# FAMILY STUDIES MINOR

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Family Studies Minor Website (http://www.jmu.edu/socwork/familystudies.html)

## Program Description

The minor in family studies is designed for undergraduates seeking enhancement of their major, desiring to increase understanding of self and relationships, and seeking to make a positive contribution to society. The minor offers two focuses: Family ecology (FECO) and gerontology (GERO). Both focuses explore a range of family factors, family processes, policies, laws, services and the interrelationship of families and society. The minor will enhance majors in many fields including anthropology, early and middle education, health sciences, management, nursing, psychology, social work and sociology.

## Minor Requirements

The family studies minor requires a minimum of 18 credit hours, with no more than six credit hours coming from the student's major area (for example, SOWK majors cannot apply more than six credits of SOWK courses toward the minor). Note that some courses have prerequisites that must be completed before enrollment. Some courses may be restricted to students enrolled in particular majors.

One introductory course is required: either FAM 133 or SOCI 374.

For FECO focus students, six other credit hours are required and must be selected from these areas: Development and Family Processes, and Social and System Impacts on Families. Six additional credits may be selected from these two areas or from approved electives.

For GERO focus students, nine additional credits of core required courses and three credits from approved electives must be completed.

Each focus requires completion of a linked three credit capstone experience: For FECO: FAM 400 and FAM 401; for GERO: FAM 400 and IPE 313—002.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---|
| **Core Course** | | |
| FAM 133 | The Contemporary Family | 3 |
| or SOCI 374 | Sociology of Families | |
| Subtotal | | 3 |
| **Focuses** | | |
| Choose one of the following: | | 15 |
| Family Ecology Focus | | |
| Gerontology Focus | | |
| Subtotal | | 15 |
| **Total Credits** | | **18** |

## Focuses

### Family Ecology Focus

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---|
| **Family Development and Process** | | |
| Choose one of the following: | | 3 |
| EXED 306 | Lifespan Issues for Individuals with Disabilities [1] | |
| FAM 300 | Child Development | |
| or PSYC 365 | Developmental Psychology | |
| FAM/SOWK 325 | Parent-Child Relationships Across the Lifespan | |
| HTH 372 | Human Sexuality | |
| HTH 471 | Health Aspects of Gerontology | |
| PSYC 450 | Psychology of Child Abuse and Neglect | |
| or SOWK 34( | Violence in Families | |
| PSYC 475 | Psychology of Adulthood | |
| SCOM 440 | Family Communication [2] | |
| SOWK 387 | Working with Adolescents | |
| Subtotal | | 3 |
| **Social and System Impacts on Families** | | |
| Choose one of the following: | | 3 |
| FAM/SOWK 347 | Issues Affecting LGBTQIAP+ Individuals and Their Families | |
| GERN/SOCI 280 | Social Gerontology | |
| GERN/SOWK 372 | Programs and Services for Older Adults | |
| HIST 320 | Women in U.S. History | |
| NSG 326 | Care and Consideration for Children and Young Adults with Disabilities | |
| NSG 390 | Impact of Chronic Illness | |
| SOCI 303 | Sociology of Death and Dying | |
| SOCI/WGSS 337 | Sociology of Gender | |
| SOWK 332 | Community Mental Health Practice | |
| SOWK 338 | Issues and Policies in Family Services | |
| SOWK 342 | Child Welfare Services | |
| SOWK 362 | Social Work with Immigrants and Refugees | |
| Subtotal | | 3 |
| **Electives** | | |
| Choose six credit hours of additional courses from Social and System Impacts on Families and/or Family Development and Process clusters or the following: | | 6 |
| FAM/SOWK 327 | Substance Use Interventions | |
| FAM/NPS/SOWK 375 | Grant Writing for Agencies | |
| FAM/SOWK 386 | Youth Empowerment Strategies (YES) | |
| FAM 487 | Special Topics in Family Studies | |
| FAM 490 | Special Studies in Family Studies [3] | |
| HTH/IPE/SOWK 314 | Rural Health: An Interprofessional Approach | |
| IPE 313 | Issues and Applications of Family Caregiving: Caregiver's Community Network (FECO focus students limited to one credit section; can be repeated up to three credits) | |
| Subtotal | | 6 |
| **Frameworks and Focus Capstone Courses** | | |
| FAM 400 | Theory Survey [4] | 1 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| FAM 401 | Issues and Applications [4] | 2 |
| Subtotal | | 3 |
| **Total Credits** | | **15** |

1. Special education non-teaching and chronic illness concentration students only.
2. SCOM majors and minors only.
3. Can be taken for a total of six credits.
4. Must be taken in same semester

## Gerontology Focus

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---|
| **Foundation Courses** | | |
| GERN/SOCI 280 | Social Gerontology [1] | 3 |
| GERN/SOWK 372 | Programs and Services for Older Adults | 3 |
| PSYC 160 | Life Span Human Development [C5SD] | 3 |
| Subtotal | | 9 |
| **Elective Course** | | |
| Choose one of the following: | | 3 |
| BIO 301 | Introductory Neuroscience | |
| FAM/SOWK 325 | Parent-Child Relationships Across the Lifespan | |
| GERN 450 | Palliative and Hospice Care: An Interdisciplinary Approach | |
| GERN 487 | Special Topics in Gerontology | |
| GERN 490 | Special Studies in Gerontology | |
| HTH 378 | The Use and Effects of Drugs | |
| HTH 471 | Health Aspects of Gerontology | |
| IPE 313 | Issues and Applications of Family Caregiving: Caregiver's Community Network [2] | |
| IPE/NSG 415 | Ethical Decision-Making in Healthcare: An Interprofessional Approach [3] | |
| NSG 310 | Helping Persons in Pain | |
| NSG 322 | Integrative Health Care | |
| NSG 328 | Life, Death, and the In-Between | |
| NSG 391 | Living Successfully with Chronic Illness | |
| SOCI 303 | Sociology of Death and Dying | |
| SOWK/HTH/IPE 314 | Rural Health: An Interprofessional Approach | |
| Subtotal | | 3 |
| **Frameworks and Focus Capstone Courses** | | |
| FAM 400 | Theory Survey [4] | 1 |
| IPE 313 | Issues and Applications of Family Caregiving: Caregiver's Community Network [4,5] | 2 |
| Subtotal | | 3 |
| **Total Credits** | | **15** |

1. Health Services Administration majors may substitute HSA 290.
2. GERO focus students can take IPE 313-001 as an elective for one credit hour.
3. SOWK majors must take IPE 415 concurrent with SOWK 465.
4. Must be taken in same semester.
5. GERO focus students must take IPE 313-002 for two credit hours for capstone credit.