



Twin Cities Campus

Family Social Science M.A.

Family Social Science

College of Education and Human Development

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

Contact Information:

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Website: <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/fsos/>

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2019
- Length of program in credits: 30 to 32
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Master of Arts

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

Family Social Science offers a unique program of study using the insights and methods of the social sciences to examine how families work within various contexts and cultures.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.00.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

Three overall criteria guide admissions decisions: 1) evidence of strong academic preparation and the ability and desire to perform graduate level scholarship, including research; 2) fit of the applicant's professional goals with family social science (FSoS) faculty scholarship and with the overall FSoS mission, that is, enhancing the well-being of diverse families in a changing world; and 3) unique contributions applicant would make to FSoS values, including social relevance, collaboration, inclusiveness, excellence, innovation, and diversity.

Special Application Requirements:

For more information about application requirements and procedures, consult the Family Social Science web page at <http://www.cehd.umn.edu/fsos/>.

Applicants for the master's program are reviewed only once per year. The application deadline is March 1 for admission for the following fall semester.

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
 - Internet Based - Total Score: 79
 - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
 - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
 - Paper Based - Total Score: 550
- IELTS
 - Total Score: 6.5
- MELAB
 - Final score: 80

Key to [test abbreviations](#)(TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.



Program Requirements

Plan A: Plan A requires 14 to 19 major credits, 3 to 6 credits outside the major, and 10 thesis credits. The final exam is oral.

Plan B: Plan B requires 19 to 23 major credits and 3 to 7 credits outside the major. The final exam is oral. A capstone project is required.

Capstone Project: Students must demonstrate familiarity with the tools of research or scholarship in the field of family social science or prevention science, the ability to work independently, and the ability to present the results of their investigation effectively, by completing at least one Plan B project.

The project should involve a combined total of approximately 120 hours (the equivalent of three full-time weeks) of work. The graduate faculty specifies both the nature and extent of the options available to satisfy this requirement, and whether the requirement is to be satisfied in conjunction with, or independent of, the courses in the student's program.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A minimum GPA of 3.50 is required for students to remain in good standing.

The MA program is offered under Plan A and Plan B. The Plan A master's is recommended for students who intend to pursue a PhD degree. The Plan B master's is for students who wish to further their education so that they may hold positions of responsibility serving families. Although the instruction is based on research, the Plan B degree is not intended to provide intensive research training. The Plan B program is understood to be a terminal degree and is not recommended for students who intend to pursue the PhD degree. Consult the department for the most current information.

Plan A

Plan A requires at least 30 credits, including at least 20 course credits, of which 6 credits are outside the department in a related field, and 10 thesis credits.

[FSOS 5014](#) - Quantitative Family Research Methods I (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5015](#) - Family Research Laboratory (1.0 cr)

[FSOS 8001](#) - Conceptual Frameworks in the Family (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 8013](#) - Qualitative Family Research Methods (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 8200](#) - Orientation for Family Social Science (1.0 cr)

FSOS Elective

One FSOS course (3.0 cr)

or One PREV course (3.0 cr)

Statistical Methods

[EPSY 8251](#) - Statistical Methods in Education I (3.0 cr)

[EPSY 8252](#) - Statistical Methods in Education II (3.0 cr)

Thesis Credits

Take 10 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [FSOS 8777](#) - Thesis Credits: Master's (1.0 - 18.0 cr)

Plan B

Plan B requires at least 30 credits, including at least 26 course credits, of which 3 credits are outside the department in a related field, and at least 4 credits for a Plan B project.

[FSOS 8001](#) - Conceptual Frameworks in the Family (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 8200](#) - Orientation for Family Social Science (1.0 cr)

One of the following research methods course(s).

[FSOS 5014](#) - Quantitative Family Research Methods I (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5015](#) - Family Research Laboratory (1.0 cr)

or [FSOS 8013](#) - Qualitative Family Research Methods (3.0 cr)

or Evaluation research methods course (3.0 cr)

Electives

FSOS/PREV courses (12-13 cr)

FSOS Elective

or PREV Elective

Statistical Methods

[EPSY 8251](#) - Statistical Methods in Education I (3.0 cr)

[EPSY 8252](#) - Statistical Methods in Education II (3.0 cr)

or [EPSY 5244](#) - Survey Design, Sampling, and Implementation (3.0 cr)

or One course outside FSOS (3.0 cr)



Family Science Plan B Project

Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 4 credit(s) from the following:

Program Sub-plans

A sub-plan is not required for this program.

Students may not complete the program with more than one sub-plan.

Prevention Science

This sub-plan is limited to students completing the program under Plan A or Plan B.

Understanding & Using What Works:

How can communities support families that have experienced trauma? What are the root causes of addictive behavior? And what strategies work best to promote the wellbeing of children and families?

Prevention Science equips students, scholars, and professionals across a range of fields to answer these questions and confront many of the daunting challenges facing today's families and communities. The Master's in Prevention Science is grounded in the belief that our greatest hope for improving the lives of children and families is comprehensive, multi-disciplinary training and education that bridges research and practice.

The Prevention Science Plan A requires at least 32 credits, including at least 22 course credits of which 3 credits are outside the department in a related field, and 10 thesis credits.

Plan A

[FSOS 5014](#) - Quantitative Family Research Methods I (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5015](#) - Family Research Laboratory (1.0 cr)

[FSOS 8001](#) - Conceptual Frameworks in the Family (3.0 cr)

[EPSY 8251](#) - Statistical Methods in Education I (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5701](#) - Prevention Science: Principles and Practices (3.0 cr)

or [PREV 8001](#) - Prevention Science: Principles and Practices (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5702](#) - Prevention Science Research Methodology (3.0 cr)

or [PREV 8002](#) - Prevention Science Research Methodology (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5703](#) - New Topics in Prevention: Implementation and Dissemination (3.0 cr)

or [PREV 8003](#) - New Topics in Prevention: Implementation and Dissemination (3.0 cr)

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling exactly 3 credit(s) from the following:

• [FSOS 8193](#) - Directed Study in Family Social Science (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

Thesis Credits

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling exactly 10 credit(s) from the following:

• [FSOS 8777](#) - Thesis Credits: Master's (1.0 - 18.0 cr)

Plan B

[FSOS 5014](#) - Quantitative Family Research Methods I (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5015](#) - Family Research Laboratory (1.0 cr)

[FSOS 8001](#) - Conceptual Frameworks in the Family (3.0 cr)

[EPSY 8251](#) - Statistical Methods in Education I (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5701](#) - Prevention Science: Principles and Practices (3.0 cr)

or [PREV 8001](#) - Prevention Science: Principles and Practices (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5702](#) - Prevention Science Research Methodology (3.0 cr)

or [PREV 8002](#) - Prevention Science Research Methodology (3.0 cr)

[FSOS 5703](#) - New Topics in Prevention: Implementation and Dissemination (3.0 cr)

or [PREV 8003](#) - New Topics in Prevention: Implementation and Dissemination (3.0 cr)

Independent Study in Prevention Science

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling exactly 3 credit(s) from the following:

• [FSOS 8193](#) - Directed Study in Family Social Science (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

Electives

Four additional credits of elective courses from student's area of concentration.

Plan B Project

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling exactly 4 credit(s) from the following:

• [FSOS 8755](#) - Master's Paper: Plan B Project (1.0 - 6.0 cr)