Mission

The mission of Family Studies and Interior Design is to enable families, both as individual units and generally as a social institution to build and maintain systems of action which lead

1. to maturing in individual self formation,
2. to encourage enlightened, cooperative participation in the critique and formation of social goals and means of accomplishing them; and
3. to enable individuals to be critically aware of consumer resources and their management as well as to develop the competence to base actions upon rational, responsible decisions.

(The Department's mission statement is adopted in part from the Mission Statement of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.)

Department Objectives

• Family Studies: To present opportunities to identify universal principles governing development in the family, encounter and analyze a variety of theories, and study the complex but integrated life-styles and family structures which evolve over the life span.
• The Interior Design program provides a comprehensive preparation for design problem solving. The program utilizes innovative teaching and experiential learning opportunities to foster a global perspective for design problem solving. The program utilizes innovative teaching and experiential learning opportunities to foster a global perspective and equip students as innovators of design in future environments.

The Interior Design program is accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation.

The Family Studies program is certified by the National Council on Family Relations.

(Students fulfilling the NCFR Curriculum requirements may apply for the Provisional Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) designation.)

Department Policy

All students completing a major or minor in the department will be required to earn a "C" or better grade in all FAMS courses in the major or minor.

College of Business and Technology Graduation Requirements

All students graduating with a degree from the College of Business and Technology must take at least 50% of their major area credit hour requirements from the College of Business and Technology at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

All students graduating with a degree from the College of Business and Technology must take a minimum of 30 of their last 36 credit hours of credit needed for their degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

All students graduating with a degree from the College of Business and Technology are required to complete 3 credit hours of designated Experiential Learning (EL) coursework.

Family Studies and Interior Design Major

Three options are available in this major:

1. Interior and Product Design Comprehensive (http://catalog.unk.edu/undergraduate/departments-programs/family-studies-interior-design/interior-product-design-comprehensive-bs) - Bachelor of Science Degree
2. Family Studies (http://catalog.unk.edu/undergraduate/departments-programs/family-studies-interior-design/family-studies-bs) - Bachelor of Science Degree
3. Early Childhood and Family Advocacy Comprehensive (http://catalog.unk.edu/undergraduate/departments-programs/family-studies-interior-design/early-childhood-family-advocacy-comprehensive-bs) - Bachelor of Science Degree


Sylvia Asay (http://aaunk.unk.edu/catalogs/current/fac/facultya.asp#asaysy), Chair

Professor: Sylvia Asay, Tami Moore, Jeanne Stolzer
Associate Professor: Toni Hill
Assistant Professor: Rebecca Hermance, Michael Langlais, Sharon Obasi, Dana Vaux

Senior Lecturer: Peggy Johnston
Lecturer: Theodore Larsen, Jeff Nordhues

Family Studies and Interior Design (FSID)

FAMS 110 – Introduction to Nutrition 3 credit hours
Scientific basis of nutrition, nutrients and their functions, sources of deficiency diseases requirements and basic interrelationships of nutrients. Nutrition throughout the life cycle.

FAMS 150 – Lifespan Development and the Family 3 credit hours
This course is designed to facilitate an initial, critical understanding of human development. Various aspects, themes, and influences of development are examined across the lifespan, with particular emphasis placed on the familial, cultural, cognitive, theoretical and physical aspects of the ever developing human.

FAMS 151 – Human Sexual Behavior 3 credit hours
A course designed to help the individual to understand himself as a whole person so that he relates to others in a healthy, constructive and meaningful manner. Evaluation of one's own values in relation to life-style and the value structure of society.

FAMS 160 – Personal Money Management 3 credit hours
Fundamentals of personal finance: budgeting, banking, life insurance, accident, health, and casualty insurance, investments, taxes, and social security.
The Study of social policy and its impact on families.

FAMS 362 – Families and Social Policy 3 credit hours
Insight and a sensitive awareness about the feelings and meanings of a course designed to help the individual develop some very personal taking this course.

It is recommended that students take FSID 302: Parent Education before practicing concepts related to parenting and parent education.

This course is designed to give students a base upon which to work with parents and to further develop parent education skills by applying and parent education materials and facilitating parent education programs.

FAMS 280 – Field Experience: Diversity in the Profession 2 credit hours
The experience provides the student with an introduction to the diverse work world of Family Studies. It is designed to help the student to focus on a particular area in career preparation.

FAMS 302 – Parent Education 3 credit hours
The purpose of this course is to give students and understanding of parenting and the parent-child relationship from a theoretically-guided and research based perspective. Students also will gain a better understanding of the basic principles relating to the process of creating parent education materials and facilitating parent education programs. This course is designed to give students a base upon which to work with parents and to further develop parent education skills by applying and practicing concepts related to parenting and parent education.

FAMS 340 – Family Life Education 3 credit hours
The purpose of this course is to give students an understanding of the general philosophy and broad principles of family life education methodology. By the end of the course, students will have the ability to develop, facilitate, locate, and evaluate family life education programs. It is recommended that students take FSID 302: Parent Education before taking this course.

FAMS 351 – Marriage and Family Relationships 3 credit hours
A course designed to help the individual develop some very personal insight and a sensitive awareness about the feelings and meanings of relationships in love, marriage and family relationships.

FAMS 362 – Families and Social Policy 3 credit hours
The Study of social policy and its impact on families.
FAMS 481 – Cross-Cultural Family Patterns  3 credit hours
Comparative research of familial behavior and structural patterns of various cultures. Analysis and evaluation of the impact of differing cultures on societal and family interactions.

FAMS 486 – Families in Crisis  3 credit hours
This course enables Family Studies and other service and social support-oriented students to understand the trauma and recovery process associated with normative and catastrophic family crisis.
Prerequisite: FAMS 351 and junior standing or permission or permission of instructor

FAMS 490 – Special Problems in FAMS  3 credit hours
For Family Studies professionals who wish to update their understanding of accepted educational procedures and practices.

FAMS 492 – Advanced Developmental Theories  3 credit hours
Seminal as well as current developmental theories will be examined in depth. Particular emphasis will be placed on the most influential theories and their relevance to infant, child, and adolescent development. Prior completion of FAMS 150, 250 and 253 is highly recommended.
Prerequisite: Senior standing

FAMS 495 – Special Problems in Nutrition  3 credit hours
The study of nutrition issues/challenges facing our nation and world today, with a focus on controversial topics and the research supporting both sides of each argument.
Prerequisite: FAMS 110