DEPARTMENT OF
FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE

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For more information about majors, minors, courses, faculty and student organizations, please visit ahn.mnsu.edu/fcs/

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The Department of Family Consumer Science promotes the health and well-being of individuals and families in today’s society by combining science with professionalism and integrity. Our students are trained in an environment that fosters the integration of knowledge into practice with a focus on positively impacting the quality of life for the people they serve.

Child Development and Family Studies is one of four major options within the department.

THE DEGREE
You’ll earn a Bachelor of Science degree with an option in Child Development and Family Studies.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY STUDIES OPTION
Our program emphasizes understanding of human development and family related issues while preparing graduates to work with children, adults, and families in a variety of human service, educational, and leadership settings.

Possible Careers
- Child Life Specialist (hospital setting)
- Childcare Teacher (non-license)
- Non-profit Program Coordinator
- Social Service Agent
- Family Advocate
- Youth & Family Life Minister
- With graduate school: Licensed Family or Mental Health Therapist, School Psychologist/Counselor, Extension Agent, Human Services Specialist

CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES (CDFS) CURRICULUM

Required General Education (3)
- FCS 100  (3)  Personal & Family Living

Major Common Core (3)
- FCS 101  (3)  Introduction to FCS

Major Emphasis Required Courses
Child Development and Family Studies (29-30)
- FCS 275  (3)  Consumers in the Economy
- FCS 301  (3)  Lifespan Development
- FCS 303  (3)  Working with Families
- FCS 400  (3)  Culturally Diverse Family Systems
- FCS 401  (3)  Family Life Development
- FCS 414W (3) Family Policy and Ethics
- FCS 482  (3)  Family Life Education
- FCS 488  (3)  Parenting Education
- FCS 496  (2-3)  Selected Topics: CDFS
- HLTH 311  (3)  Family Life & Sex Education

Elective Courses Child Development & Family Studies (Choose 18 credits)
- PSYC 230  (3)  Child Care Psychology
- FCS 270  (2)  Family Housing
- FCS 360  (3)  Romantic Relationships
- FCS 402  (3)  Play and Child Development
- FCS 403  (3)  Parents, Peers & Adolescent Development
- FCS 446  (3)  Lifespan Nutrition
- FCS 474  (3)  Community Resources and Family Support
- FCS 478  (3)  Family Finance
- FCS 483  (3)  Adult & Technical Ed. in FCS
- FCS 494  (1-3)  Family Life Education Practicum
- FCS 495  (3-4)  Internship: Early Child Family Practicum
- FCS 496  (2-3)  Selected Topics: CDFS
- FCS 497  (1-6)  Internship
- FCS 498  (1-6)  Undergraduate Internship

Major Restricted Electives (Choose 6 credits)
- FCS 120  (2)  Clothing and People
- FCS 140  (3)  Introduction to Nutrition
- FCS 150  (3)  Food, Culture and You
- FCS 331  (4)  Clothing Construction & Textiles
- FCS 473  (3)  Consumer Protection

Minor:
Choose 16-36 credits from any minor – any discipline 100-499

CERTIFIED FAMILY LIFE EDUCATOR
The Child Development and Family Studies (CDFS) option at the university has been approved by the National Council on Family Relations. Minnesota State University, Mankato graduates with a CDFS major or minor who have taken the approved courses are eligible to become Certified Family Life Educators (CFLE). Being a CFLE recognizes a broad understanding of family life issues. Certification is available to professionals from all disciplines who have met the requirements.

http://www.ncfr.com/cert/

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM
To be permanently admitted to the Department of Family Consumer Science, a student must:
1. Be a declared major in FCS
2. Have an advisor assigned
3. Have completed a minimum of 32 semester hours
4. Have achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50