

**Master of Arts in Learning, Developmental and Family Sciences  
Human Development & Family Relations (HDFR) Emphasis**

**Program Goals and Description**

Students in the Master of Arts in Learning, Developmental and Family Sciences (LDFS), will:

- Engage in developing their skills to work in and lead community-based organizations including, but not limited to, for-profit and non-profit organizations that are: secular, faith-based, school-based, local, state, federal and international
- Examine the importance of family diversity and social justice throughout the HDFR curriculum through its courses and experiences
- Develop their knowledge in family relations in preparation for doctoral studies in family science and human development, or related areas. This program provides a pathway to pursue a PhD with a concentration in Family Science and Human Development at CU Denver's School of Education & Human Development

**Course Plan**

Course	Credits	Semester Planned	Semester Completed
<b>Core Courses (9 credits)</b>			
HDFR 6000 Family Theories or Advisor Approved HDFR Course <i>Recommended during fall semester in students' first year in the program</i>	3		
LDFS 6100 Advanced Child Growth and Development or LDFS 6140 Social Contexts of Adolescence and Schooling or LDFS 6200 Human Development Over the Life Span	3		
LDFS 5110 Human Learning	3		
<b>Statistics, Research Methods and Capstone (9 credits)</b>			
RSEM 5100 Basic Statistics	3		
RSEM 5120 Introduction to Research Methods or RSEM 5080 Research in Schools or Advisor Approved Advanced Research Methods Course	3		
LDFS 6950 Culminating Capstone Experience* <i>This course is offered in fall semester only and should be taken students' final fall in the program</i>	3		
<b>Inventory (12 credits)</b>			
Students select four (4) graduate-level (5000+) elective courses based on their professional and academic goals in consultation with their faculty or academic advisor.			
Courses may be selected from the inventories available at <a href="https://education.ucdenver.edu/academic-services/student-resources/thematic-course-categories">https://education.ucdenver.edu/academic-services/student-resources/thematic-course-categories</a> with faculty or academic advisor approval prior to completing courses			
*Students planning to complete a master's thesis as their capstone experience are encouraged to take RSEM 7110 Intermediate Stats (after RSEM 5100 Basic Statistics), RSEM 7080 Qualitative Inquiry, or another RSEM class related to your intended research method(s) as one of the electives			
	3		
	3		
	3		
	3		
<b>Total Credits for MA</b>	<b>30</b>		

**Suggested electives with HDFR prefix:**

HDFR 5003 Leadership & Organizations  
HDFR 5004 Grant Writing/Fundraising  
HDFR 5040 Latino Families in School

HDFR 5010 Family and Cultural Diversity  
HDFR 5080 Global Family Resource Mgmt  
HDFR 7260 Family Diversity & Social Justice