The Child and Family Studies minor focuses on children’s development and their roles in both the family and in the wider society. It supports the option of preparation for certification as a Child Life specialist. Theoretical and practical issues are explored from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students complement coursework and observations with directed work in the campus child care center and other approved facilities.

Requirements for the Minor in Child and Family Studies (CFS)

No more than one course may be taken under the Pass/No Credit option.
Completion of the minor requires 24 credits.

A. Required Courses
- CFS 210 Introduction to Human Growth and Development in the Family Context (PSY 220 may be substituted)
- CFS 283 Practicum in Child Development
- CFS 322 The Infant and Young Child
- CFS 381 Seminar in Child Development

B. Four additional courses chosen from the following:
At least three courses must be upper-division, and at least one of these must be a CFS course at the 400 level.
- CFS 287 Supervised Research
- CFS 308 Violence in the Family
- CFS 320 The Special Child
- CFS 321 Early Childhood Environments
- SSE 327 Human Growth and Development in the Educational Context
- CFS 339 Children’s Play
- CFS 340 Children in Hospitals and Healthcare Settings
- CFS 345-K Parental Roles in a Pluralistic Society
- CFS 381-F Seminar in Child Development
- CFS 405 Seminar in Children, Law, and Social Policy
- CFS 417 Senior Seminar in Child and Family Studies
- CFS 447 Directed Readings in Child and Family Studies
- CFS 475 Undergraduate Teaching Practica I, II
- CFS 487 Independent Project in Child and Family Studies
- CFS 488 Internship
- CFS 489 Child Life Internship

One of the following courses may be substituted for a CFS or SSE course in requirement B:
- AFS 370 African-American Family
- PSY 325 Children’s Cognitive Development
- PSY 326 Children’s Social and Emotional Development
- PSY 329 Special Topics in Developmental Psychology
- PSY 338 Behavior Deviation in Children
- SOC 304 Sociology of the Family
- SOC/WST 340 Sociology of Human Reproduction
- SOC 384 Sociology of the Life Course
- SOC 387 Sociology of Education
- WST/PSY 347 Psych. of Women

Notes:
1. No more than six credits of independent work may be used toward fulfillment of the minor requirements.
2. Students planning to work in the child care center should make arrangements for an interview at the center prior to registering. Proof of having had a recent medical examination must be presented upon reporting to work.

Child and Family Studies Pre-Professional Option

Requirements for eligibility for the Child Life Certification examination offered through the Child Life Council include:

1. Bachelor’s degree
2. Minimum of 10 courses in child life, child development, or child and family studies or closely related courses
3. 480 hours of child life clinical experience: Field-based experience with healthy children prior to the child life internship is recommended.

Students may select courses that will allow them to complete the pre-professional Child Life option within the Child and Family Studies minor.
Recommended Curriculum for the Pre-Professional Child Life Option

Required Courses in Child and Family Studies:

1. CFS 210 Human Development: The Family Context or PSY 220 Developmental Psychology
2. CFS 283 Practicum in Child Development and CFS 381 Seminar in Child Development
3. CFS 339 Children's Play
4. CFS 340 Children in Hospitals and Health Care Settings

Elective Courses in Child and Family Studies:

1. Five additional courses chosen from the following:
   - CFS 308 Violence in the Family
   - CFS 320 The Special Child
   - CFS 321 Early Childhood Environments
   - CFS 322 The Infant and Young Child
   - SSE 327 Human Growth and Develop, in the Educational Context
   - CFS 345 Parental Roles in a Pluralistic Society
   - CFS 405 Children, Law, and Social Policy
   - PSY 325 Children's Cognitive Development
   - PSY 338 Behavior Deviation in Children
   - PSY 347/WST 377 Psychology of Women
   - SOC 304 Sociology of the Family
   - SOC 348 Sociology of the Life Course

2. CFS 489 Child Life Internship—completion of 12 credits for a total of 480 hours of child life clinical experience.

Students are required to complete and pass the Child Life Certification Examination to receive certification.