,S

CHLD 4312 Cognitive Psychology (3)

Research and theories of cognitive processes, including concept learning, problem solving, memory, attention, and language development and maintenance. Prerequisite: PSYC 1301. F

CHLD 4314 Language Development in the Young Child (3)

This course studies the nature of language and the acquisition of language by the young child. Topics included are: (1) language structure, (2) sequence and process of the acquisition of language, (3) cognitive aspects of language acquisition and implementation, (4) social aspects of language in childhood, and (5) language variation. TexES pre-tests may be required. Prerequisite: CHLD 3341 or permission of the instructor. F,S

CHLD 4320 Social Stratification (3)

Focuses on theories of social inequality as applied to the exercise of power and large-scale social control. Issues of class, race and gender and other inequalities are considered in the U.S. and globally. Prerequisite: SOCI 1301. F

CHLD 4321 Social Work Intervention: Marriage and Family (3)

Opportunity to learn theory and skills required to implement change in marriages and families. Emphasis is on interactional processes between the social worker and family members. S

CHLD 4329 First and Second Language Acquisition (3)

The course focuses on the processes of acquiring one's native language as well as a second language, including the theories, stages, and connection between oral language and literacy. Prerequisite: CHLD 3341 or permission of the instructor. F, S

CHLD 4351 Tests and Measurement (3)

Major personality and intelligence tests, emphasis upon their construction, administration, scoring and interpretation. Prerequisites: PSYC 1301, CHLD 3301. S

CHLD 4370 Family Dysfunction and Substance Abuse (3)

The role of substance abuse in family violence, child rearing and marital discord. Various ways of intervening to moderate the effects of substance abuse in families will be discussed. Prerequisite: SOCI 1301. F

CHLD 4381 Gender Studies (3)

Survey of critical issues in social relations, mental health, and legal matters involving women. Includes analysis of innate and environmental determinants of sex differences. Prerequisite: PSYC 1301.

CHLD 4389 Selected Topics (3)

Undergraduate courses which will be offered only once or will be offered infrequently or which are being developed before a regular listing in the catalog. May be acceptable for graduate credit. F, S

CHLD 4391 Independent Study in Child & Family Studies (3)

Study of research under supervision of a member of the faculty. Students wishing to enroll should prepare a short plan for this coursework. Prerequisites: Senior standing and CHLD 3404. F, S

CHLD 4399 Senior Research Seminar (3)

A scientific research study under the supervision of a member of the Sociology or Psychology faculty. The integration of theory and research is emphasized through basic or applied social research. Prerequisites: senior standing and CHLD 3301 and CHLD 3404 or 4403. F, S

CHLD 4403 Social Research Methods (4)

The course provides a comprehensive overview of social science research methods, with emphasis given to the concepts used in research, measurement strategies, and research designs. This course will include a one hour lab that will focus on the steps undertaken in the completion of a research paper. Prerequisite: CHLD 3301. S