

# FINANCIAL COUNSELING AND PLANNING

Administered by the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. Leading to the degree Bachelor of Science.

The **Financial Counseling and Planning** curriculum prepares students for careers in family financial services. Financial Counseling and Planning is a growing career field and appeals to students who want to work with individuals and families to help them meet their financial goals and improve their financial capability to better meet financial challenges. Coursework provides students with the family resource management and interpersonal skills needed to help families remain financially secure. Based on individual specific career goals, students may select courses that lead to fulfilling the education requirements for the leading designations and certifications in financial counseling and planning. Graduates of the program are prepared for employment in personal banking, financial services, insurance, financial counseling and planning, and human service organizations. Laboratory and practicum opportunities exist in the Iowa State University Financial Counseling Clinic and with industry partners. A field experience encourages students to apply their studies and to experience the profession in real-world settings.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Financial Counseling and Planning graduates are prepared to:

1. Help individuals and families make personal finance decisions using time value of money calculations.
2. Deliver professional, competent, and ethical financial counseling and planning services to clients.
3. Apply principles of client psychology within consumer and financial decision making.
4. Measure individual and family financial health and use these measures to create a comprehensive personal financial plan.
5. Attain the leading designations in financial counseling and planning. Upon graduation students have completed the educational requirements for the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and Accredited Financial Counselor® designations.

## Total credits required: 120

### Financial Counseling and Planning core (AFC & CFP exam ready): 39 credits

HDFS 1020	Human Development	3
	or PSYCH 2300 Developmental Psychology	
HDFS 2390	Consumer Issues	3
HDFS 2700	Family Communications and Relationships	3
HDFS 2830	Personal and Family Finance	3

HDFS 3170G	Field Experiences: Family Finance Programs	1-6
HDFS 3410	Income Tax Planning for Families	3
HDFS 3780	Retirement Planning and Employee Benefits	3
HDFS 3830	Fundamentals of Financial Planning	3
HDFS 3840	Family Insurance Planning	3
	or FIN 3610 Personal Risk Management and Insurance	
HDFS 4820	Family Savings and Investments	3
	or FIN 3200 Investments	
HDFS 4840	Estate Planning for Families	3
HDFS 4850	Capstone: Family Financial Planning	3
HDFS 4890	Financial Counseling	2
HDFS 4890L	Financial Counseling Laboratory	1
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>37-42</b>

## Communications and Library: 13 credits

ENGL 1500	Critical Thinking and Communication	3
ENGL 2500	Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition	3
LIB 1600	Introduction to College Level Research	1
One of the following:		3
	SPCM 2120 Fundamentals of Public Speaking	
	COMST 2110 Interpersonal Communication	
	COMST 2180 Conflict Management	
One of the following:		3
	AGEDS 3270 Survey of Agriculture and Life Sciences Communication	
	ENGL 3020 Business Communication	
	ENGL 3090 Proposal and Report Writing	
	ENGL 3140 Technical Communication	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>13</b>

## Natural Sciences and Mathematical Disciplines: 10 credits

ACCT 2840	Financial Accounting	3
COMS 1130	Introduction to Spreadsheets and Databases	3
	or Computer Science course	3
STAT 1010	Principles of Statistics	4
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>13</b>

## Social Sciences: 9 credits

ECON 1010	Principles of Microeconomics	3
SOC 1340	Introduction to Sociology	3
	or PSYCH 2800 Social Psychology	

Social Science course from approved general education options 3

**Total Credits 9**

### Humanities: 6 credits

Humanities course from approved general education options 6

### HD FS orientation: 1 credit

HDFS 1100 Freshman Learning Community Orientation 1  
or HDFS 1110 New Transfer Student Seminar

**Total Credits 1**

### Electives: 42 credits as needed to equal 120 total credits

Recommended HDFS Electives (part of total electives).

HDFS 2340	Adult Development	3
HDFS 2490	Parenting and Family Diversity Issues	3
HDFS 3600	Housing and Services for Families and Children	3
HDFS 3690	Research Methods in Human Development and Family Studies	3
HDFS 3770	Aging and the Family	3
HDFS 3950	Children, Families, and Public Policy	3
HDFS 4490	Program Evaluation and Proposal Writing	3
HDFS 4790	Family Dynamics Through a Social and Cultural Lens	3
HDFS 4910	Internship	4

Other recommended electives include courses from accounting, community and regional planning, economics, finance, gerontology, human development and family studies, journalism, management, marketing, political science, psychology, and sociology.

### Total credits: 120 credits

U.S. Cultures and Communities (formerly U.S. Diversity) and International Perspectives Requirement: Students fulfill the U.S. Cultures and Communities (formerly U.S. Diversity) and International Perspectives Requirement by choosing three credits of coursework from each of the university-approved lists.

## The courses listed in this section are approved general education course options for this major.

**Natural Sciences and Mathematics:** 9 credits total (3 credits from list below). Coursework designed to facilitate students' understanding of the structure and behavior of the natural world and appreciate mathematics as a valuable tool of the sciences and an intrinsically important way of thinking.

Computer Science (COMS)

Accounting (ACCT)

Mathematics (MATH)

Statistics (STAT)

**Social Sciences:** 9 credits. Coursework designed to help students develop an understanding of the principal methods of studying human behavior and an understanding of the structure and functioning of institutions.

