**Child Advocacy and Family Policy Specialization**

This specialization focuses on analyzing and solving problems related to children and their families, with a primary emphasis on unmet needs. The goal is for students to complete their degree with a detailed understanding of human development, family relations, educational and governmental initiatives and regulations, cultural differences, statistics, politics, and effective communication strategies. The Child Advocacy and Family Policy specialization is designed to prepare students for entry-level positions as advocates or policy generalists, or to pursue a graduate degree.

**Departmental Requirements**

- FS 525 Human Development
- FS 545 Family Relations
- FS 760 Family Programs and Policies
- FS 772 International Approaches to Child Advocacy
- FS 773 International Perspectives on Families and Young Children
- FS 712/714 Internship *

*spring or summer semester; 712 is 4-8 credits, 714 is 2 credits

**One course from each of the following groups:**

1. FS 553 Personal and Family Finance for Family Life Educators - OR -
   FS 653 Family Economics
2. FS 623 Developmental Perspectives on Infancy and Early Childhood - OR -
   FS 624 Developmental Perspectives on Adolescence and Early Adulthood
3. FS 641 Parenting Across the Lifespan - OR -
   FS 746 Human Sexuality - OR -
   FS 757 Race, Class, Gender and Families
4. FS 776 Children, Adolescents, and the Law* - OR -
   FS 794 Families and the Law

*not offered every year

**Major Requirement – One Course in Statistics**

- PSYCH 402 or SOC 502 or HHS 540

**Supporting Courses – Choose ONE from Each Group**

- ENGL 502 or 503 or CMN 456
- CSL 401 or 402 or 404 or CSL 508 and 509 (Thompson School of Applied Science)
- SW 705 or PSYC 581
- FS 635 or EDUC 500 or 556

And elective(s) (as approved by student’s advisor)

**Discovery Program/General Education – Recommended Courses**

Please select your Discovery Program/General Education courses from the following courses if possible:

*Foreign Culture: Any course except ENGL 581*

*Sociology*: ANTH 412, 625; CD 415; CMN 455, 457; ECON 401, 402; HHS 510; HMP 401, HUMA 510D; NUTR 405; POLT 402, 505, 560, 565, 566, 567; RMP 570; SOC 400, 520, 530, 540; SW 525;

*Works of Literature, Philosophy and Ideas*: AMST 502; CMN 456; ENGL 517, 681; FREN 500, 652; GERM 500, 521; HUMA 500, 650; ITAL 500, 521, 522, 651, 652; PHIL 401, 424, 435, 436, 520, 540; POLT 407, 520, 521, 522, 523; PORT 500; RUSS 500, 521, 522, 593; SPAN 500, 522, 650, 651/652, 653/654

*Continued*
Internship
Internships are chosen under the guidance of the specialization coordinator and placement will be made with a state advocacy related office. Some organizations may require a criminal background check before intern placement is finalized. Arrangements for criminal background checks are the responsibility of the student and the requesting organization, not the Department of Family Studies.

Capstone Courses
The FS 712/714 internship serves as the senior capstone experience for the Child Advocacy and Family Policy specialization.

Students are responsible for insuring they have met all requirements.