Human Development and Family Science  
**MAJOR MAP**  
B.S. or B.A.

### Navigate Coursework
- **1ST YEAR**
  - Start introductory HDFS coursework designed to introduce you to the major and establish fundamental competencies in the field of HDFS. Pair with relevant GE courses. [Link to Bulletin]

- **2ND YEAR**
  - Continue with introductory HDFS coursework (maintain C or better). Complete remaining GE requirements. Select a minor and start coursework. Consider the CFLE or accelerated Masters program. [Link to Bulletin]

- **3RD YEAR**
  - Develop professional specialization through 300- and 400-level coursework in your major. Take additional coursework for your minor. Request Degree Audit. [Link to Bulletin]

- **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
  - Select relevant electives to complete major and minor requirements. Complete Capstone over two semesters (HDFS 496: Field Experience). Apply for graduation. [Link to Bulletin]

### Develop Skills Through Experience
- **1ST YEAR**
  - Explore careers associated with HDFS.
  - Identify and begin to develop key skills needed in HDFS (such as time management, organization, and problem-solving).

- **2ND YEAR**
  - Consider volunteering or getting a job to expand HDFS-related experience.
  - Explore student research opportunities. Consider completing a thesis in lieu of field experience.

- **3RD YEAR**
  - Consider pursuing a leadership position in a student club or organization.
  - Learn professional etiquette and how to write proper resume, cover letter, and thank you note.

- **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
  - Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest.
  - Assess experiences you are lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships.

### Seek Out Connections
- **1ST YEAR**
  - Consider volunteering with a community organization related to HDFS.
  - Explore student organizations to join. See [NDSU Clubs Directory](#) for ideas.

- **2ND YEAR**
  - Attend career fairs and non-profit fairs to connect with potential future employers.
  - Join a targeted professional association/organization.

- **3RD YEAR**
  - Do some targeted networking with professionals (i.e., alumni) working in careers of interest.
  - Attend regional or national conference affiliated with professional association in HDFS.

- **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
  - Network with HDFS professionals in the fall. Follow professional organizations on Social Media.
  - Visit the Career Center and prepare for career fairs. Attend practice interview and networking events.

### Understand Broader Perspectives
- **1ST YEAR**
  - Explore self, including personality, strengths, interests, and skills (through HDE 189).
  - Consider a study abroad experience while at NDSU.

- **2ND YEAR**
  - Volunteer with a community organization that helps others in need.
  - Consider local options for engaging with diverse cultures.

- **3RD YEAR**
  - Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with diverse cultures.
  - Study or intern abroad, if relevant.

- **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
  - Pursue position types that fit your career goals and relevant skills.
  - Apply your knowledge to prepare for working with diverse children, adults, and families.

### Consider an HDFS-Related Summer Job or Experience
- **1ST YEAR**
  - Explore student organizations to join. See [NDSU Clubs Directory](#) for ideas.

- **2ND YEAR**
  - Attend career fairs and non-profit fairs to connect with potential future employers.
  - Join a targeted professional association/organization.

- **3RD YEAR**
  - Do some targeted networking with professionals (i.e., alumni) working in careers of interest.
  - Attend regional or national conference affiliated with professional association in HDFS.

- **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
  - Network with HDFS professionals in the fall. Follow professional organizations on Social Media.
  - Visit the Career Center and prepare for career fairs. Attend practice interview and networking events.

### Go! Build Your Future
- **1ST YEAR**
  - Struggling with career or program decisions? Attend Welcome Week, visit with Academic Advising, visit the Career Center, and attend Career Fairs during the year.

- **2ND YEAR**
  - Create a LinkedIn profile, build LinkedIn connections, develop 1D-15 second elevator pitch on who you are, conduct career search, and build connections with potential references.

- **3RD YEAR**
  - Begin to streamline your career focus area. Research education and experience requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take GRE.

- **4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
  - Solidify post-graduation plan and apply for jobs, graduate school, or additional training. Get help from the Career Center with job searching, resumes, letters, interviews, grad school apps, etc.

### Where could I go after graduation?
- Extension Agent / Community Outreach
- Community and Human Services
- Research / Program Evaluation
- Family Life Education
- Family Therapy / Counseling*
- Parent Education / Support
- Financial Counseling / Planning*
- Non-profit Agency Director
- Consultant in Human Development
- Child or Elder Advocate
- Program Director for Long-term Care facility
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Business Professional
- Developmental Disabilities Support Professional
- College Instructor*
- Occupational Therapist*
- Child Life Specialist*

*Some careers may require additional training

Last Updated: 3/21/18