

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

Program Goals and Description

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

- Engage in constructing adaptive learning and development opportunities for participants in diverse educational and community contexts
- Examine learning environments in formal and informal contexts (including classrooms, schools and community centers) and from multiple perspectives (psychological, sociocultural, 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
Core Courses (9 credits)			
LDFS 5110 Human Learning <i>This key foundational core course recommended in students' first year in the program</i>	3		
LDFS 6320 Mind, Brain & Education or LDFS 6600 Motivation in Contexts	3		
LDFS 6750 Designing Environment for Learning and Development	3		
Statistics, Research Methods and Capstone (9 credits)			
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		
Inventory** (12 credits)			
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 https://education.ucdenver.edu/academic-services/student-resources/thematic-course-categories 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		
Total Credits for MA	30		

****Suggested electives:**

LDFS 6100 Adv. Child Growth & Development
LDFS 6200 Human Development over the Life Span

LDFS 6140 Social Contexts of Adolescence & Schooling