

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES

Students in the B.S. in Child and Family Studies have hands-on learning opportunities:

## Experiential Programs and Internships

In-class and field experiences are available to provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of children and families in various cultures and settings. The undergraduate CFS major also includes a 180-hour practicum that correlates with their area of specialization. All CFS students receive practicum experience through placement in community agencies.

## Bernice M. Wright Child Development Laboratory School

This high-quality inclusive early childhood education program is housed on the SU campus and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Students gain specialized training in areas like curriculum development, child development, and early childhood education.

## Scientific Research

The CFS department is committed to scientific research around child and family issues nationally and internationally. Students have opportunities to work closely with faculty to gain valuable research experience to conduct and disseminate their research studies.

## ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY

Earn a degree in Child and Family Studies through part-time study at University College. UC offers courses in a variety of flexible formats to support the needs of adult students juggling family, job, and community responsibilities.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

The 124-credit bachelor's degree program is comprised of the following:

### Liberal Arts core: 60-65 credits

Explore an array of interests in writing, humanities, natural sciences, mathematics, and the social sciences. Develop a broader understanding of the world and polish writing and critical reflection skills.

### Program Curriculum core: 19 credits

Includes courses in family development, interpersonal competence, human sexuality, and development of children and youth in the family.

In the junior year, students must choose one of two specializations:

### Child Development: 19 credits

Students who focus on child studies learn about the social-emotional, intellectual, and physical development of children within the family, the peer group, and society. Students gain insight into how children are affected by the varied cultural, social, and economic contexts that shape their growth and development.

OR

### Family Development: 18 credits

Students who concentrate on family studies learn about marriage and intimacy, stresses and crises in families, parenting, violence, variations in family composition and functions, and gender roles.

### Electives: 21-26 credits

Both include core courses in family development, interpersonal competence, human sexuality, and development of children and youth in the family. Students can choose from a variety of electives that provide a comprehensive understanding of the discipline.

### Professional Minors

In addition to choosing one of the two tracks, students may pursue one of two professional minors:

#### • Early Childhood Education

Prepares students who seek certification as early childhood educators. One year after completing an undergraduate degree in CFS, students may pursue a master's degree in early childhood special education with a 30 percent reduction in graduate tuition.

#### • Child and Family Policy

An interdisciplinary program with the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs provides the opportunity to combine an interest in children and families with various areas of public policy, such as health care, education, welfare, and housing.

For program details, visit: [HumanEcology.syr.edu](http://HumanEcology.syr.edu).



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