

Proposal to Revise the Master's in Family and Consumer Science Graduate Program

The Graduate Faculty in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences seek to revise the program with the addition of one required core course (FCS 5901). Currently, there are two required courses (FCS 5460 and FCS 5900) and a choice of two courses (FCS 5450 or FCS 5470) for a third requirement. FCS proposes to make FCS 5901 a required course and to make FCS 5450 or FCS 5470 electives, rather than choices for a third required core course. This will not change the number of required hours.

Rationale for change:

- (1) MS in FCS graduate students are deficient in their ability to apply statistical concepts and calculate basic statistics. This affects their ability to understand the research process, evaluate research articles and reports, develop and justify appropriate statistical techniques for research questions/hypotheses and evaluations, and summarize descriptive statistical data.
- (2) In 2008, the School of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) implemented a thesis, independent study, or internship component to the graduate program. With this requirement comes an anticipation of a rise in the number of theses produced in FCS. Currently, faculty advisors have to teach thesis advisees basic statistics independently as statistics courses are not required for the MS in FCS.
- (3) The proposed statistics course will provide all MS in FCS graduate students with a sophisticated comprehension of the research process, help them to read and evaluate empirical articles, assist them in the assessment of research and program reports, provide them with a stronger consumer foundation, and will facilitate critical and analytic thinking skills.

**Effective Fall 2010**

Approved by the FCS Curriculum Committee: April 27, 2009

Approved by the LCBAS Curriculum Committee: September 14, 2009

## Current catalog copy:

M.S. in Family and Consumer Sciences Requirements

\*30 semester hours with thesis or 32 semester hours without thesis

\*FCS Core Courses (9 semester hours)

FCS 5460 Issues and Trends (3); and

FCS 5900 Research Methods in Family and Consumer Sciences (3); and

FCS 5450 Administration and Supervision in Family and Consumer Sciences (3), or

FCS 5470 Evaluation in Family and Consumer Sciences (3)

\*Electives approved by student's graduate committee (21-23)

**Effective for program admissions for Fall 2008:** Students are required to choose one or more of the following options to include in their program for a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 semester hours: internship (FCS 5980), thesis (FCS 5950) or complete an approved independent study (FCS 5990). Either the comprehensive exam or thesis is required as the Certificate of Comprehensive Knowledge. Programs of study are completed in consultation with a graduate advisor and program committee and require a presentation component as determined by the program committee in graduate internship, independent study or thesis.

Suggested Electives (courses listed are in Family and Consumer Sciences; see listed above courses also)

4752 Focus on Diabetes (1)

4753 Nutrition and the Addicted Person (1)

4755 Nutrition for Physical Performance (3)

4770 Consumer Decisions in the Marketplace (3)

4820 Death and Dying (3)

4840 The Disadvantaged Family (3)

4845 The Family in Crisis (3)

4846 Aging in the Family (3)

4851 Infant Development (3)

4854 Parent-Child Study and Community Involvement (3)

4859 Administration of Child Care Programs (3)

4860 Addictions and the Family (3)

4926 Public Presentation Techniques (3)

5045 Textile Simulations (3)

5151 Nutrition for Older People (1)

5153 Nutrition in the Life Cycle (3)

5155 Teaching and Marketing Nutrition (3)

5230 Special Topics in Family and Consumer Sciences (1-3)

5235 International Special Topics in Family and Consumer Sciences (1-3)

5238 Seminar in Family and Consumer Sciences (3)

5300 Critical Issues in Consumer Affairs (3)

5301 Consumer and Management Problems of Older People (3)

5302 Family Budgeting and Debt Management (3)

5750 Special Problems in Gerontology (1)

5846 Administration of Human Services Programs (3)

5850 Readings in Human Development and Family Life (3)

5852 Adolescence and the Family (3)

5854 Family and Professional Group Processes (3)

5950 Thesis (3-6)

5980 Internship (3-6)

5990 Independent Study (1-6)

## Proposed revised catalog copy:

M.S. in Family and Consumer Sciences Requirements

\*30 semester hours with thesis or 32 semester hours without thesis

\*FCS Core Courses (9 semester hours)

FCS 5900 Research Methods in Family and Consumer Sciences (3); and  
**FCS 5901 Statistical Analysis in Family and Consumer Sciences (3);** and  
FCS 5460 Issues and Trends (3)

\*Electives approved by student's graduate committee (21-23)

**Effective for program admissions for Fall 2008:** Students are required to choose one or more of the following options to include in their program for a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 semester hours: internship (FCS 5980), thesis (FCS 5950) or complete an approved independent study (FCS 5990). Either the comprehensive exam or thesis is required as the Certificate of Comprehensive Knowledge. Programs of study are completed in consultation with a graduate advisor and program committee and require a presentation component as determined by the program committee in graduate internship, independent study or thesis.

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5302 Family Budgeting and Debt Management (3)  
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**5470 Evaluation in Family and Consumer Sciences (3)**  
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5850 Readings in Human Development and Family Life (3)  
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