



DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
AND FAMILY SCIENCE

MINORS

Human Development & Family Science Minor - The human development & family science minor offers a comprehensive introduction to the area of family science and provides students with concentrated study in family dynamics. This minor includes classes in the Foundations of Marriage and Family, Parenting, Human Sexuality, Dynamics of Family Interaction and Marital and Couples Relationships. Students also get to choose one course from the lifespan (e.g. child, adolescent, adult and aging).

Children and Youth Services Minor - This minor is designed for students who desire to work with children and youth in social service, recreational or research settings. It is particularly useful for students who plan to pursue employment in contexts like foster care, adoption, group homes for children and adolescents, and hospitals as child life specialists where a solid background in child development and family dynamics is extremely useful. There is elective space to allow students to tailor their emphasis of study to their professional goals.

Disability and Family Wellness Minor - Given that one out of every five Americans has some form of disability and many more care for individuals with disabilities, this minor will enhance competency relative to disabilities and help to prepare graduates for working with populations representing a range of disabilities (e.g., disabled veterans, disabled adults, children with a variety of special needs, older adults with cognitive and physical disabilities) in a variety of professional settings (e.g., Veterans Hospitals, group homes for adults, schools, homes, children's hospitals, long-term care communities, hospice, adoption and foster care agencies, churches, schools) in many professional capacities (e.g., therapeutic support staff, child life specialist, early intervention specialist, foster care or adoption case managers/recruiters, teachers, ministers).

Gerontology Minor - This interdisciplinary minor, designed for students in all majors, equips students with knowledge, skills, and abilities, which are invaluable when working with older adults. Classes include Death, Grief, and Caring; Nutrition, Health and Biology of Aging; Psychology of Aging; Sociology of Aging, and a choice of one of the following: 6 credits of an Aging Practicum or Internship, or 3 credits of an Aging Practicum and Adult Development.

Gender Studies Minor - The Gender Studies Minor is for students interested in how gender influences human social life, viewed from multiple academic disciplines. The minor requires Women and Men in American Society, Engaging Diversity and Inequality, and Human Sexuality. Nine more credits are required from approved electives.

Pre-Counseling and Therapy Minor - The pre-counseling and therapy minor is ideal for those students wishing to pursue a career and/or further education in marriage and family therapy or counseling. Classes include Foundations of Marriage and Family, Dynamics of Family Interaction, Marriage & Family Therapy, Abnormal Psychology, Counseling Theories, Counseling Techniques and elective options.

Multicultural Families Minor - The multicultural families minor is ideal for students interested in family diversity. Required classes include Foundations of Marriage and Family, and Topics in Multicultural Family Studies and Family Ethnicity & Human Services. A variety of electives allow specialization of interests.

Questions? Contact Dr. Raeann Hamon, Department Chair, 717-796-1800 x 2850 or RHamon@messiah.edu

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