



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
College of Human Sciences

Human Development & Family Studies™

Human Development and Family Studies Graduate Programs

Master of Science

Our Master's degree in Human Development and Family Studies focuses on the development of the individual across the life span as well as interpersonal relationships in multiple contexts. Students receive a superior preparation for a leadership career in social services positions, childhood advocacy, doctoral studies, or a related field.

Online Master of Science Degree Options

Texas Tech offers online Master's degree concentrations in gerontology and youth development via the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (GPIDEA). Both online Master's degrees require a total of 36 credit hours and are designed for working adults who are already employed as professionals in child and family services.

- The youth development concentration includes 28 credit hours of coursework and an eight-hour practicum, research project or thesis.
- The gerontology concentration consists of eight core courses totaling 24 credit hours, and four electives totaling 12 credit hours.

Doctoral Degree

If you seek a faculty position in Human Development and Family Studies, Texas Tech University's Ph.D. program provides exceptional training for academic careers.

Our Ph.D. program features world-class facilities and nationally renowned researchers to train the next generation of Human Development and Family Studies faculty. Graduates of Texas Tech's Ph.D. program in Human Development and Family Studies have earned post-docs, research positions, and tenure-track faculty appointments at major universities across the country.

Post-Bachelor's Doctoral Degree Option

If you acquired research experience as an undergraduate, you can apply to our Ph.D. program as a post-baccalaureate student. Applicants must show a history of involvement in research in an undergraduate program or after completion of the undergraduate degree. You must also indicate a strong interest in continuing research endeavors.

When you enter the Human Development and Family Studies post-bachelor's Ph.D. program, you will first fulfill the courses and requirements of the Master's degree program. After successfully defending the thesis and completing any required revisions, you will move on to the requirements of the Ph.D. program.

Research Facilities

The College of Human Sciences is committed to research focused on individuals, families, and their environments for the purpose of improving and enhancing the human condition. Our internationally recognized centers, research clusters and institutes are led by outstanding faculty members who are invested in advancing research in the areas of developmental science.

- Child Development Research Center
- Early Head Start Program
- Iva Lea Barton Research Suite
- Center for Adolescent Resiliency

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