

# CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES, MASTER OF SCIENCE (0489)

## Program Coordinator

Adam R. West, adam.west@wku.edu, (270) 745-5138

This program is designed to provide advanced study in the growth and development of the individual and family. The program builds competence in human development, integration of theory into practice, program development, and research—preparing graduates to critically evaluate and synthesize issues related to children, youth, and families. Fieldwork is incorporated in the curriculum.

## Program Admission

1. An overall GPA of at least 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) for all hours earned past the first 60-semester or 90-quarter hours of the baccalaureate degree.
2. A 2-3 page letter of professional intent describing professional interests and career goals.  
The letter of professional intent should be a measure of an applicant's writing style and writing ability and is expected to be well organized, free of typing and grammatical errors, and clearly written. It should have an introduction, clearly stated purpose, and contents that demonstrate the best impression of the applicant's writing. The letter of professional intent should articulate and demonstrate your specific qualifications for the program of study. We are interested in an applicant's reasoning for their intended course of study; therefore, each of the following points must be addressed:
  - Why do you want to pursue this degree?
  - What are your career goals once you complete the program?
  - Describe an impactful situation or experience you have had working with children, youth, and/or families.
  - Describe the most important characteristics and qualities needed by professionals in working with children, youth, and/or families and where you stand relative to developing them.
3. Three letters of reference from previous instructors, colleagues, or supervisors indicating the applicant's ability to succeed in graduate classes.

## Graduate School Admission

Please refer to the admission section (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/admission/>) of this catalog for Graduate School admission requirements.

## Program Requirements (30 hours)

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
FACS 510	Professional Development Seminar in Family and Consumer Sciences	3
FACS 511	Grant Writing for Child and Family Programs	3
EDFN 500	Research Methods	3
FACS 577	Child Development Theory and Research	3
or FACS 550	Youth and Family Theory and Research	
FACS 580	Internship	3-6
or FACS 599	Thesis Research/Writing	

Electives <sup>1</sup>		12-15
FACS 540	Infant and Toddler Development and Research	
FACS 541	Home Based Positive Behavioral Supports	
FACS 542	Stress and Coping in Children	
FACS 543	Global Perspectives of Child and Family	
FACS 544	Issues in Child Care and Early Education	
FACS 551	Community, Child, & Youth Program Development	
FACS 560	Family Diversity	
FACS 561	Adult Development and Aging in the Family	
FACS 562	Advanced Family Resource Management	
FACS 575	Independent Study in Family and Consumer Sciences	
FACS 598	Special Topics in Family and Consumer Sciences	
EDFN 603	Qualitative Research in Education	
EDFN 501	Educational Statistics	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

**Total Hours** **30**

<sup>1</sup> Electives must be approved by advisor.