

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**Web Site:** <https://twu.edu/human-development-family-studies-counseling/graduate-programs/child-development/>

## Degree Requirements

### Total Semester Credit Hours Required

**Thesis Option:** 30 semester credit hours (SCH)

**Professional Option:** 31 semester credit hours (SCH) - Program available in an accelerated format (7-week semesters).

### Special Requirements

No grade below B is accepted towards any graduate degree in the Department of Human Development, Family Studies, and Counseling (HDFSC). If more than one grade below B is earned while enrolled in any HDFSC graduate program, the student will be dismissed from the program and will be ineligible to re-enroll in any program within the department for a period of 6 years.

### Final Examination

Students choosing the thesis option must complete an independent research project and participate in an oral defense of the completed thesis. Students choosing the professional option must complete a professional portfolio in their last semester. Theses and portfolios are reviewed and evaluated by each student's advisory committee. The advisory committee should consist of three faculty members, all of whom must hold Graduate Faculty status, and at least two of whom must be faculty from the Child Development program.

### Thesis Option (30 semester credit hours)

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Core</b>		
HDFS 5113	Theories of Child Development	3
HDFS 5223	Child Growth and Development in Early Childhood	3
HDFS 5243	Adolescent Development Within the Family	3
HDFS 5643	The Development of Infants and Toddlers	3
<b>Research</b>		
HDFS 5193	Statistics for Family Sciences	3
HDFS 5693	Research Methods in Family Sciences	3
HDFS 5983	Thesis	3
HDFS 5993	Thesis	3
<b>Content Specialization</b>		
HDFS 5593	Play, Development, and the Young Learner	3
HDFS 5613	Child Guidance	3
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>30</b>

### Professional Option (31 semester credit hours)

Program available in an accelerated format (7-week semesters).

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Core</b>		
HDFS 5113	Theories of Child Development	3

HDFS 5223	Child Growth and Development in Early Childhood	3
HDFS 5243	Adolescent Development Within the Family	3
HDFS 5643	The Development of Infants and Toddlers	3
<b>Research</b>		
HDFS 5193	Statistics for Family Sciences	3
HDFS 5693	Research Methods in Family Sciences	3
<b>Content Specialization</b>		
HDFS 5593	Play, Development, and the Young Learner	3
HDFS 5613	Child Guidance	3
<b>Professional Development</b>		
Select two of the following		6
HDFS 5013	Grief, Loss, and Bereavement	
ECE 5263	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood	
ECE 5413	Leadership, Advocacy and Public Policy for Young Children	
ECE 5433	Brain-Based Learning for the Young Child	
ECE 5773	School, Family, and Cultural Diversity: Community Connections	
HDFS 5573	Family Crises	
HDFS 5933	Practicum in Family Sciences	
<b>Graduation Requirement</b>		
HDFS 5931	Professional Portfolio	1
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>31</b>