

MASTER OF ARTS IN FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

The M.A. degree in Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) in the Department of Family, Interiors, Nutrition & Apparel is designed to prepare students for advanced studies of individual, family, and community issues using an interdisciplinary approach. Throughout the degree studies, students gain a greater understanding of current issues and trends as well as their implications to an optimum quality of life for individuals, families, and communities.

Student understanding in these areas provide the roadmap for the development of a culminating experience, which illustrates identification of issues and problem-solving methodologies. Students have the opportunity to structure their degree around their specific interests within the emphasis areas noted below and also with other programs across campus.

The degree consists of 30 units, including completion of a master's thesis or field study project as a culminating experience. Graduates of the M.A. in FCS have gone on to careers in the non-profit sectors, community agencies, early childhood settings, education, food and nutritional sciences, and apparel and interior design industries. The M.A. also prepares students for continued education at the doctoral level. Individual studies can be developed around the following specializations:

- Apparel Design & Merchandising
- Interior Design
- Dietetics
- Family and Consumer Sciences

Admission to Program

Applicants must hold a baccalaureate degree and a 3.0 GPA with a major in family and consumer sciences, or one of its specializations (apparel, child/family, interior design, nutrition/dietetics). Those without this degree must complete thirty units of prerequisite coursework in consumer and family studies/dietetics approved by an advisor and the department chair.

Within these 30 units:

- 3 units must be from outside the student's area of specialization
- a maximum of 6 units may be counted for past professional experience in an area of specialization.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will exhibit professional skills and knowledge associated with their sub-discipline in Family & Consumer Sciences:
 - Apparel
 - Interior Design
 - Dietetics
 - Family Studies
2. Students will appreciate a socially conscious approach to sub-disciplines; contribute to the community through service.
3. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to design and conduct research associated with their sub-discipline.
4. Students will exhibit professional presentation and writing skills.
5. Students will link theory and practice in their program experiences.

6. Graduates will understand the interdisciplinary nature of family & consumer sciences.

Written English Proficiency Requirement

Level One

Students may either sit for the GRE (writing component) exam prior to application or take a writing intensive course upon acceptance into the program. Students who take the GRE, prior to application, and do not receive a score of at least 4.0 will be required to take a writing intensive course (Graduate Writing in Health and Social Sciences - HSS 700 or Preparation for Graduate Writing, through the College of Extended Learning - CA 514). Students who elect to take the writing course (HSS 700, CA 514), rather than the GRE exam, will still need to complete the additional 30 units required for the degree.

Level Two

Level Two is demonstrated by completion of FCS 895 or FCS 898.

For the Culminating Experience (CE) and SF State Continuous Enrollment Policy students should view SF State Graduate Division policies at <http://grad.sfsu.edu/>. The Proposal for Culminating Experience, Human Subjects Protocol, and Advancement to Candidacy are due the semester prior to enrolling in FCS 895/FCS 898. Students have one semester grace period after enrolling in FCS 895/FCS 898 to complete their CE. If it is not completed during the semester following enrollment, they must then continually enroll in HSS 499 through the College of Extended Learning until FCS 895/FCS 898 is completed.

Seventy percent of a student's Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) must be at the 700 level or above. Students must make continuous progress toward the completion of the degree. See the Graduate Division website for details on policies, procedures, and required forms at <http://grad.sfsu.edu/>.

Family and Consumer Sciences (M.A.) – Minimum 30 units

Program Requirements (9 units)

Code	Title	Units
COUN 794	Seminar in Research	3
or ISED 797	Seminar in Educational Research	
FCS 700/DES 701	Seminar: Trends and Issues	3
FCS 710	Family and Consumer Sciences Research Applications	3

Graduate/Upper-Division Courses (15 units)

Courses in family and consumer sciences selected upon approval of graduate major advisor

Code	Title	Units
FCS 728	Children and Families with Violence, Abuse, and Neglect	3
FCS 743	Sustainability in the Textile, Housing, and Food Industries	3
FCS 761	Advanced Apparel Design	3
FCS 769	Visual Merchandising and Promotion	3
FCS/MGMT 863	Seminar in Social Entrepreneurship	3
FCS 881	Internship	3-6
FCS 891	Directed Readings in Family Interiors Nutrition & Apparel	3

FCS 898 or FCS 895	Master's Thesis Field Study	3
FCS 899	Independent Study	2-4
NUTR 751	Seminar in Nutritional Assessment Across the Lifespan	3
NUTR 755	Seminar in Human Nutrition and Metabolism	3
NUTR 758	Seminar in Foodservice and Nutrition Program Management	3
NUTR 785	Seminar in Medical Nutrition Therapy	3
NUTR 881	Internship in Dietetics	6

Electives (6 units)

Selected upon approval of graduate major advisor.