Family Studies

R. Ann Myers, Minor Adviser

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Website: http://www.jmu.edu/cisat/minors/family_issues.html

The cross disciplinary 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. A substantial knowledge of family-related issues, family processes, policies, laws, services and the interrelationship of families and societies will enhance majors in many fields including anthropology, early and middle education, health sciences, management, nursing, psychology, social work and sociology. The minor encourages students to make connections between their major field and family studies, thereby adding value to the major.

The family studies minor requires a minimum of 18 credit hours with no more than six credit hours in the student’s major. One introductory course is required: either FAM 133 or SOCI 276. One course must be selected from each of these areas: Families in society, family and intimate relationships, and human development in the family. An additional course must be selected from any of the three areas or from family studies electives. A capstone course, FAM 400, is also required. At least four courses in the minor, including the introductory course, must have been completed prior to enrolling in FAM 400.

Required Courses

Introductory course (choose one of the following): 3
- FAM 133. Contemporary Family
- SOCI 276. Sociology of the Family

Families in Society (choose one of the following): 3
- ECON 306. Economics of Women and the Family
- GERN/SOCI 280. Social Gerontology
- HIST 466. The Family 1400-1800
- SOCI 303. Sociology of Death and Dying
- SOCI 337. Sociology of Gender
- SOWK 338. Issues and Policies in Family Services
- SOWK 342. Child Welfare Services

Family and Intimate Relationships (choose one of the following): 3
- FAM 330. Family Relations
- HTH 372. Human Sexuality
- PSYC 275. Psychology of Human Intimacy
- PSYC 450. Psychology of Child Abuse and Neglect
- SOWK 340. Violence in Families

Human Development in the Family (choose one of the following): 3
- FAM 300. Child Development
- FAM 335. Parent-Child Relationships Across the Lifespan
- PSYC 304. Death and Dying: Thanatology
- PSYC 355. Developmental Psychology
- PSYC 470. Psychology of the Young Adult
- PSYC 475. Psychology of Adulthood
- SOWK 387. Working with Teenagers

Senior Seminar Capstone Course 3
ENVT 400. Capstone Seminar

Film Studies

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The minor in film studies is designed for students who wish to extend their critical understanding of visual communication and narrative form by studying how movies tell stories, convey information and influence audiences. Because the program is cross disciplinary, it examines films as both art and entertainment, bringing together the literary traditions of English and the communication perspectives of media arts and design. Together, the aim is to explore cinema’s pictorial “language,” investigate its commercial consequences and evaluate its impact across cultures as a medium for enacting the human story.

A total of six credit hours may be double-counted between the minor and major. More information is available from the film studies adviser of the School of Media Arts and Design or the Department of English.

Required Courses

- ENG 301. An Introduction to Film to 1960 3
- SMAD 460. Movies and Society 3

Select no fewer than four courses from the following: 12
- ENG 302. Special Topics (when topic is film)
- ENG 382. An Introduction to Film Since 1960
- ENG 383. Major Film Genres
- ENG 384. Major Film Directors
- ENG 412. Special Topic Seminars (when topic is film)
- SMAD 371. Narrative Media Studies
- SMAD 461. Movies as Art
- SMAD 462. Documentary in Film and Television
- SMAD 463. Film Adaptations
- SMAD 498. Senior Seminar (when topic is film)

Gerontology

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The cross disciplinary minor in gerontology is designed for any undergraduate major desiring a concentration of study in gerontology for personal understanding or career preparation.

Required Courses

- GERN/SOCI 280. Social Gerontology
- GERN 305. Programs and Services for the Elderly
- GERN 400. Skills and Techniques
- GERN 495. Field Experience/Seminar
- GERN 496. Field Experience/Seminar

Select no fewer than four courses from the following: 18
- GERN 400. Skills and Techniques
- GERN 495. Field Experience/Seminar
- SMAD 460. Movies and Society
- SMAD 462. Documentary in Film and Television
- SMAD 463. Film Adaptations
- SMAD 498. Senior Seminar

1 Course has one or more prerequisites.
2 Minimum of 15 credit hours; only two courses with the same course subject may be taken.
3 Minimum of three credit hours; can be double-counted with GenEd credits.
4 May not also take PSYC 304 in the minor.
5 May not also take SOCI 303 in the minor.
6 May not also take PSYC 385 in the minor.
7 May not also take FAM 300 in the minor.
8 May not also take PSYC 450 in the minor.
9 May not also take SOWK 340 in the minor.
10 May not also take PSYC 470 in the minor.
11 May not also take PSYC 475 in the minor.
12 May not also take SOWK 387 in the minor.
13 May not also take PSYC 335 in the minor.
14 May not also take SOWK 338 in the minor.
15 May not also take PSYC 304 in the minor.
16 May not also take PSYC 355 in the minor.
17 May not also take PSYC 375 in the minor.
18 May not also take PSYC 385 in the minor.