



**Master of Arts in Learning, Developmental and Family Sciences (LDFS)  
Learning Emphasis**

**Program Goals and Description**

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

- Engage in constructing adaptive learning and development opportunities for participants in diverse educational and community contexts
- Examine learning environments in various formal and informal contexts (including classrooms, schools and community centers) and from multiple perspectives (psychological, socio-cultural, design-based or neuroscience)
- Discuss how to motivate and engage students through developmentally and culturally appropriate practices, and how to facilitate growth and development of students from diverse backgrounds
- Utilize various opportunities to understand the latest research in the field of learning and learning sciences while engaging in dynamic interactions with faculty

**Course Plan**

Course	Credits	Semester Planned	Semester Completed
<b>Core Courses (9 credits)</b>			
<b>LDFS 5110 Human Learning</b> <i>This key foundational core course should be taken in students' first year in the program</i>	3		
<i>Choose 1 of the following:</i> LDFS 6100 Advanced Child Growth and Development LDFS 6140 Social Contexts of Adolescence and Schooling LDFS 6200 Human Development Over the Life Span	3		
LDFS 6750 Designing Environment for Learning and Development	3		
<b>Statistics, Research Methods and Capstone (9 credits)</b>			
RSEM 5100 Basic Statistics	3		
RSEM 5120 Introduction to Research Methods or Faculty 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>			
<i>Students can select electives from the following inventories available at <a href="http://bit.ly/PPMAInventories">http://bit.ly/PPMAInventories</a> with faculty mentor or academic advisor approval prior to completing courses</i>  Learning and Development Inventory; Family and Community Inventory Leadership Inventory; 5000+ Level LDFS, HDFR, RSEM, or other courses with advisor approval  **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 6100 Qualitative Inquiry, or another RSEM class related to your intended research method(s) as one of the electives	12		
<b>Total Credits for MA</b>	<b>30</b>		

**Suggested electives:**

LDFS 5240 Cognition & Instruction  
LDFS 6100 Adv. Child Growth & Development  
LDFS 6140 Social Contexts of Adolescence & Schooling

LDFS 6200 Human Development over the Life Span  
LDFS 6320 Mind, Brain & Education  
LDFS 6600 Motivation in Contexts