

Social Sciences Minor in Child, Family, and Community Studies

This social science interdisciplinary minor is co-sponsored by the Department of Communication Studies, Psychology and the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice. It is intended for students seeking a deeper understanding of the dynamics of family relations and the interaction of the family with society. Its mission is to prepare undergraduate students for careers and future graduate studies in the fields of education, social work and social services. Embedded within the interdisciplinary focus of the minor is an emphasis on creating reflective and compassionate practitioners who are committed to the Jesuit ideal of men and women for others.

A minor in Child, Family, and Community Studies is useful for individuals interested in collaborative activities designed to improve the well being of children, adults, and families. Issues that may typically be dealt with by people interested in this minor include unemployment, drug and alcohol abuse, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, and an urban school system that is unable to address the complex needs of the students it serves. This minor is geared toward students interested in pursuing graduate studies in Social Work (MSW), Counseling Psychology, Family Communication, School Psychology, or Counseling Education.

In addition to fulfilling academic course requirements, students will be expected to complete a service learning component that will provide students with the opportunity to obtain a hands-on, experiential aspect of this field of work. Please see below for a more detailed explanation of this component.

Service Learning: Students enrolled in the minor must complete fifteen (15) hours of volunteer work in addition to the course requirements. Dr. Melissa Wanzer will coordinate this service learning requirement. This requirement may be satisfied one of two ways. First, students may complete a course **as part of their minor requirements** that is designated as a service learning course. The next way to complete the requirement is to work with Dr. Wanzer to identify an organization that provides services for children, families and the community and complete 15 hours of volunteer work. Upon completion of the required fifteen (15) hours, students will write a reflection paper summarizing their volunteer experiences. In this paper, students will provide the following information: an overview of the organization(s) where they completed their volunteer work (e.g., services offered by the organization, mission statement, etc.), a brief description of their actual volunteer responsibilities, and thoughts on what they gained from their volunteer experiences. Individuals interested in a more in-depth service experience may be allowed the opportunity to complete a practicum (120 hours) with an affiliated, local facility.

Academic Course Requirements: A total of 7 courses are required for completion of the minor

1. Required Prerequisite Credentials: TWO (2) courses from the following four courses.

Introduction to Psychology (PSY 101 OR PSY102)

Introduction to Sociology (SOC 110)

Interpersonal Communication (COM 204)

2. Required Foundation Courses: TWO (2) courses from the following three courses.

- Children, Families & Community (PSY 334)
- Family Communication (COM 304)
- Violence in the Family (CRJ337)

3. Elective Courses: THREE courses, ONE (1) course from EACH of three areas listed below. TWO (2) courses out of the three courses must be outside the student's major.

<u>CHILDREN</u>	<u>FAMILY*</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>
PSY 203 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	CRJ 354 Juvenile Delinquency	COM 350 Health Communication
PSY 384 Child Psychopathology	HSV 201 Family Dynamics	SOC 111 Social Problems
EDE 100 Human Growth and Development: Birth through Childhood	SOC 390 Marriage and Family	PSY 370 School Psychology
EDS 101 Human Growth and Development: Pre-Adolescence and Adolescence		SOC 341 Race and Ethnic Relations
COM 385 Media and Children	**Substitute Foundation Course	HSV 302 Children, Schools and the Community

Once students complete **two required foundation courses, the third course can be used for the family requirement.

You may use the following checklist to track your completion of the Minor requirements:

Required Pre-requisite Credentials:

Course#	Title	Semester	Grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Required Foundation Courses:

Course#	Title	Semester	Grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Elective Courses:

Course#	Title	Semester	Grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Service Learning (place a check mark in each box)

Facility: _____ 15 hours competed Paper completed