This degree option is available for students interested in the advanced study of families. Both thesis (MS) and non-thesis (MA) options are offered, but students must petition to write a thesis. The non-thesis option involves a project, internship, or exam.

Courses are selected from:

A. Statistics and research methods (6 hours)
   HDFS 8200: Research Methods
   Any advisor-approved statistics course 7000 level or above

B. Core content (21 hours)
   1. Family interaction and functioning (6 hours)
      HDFS 7620: Family Interaction OR HDFS 8012: Family Dynamics and Intervention
      HDFS 7640: Interpersonal Relationships
   2. Family structures, forms, and variations (9 hours)
      HDFS 7300: The Black Family
      HDFS 7630: The Process of Divorce
      HDFS 8087: Poverty
      HDFS 8610: Remarriage and Stepfamilies
   3. Family theory (3 hours)
      HDFS 8220: Family Theories
   4. Electives* (3 hours)
      HDFS 7257: Aging and the Family
      HDFS 7510: Administration of Programs for Children and Families
      HDFS 7610: Stress in Families
      HDFS 7720: Child and Family Advocacy
      HDFS 8300: Advanced Seminar on Multicultural Families
      HDFS 8420: Cognitive Development
      HDFS 8620: Work and Family
      HDFS 8630: Gendered Relations in Families
      HDFS 8710: Children, Families and Public Policy
      * Or any advisor approved graduate level course

C. Human development (3 hours)
   HDFS 8440: Social-Emotional Development
   HDFS 8460: Life Course Perspective
   HDFS 8210: Theories of Human Development
   HDFS 8450: Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood
   HDFS 8470: Identity Development

D. Legal issues (3 hours)
   5575L: Family Law

E. Thesis or other independent effort (3-6 hours)
   HDFS 8090: Project
   HDFS 8972: Internship
   HDFS 8999: Exam*
   HDFS 9090: Thesis

*No course credit is assigned to the exam option

Revised: Summer 2015