

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHILD LIFE

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

Degree Requirements

Total Semester Credit Hours Required

37 semester credit hours (SCH).

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 six years.

Final Examination

Students must complete a professional portfolio in their last semester. The portfolio is reviewed and evaluated by the 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 Life program.

Code	Title	SCHs
Core Courses		
HDFS 5113	Theories of Child Development (ages 0-18)	3
HDFS 5223	Child Growth and Development in Early Childhood (ages 0-8)	3
HDFS 5243	Adolescent Development Within the Family (ages 9-21)	3
HDFS 5693	Research Methods in Family Sciences	3
Required Content/Professional Competencies		
HDFS 5403	Child Life	3
HDFS 5053	Child Life Assessment	3
HDFS 5593	Play, Development, and the Young Learner	3
HDFS 5013	Grief, Loss, and Bereavement	3
HDFS 5063	Developmental and Psychosocial Perspectives on the Impact of Health on Family Systems	3
HDFS 5073	Professional Practice and Ethics for Working With Children and Families	3
Elective Content		
Select two of the following		6
HDFS 5573	Family Crises	
HDFS 5613	Child Guidance	
HDFS 5193	Statistics for Family Sciences	
HDFS 5093	Child Life Practicum (*)	
HDFS 5893	Child Life Internship (*)	
HDFS 5903	Special Topics	

Graduation Requirement

HDFS 5931	Professional Portfolio (Final Examination - Must be taken in last semester)	1
Total SCHs		37

* Child Life clinical experiences (Child Life practicum and Child Life internship) are awarded through individual hospitals through an application and interview process. TWU does NOT place students in these experiences, but will work with students and hospitals to facilitate affiliations as needed, and students are eligible to receive course credits for clinical experiences upon approval from their major advisor. While these courses are not listed in the academic eligibility assessment, they are required for certification through the ACLP. Please note that almost all Child Life internships (and ALL ACLP endorsed clinical internships) require that students complete a Child Life practicum BEFORE applying to Child Life internship.