

Child Development

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Child development is an interdisciplinary science with roots in disciplines as varied as psychology, sociology, anthropology, and biology. Child development is the systematic study of the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional changes that children experience from conception through adolescence. Child growth and development are examined within the contexts of the dynamic systems in which they occur, such as the family, schools, community, and culture. Child development is grounded in empirical inquiry and has a rich theoretical tradition. At the same time, it is an applied field. The knowledge gained through study, observation, and experimentation is applied to real world problems in order to improve the quality of life for children.

Child development laboratory facilities serving infants, toddlers, and preschool children are maintained for instructional purposes. Students study child behavior and development under the supervision of faculty and laboratory teaching staff. Additionally, faculty and students conduct research in a child and family science laboratory.

The Child, Family, and Consumer Sciences Department offers two choices within the Bachelor of Science in Child Development that are tailored to a wide range of career options. The Child Development Practitioner Option is currently suspended. The following options are available:

B.S. in Child Development

The Bachelor of Science in Child Development provides breadth and depth in the child and family sciences with emphasis on child growth and development. It is an excellent foundational degree for individuals who wish to pursue careers or graduate studies in social services, education, child and family health, family law, counseling, or college teaching. It is also a degree that provides excellent preparation to those who have, or will have, families.

B.S. Child Development, Pre-Credential Option (PCO)

The Pre-Credential Option prepares prospective teachers for the challenges presented in contemporary elementary school classrooms. It includes in-depth coursework in child development and family science that prepares teachers to understand and work effectively with children and parents. In addition, the option includes interdisciplinary coursework that addresses requirements specified in the California State Standards. The coursework is aimed at developing competency in working with culturally and linguistically diverse populations characteristic of California schools and other diverse regions of the country. Emphasis is placed on practical application and pedagogy. This option provides an alternative degree path for students wishing to pursue the Multiple Subject Teaching Credential postbaccalaureate.

Currently Suspended

B.S. Child Development, Child Development Practitioner (CDP) Option

The Child Development Practitioner Option is an accelerated, year-round program designed to address the career objectives and academic goals of full-time working professionals in the early care and education field. Its goals are to cultivate professionals who (1) contribute to, and foster, best practice, (2) engage in, and promote, reflective practice, collaboration, and lifelong learning, (3) cultivate a professional culture that thrives on inquiry and dialogue, and (4) provide leadership in the early care and education field. This option has limited enrollment. Students interested in this option must meet eligibility requirements and complete an application process in order to be considered for admission.

Faculty

Kathie Reid, *Chair*
Kabeljit Atwal
Lizhu Davis
Kathleen Dyer
Amber Hammons
Alma Major
Jessica McKenzie
Aimee Rickman

Staff

Cheryl Jackson, *Administrative Support Coordinator*
Andrea Magdaleno, *Administrative Support Assistant*

California State
University, Fresno

Department of
Child, Family and
Consumer Sciences

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B.S. in Child
Development

FRESNO STATE

Discovery. Diversity. Distinction.

Child Development

Child Development Careers

A degree in Child Development provides an excellent foundation for a multitude of careers in which children and families are the focus. It is also excellent preparation for graduate study.

Teaching*

- Early childhood
- Elementary, middle, or secondary school
- College teaching
- Adult education

*Credentials or graduate work required for some levels

Health and Human Services**

- Child care resource and referral
- County health and human services (e.g., foster care, child protective services)
- Faith-based organizations that service children and families (e.g., tutoring, camps)
- Community-based health and human services (e.g., Planned Parenthood, WIC)
- Law Enforcement (victims' services)
- Hospitals (e.g., child life specialist)
- Child and Family Advocacy Agencies and Groups
- Creative Arts and Media Enterprises
- Sales and marketing of children's products
- Counseling

**Credentials or graduate work required for some positions/careers.

Child Development Course Requirements

Bachelor of Science in Child Development

The major consists of 48 units: 33 units in core courses and 15 units of electives. Core courses include CFS 37 or CFS 145A, CFS 39, 131, 133S, 134, 135, 140, COUN 150, PSYCH 153; a choice of either CFS 136 or 137 or 146 and a choice of either CFS 139 or 145B or 193.

Electives are chosen from a list of approved courses in consultation with their advisers. Students may customize their electives to suit their career goals.

Note: Completion of the victim services cluster may lead to the Certificate in Victim Services. See Criminology Department adviser for approval.

General Education requirements..... 51 units

Electives and remaining degree requirements 21 units
(see Degree Requirements in the *General Catalog*); may be used toward a minor

Total 120 units

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Pre-Credential Option

This option consists of 51 units. It includes CFS 39 or PSYCH 101; CFS 133S, 134, 135, 140, 141, 143, 145A, 145B, 146; PSYCH 153; AFRS 104W; LING 132, 146, 165; COMM 114 or 164; LEE 120CL

General Education requirements..... 51 units

The following G.E. courses are strongly recommended as preparation for the CSET Exam: Area BI: NSCI 1A; Area B4: MATH 10A; Area C2: LING 10 or HIST 20; Area D1: HIST 11; Area D3: GEOG 4; Area E: CFS 38; Area IB: NSCI 115; Area IC: IAS 108; Area ID: SSCI 110; Area MI: SSCI 180

Other electives 18 units

(See adviser for recommended courses in preparation for the CSET Exam.)

Total 120 units

For additional information, write

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California State University, Fresno**

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PLEASE NOTE: This document is for general informational purposes only. The information is subject to change; consult the appropriate department or an academic adviser. Entering freshmen must follow the revised General Education program effective fall 1999 and thereafter. The university catalog and schedule of courses are available online at www.fresnostate.edu/ClassSchedule and www.fresnostate.edu/catalog.

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