

# Human Development *and* Family Studies



**A degree preparing  
undergraduates with  
an interdisciplinary  
perspective for a career  
dedicated to improving  
the lives of children,  
youth, and families**

## At A Glance

**Degree Type:** Bachelor of Arts in Education (B.A.Ed.)

**Program Length:** 45 credit hours

**Application Deadlines:** Spring 2022 – October 12, 2021

Fall 2022 – February 8, 2022 (priority)

April 12, 2022 (final)

The Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) program, a pre-professional major for undergraduates, provides students with essential knowledge and skills to improve the lives of children, youth and families across a variety of contexts and cultures — incorporating a broad interdisciplinary perspective that honors psychological, sociological, economic, medical, education, cultural, and biological experiences.

Graduates of the program often pursue careers and graduate programs related to the helping professions at the intersection of education, nonprofits, allied and public health, social services, health service, child life, counseling services, policy, and business services — and beyond.

# Human Development and Family Studies

In the HDFS program — which positions graduates for future endeavors dedicated to the growth of children, families, and communities — students gain:

- **Deep understanding** of how children develop in the context of families, schools, and communities from faculty members recognized as leaders in their respective fields;
- A **foundation in evidence-based practices** that provides real-world perspective, ensuring graduates leave prepared to engage meaningfully with their communities;
- **Opportunities to combine theory and practice** through service-learning opportunities in which students work with helping professionals;
- A **semester-long internship** in which they gain invaluable real-life experience in potential career settings that include schools, health-care settings, disability services, research, nonprofit, and human service organizations, and more.



**Emma Hughson '19**  
*M.S. Candidate, Clinical Mental Health Counseling*  
Western Carolina University

---

## How will you propel the world?

To learn more about the Human Development and Family Studies program or to learn more about applying, email [ed@unc.edu](mailto:ed@unc.edu).

Visit [ed.unc.edu/hdfs](https://ed.unc.edu/hdfs)

**PROPEL**  
the WORLD