



## Human Development and Family Science

*College of Family and Consumer Sciences*

**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

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### Program Overview

The Human Development and Family Science (HDFS) internship provides students with the opportunity to apply academic coursework in real-world settings. This internship is completed in partial fulfillment of the Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences with an emphasis in Human Development and Family Science.

Supervisors play a critical role in supporting student development and are expected to provide meaningful experiences that align with professional and academic goals.

Internship placements are not approved until a completed application has been submitted and approved.

### Is My Site a Good Fit?

Internship sites must allow students to:

- Apply knowledge of the social sciences through observation and practice
- Critically reflect on course knowledge
- Gain professional experience and develop networks

Internships must also support HDFS learning objectives:

- Students will integrate and apply theory, research, and ethical practices to the understanding of human development and family processes.
- Students will demonstrate and disseminate knowledge about social, cognitive, psychological, physiological, and emotional development as it relates to optimal individual and family functioning throughout the lifespan.
- Students will critically and scientifically identify and evaluate the interconnected systems that impact the changing social environment in which individuals and families are embedded.

### Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will build upon their existing knowledge base in family science and/or Family Life Education to further develop their skills.
- Students will apply their knowledge of family science and/or Family Life Education in a professional setting.

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- Students will evaluate their performance as well as their strength and growth areas in the workplace.
- Students will learn the experiences of those who work in family science settings and/or Family Life Education settings.
- Students will share their internship experiences with their cohort through topical group meetings.
- Students will reflect on their experience through the creation of structured weekly logs, weekly assignments, a professional portfolio, as well as a project relevant to their internship experience.

### Supervisor Qualifications

- Hold a bachelor's degree in a related field OR
- Possess sufficient professional experience for supervision

### Supervisor Responsibilities

- Provide guidance and oversight
- Assign meaningful, developmentally appropriate tasks
- Provide training and orientation
- Meet regularly with student
- Verify hours and complete evaluations
- Conduct exit interview

### Student Responsibilities

- Complete 240 hours (6 credit hours)
- Maintain regular attendance
- Complete coursework and assignments
- Follow university and site expectations

### Scheduling and Hours

- Fall/Spring: approx. 17+ hours/week
  - August to December
  - January to April
- Summer: approx. 30+ hours/week
  - Through Session – June to July
- Maximum recommended: 40 hours/week

Students must remain for the entire semester and cannot complete hours early to finish the internship.

May 2026

## Academic Credit

Students enroll in HDFS 5910 and receive 6 credit hours upon completion. Coursework includes assignments, meetings, evaluations, and a final project.

## Internship Application Deadlines

- Fall Internship: April
- Spring Internship: October
- Summer Internship: October or March

## Application Process

- Student submits internship application
- Supervisor completes required section
- Department reviews application
- MOU is developed and approved

## Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

A Memorandum of Understanding is required between the University and the agency and must be completed before the internship begins.

## Additional Site Requirements

- Background checks
- Drug tests
- Immunizations or documentation

Students are responsible for all costs. The site determines acceptance. The University does not certify results.

## Expenses and Insurance

Students are responsible for their own living and travel expenses. The University does not provide liability insurance; sites may require students to obtain coverage.

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