ACCT 2150	Legal Environment of Business	3
AESHM 4210	Developing Global Leadership: Maximizing Human Potential	3
AFAM 3300	Ethnic and Race Relations	3
AMD 1650	Dress, Appearance, and Diversity in U.S. Society	3
AMD 3620	Global Dress in the Fashion System and Society	3
AMD 4670	Consumer Studies in Apparel and Fashion Products	3
AMIN 3100	Contemporary Topics in American Indian Studies	3
AMIN 3150	Archaeology of North America	3
AMIN 3220	Peoples and Cultures of Native North America	3
Anthropology (ANTHR) - except 2020		
Economics (ECON)		
FSHN 3420	World Food Issues: Past and Present	3
INTST 2350	Introduction to International Studies	3
LING 2190	Introduction to Linguistics	3
LING 4710	Language and Reading Development in Children	3
Political Science (POLS)		
Psychology (PSYCH) - except 1310		
Sociology (SOC), including Criminal Justice (CJST)		
WGS 2010	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies	3
WGS 2030	Introduction to Lesbian Communities	3
WGS 3010	International Perspectives on Women and Gender	3
ENVS 3200	Ecofeminism	3
WGS 3270	Gender and Sexualities in Society	3
WGS 3280	Sociology of Masculinities and Manhood	3
WGS 3460	Psychology of Women	3
AFAM 3500	Women of Color in the U.S	3
WGS 3850	Women in Politics	3

**Humanities:** 6 credits. Coursework designed to assist students to develop an understanding of human cultural heritage and history, and an appreciation of reasoning and the aesthetic value of human creativity.

AESHM 3420	Aesthetics of Consumer Experience	3
AFAM 2010	Introduction to African American Studies	3

AFAM 3340	Africana Religions	3
AFAM 3470	African American Literature	3
AFAM 3530	History of African Americans I	3
AFAM 3540	History of African Americans II	3
AMD 3540	Euro-American Dress History: Prehistoric to Mid-19th Century	3
AMD 3560	Euro-American Dress History: Mid-19th Century to the Present	3
AMIN 2100	Introduction to American Indian Studies	3
AMIN 2400	Introduction to American Indian Literature	3
AMIN 3460	American Indian Literature	3
ARCH 2210	Histories and Theories of Architecture to 1750	3
ARCH 4200	Topics in American Architecture	3
Art History (ARTH)		
American Sign Language (ASL)		
Classical Studies (CLST)		
DANCE 2700	Dance Appreciation	3
DANCE 3600	History and Philosophy of Dance	3
DSNS 1830	Design in Context	3
ENGL 2010	Introduction to Literature	3
ENGL 2250	Survey of British Literature to 1800	3
ENGL 2260	Survey of British Literature since 1800	3
ENGL 2270	Survey of American Literature to 1865	3
ENGL 2280	Survey of American Literature since 1865	3
ENGL 2370	Survey of Film History	3
ENGL 2400	Introduction to American Indian Literature	3
History (HIST)		
HSPM 2600	Global Tourism Management	3
MUSIC 1020	Introduction to Music Listening	3
MUSIC 3020	Masterpieces of Music and Art in Western Culture	3
MUSIC 3040	History of American Rock 'n' Roll	3
MUSIC 3830	History of Music I	3
MUSIC 3840	History of Music II	3
Philosophy (PHIL)		
Religious Studies (RELIG)		
THTRE 1060	Introduction to the Performing Arts	3
THTRE 1100	Theatre and Society	3
THTRE 4650	Theatre History: Ancient to 19th Century	3
THTRE 4660	Theatre History: 19th Century to Present	3
WGS 2010	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies	3
WGS 3360	Religion, Sex and Gender	3
WGS 3380	Feminist Philosophy	3
WGS 3450	Women's Literature	3

WGS 3700F	Studies in English Translation: French Topics on Women and Gender Studies	3
or WGS 3700R	Studies in English Translation: Russian Topics on Women or Feminism	
or WGS 3700S	Studies in English Translation: Hispanic Topics on Women or Feminism	
WGS 3740	Sex, Gender, and Culture in the Ancient Mediterranean World	3
World Languages and Cultures (ARABC, CHIN, FRNCH, GER, GREEK, RUS, SPAN)		

## Financial Counseling and Planning

### Freshman

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMS 1130	3 ENGL 2500	3
ENGL 1500	3 HDFS 1020 or PSYCH 2300	3
HDFS 1100 or 1110	1 HDFS 2830	3
HDFS 2390	3 STAT 1010	4
ECON 1010	3 ACCT 2150, ECON 1020, or INTST 2350 (Or Social Sciences Course)	3
LIB 1600	1	
<b>14</b>		<b>16</b>

### Sophomore

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ACCT 2840	3 HDFS 3830	3
HDFS 2700	3 PHIL 2300, 2350, or RELIG 2050 (Or Humanities Courses)	3
PSYCH 2800 or SOC 1340	3 Electives*	9
SPCM 2120, COMST 2110, or COMST 2180	3	
PHIL 2300, 2350, or RELIG 2050 (Or Humanities Course)	3	
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

### Junior

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ENGL 3020, 3090, 3140, or AGEDS 3270	3 HDFS 3780	3
HDFS 3410	3 HDFS 3840 or FIN 3610	3
Electives*	9 Electives*	9
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

<b>Senior</b>		
<b>Fall</b>	<b>Credits Spring</b>	<b>Credits</b>
HDFS 4820 or FIN 3200	3 HDFS 3170G	1-6
HDFS 4890	2 HDFS 4840	3
HDFS 4890L	1 HDFS 4850	3
Electives*	9 Electives*	6
	<b>15</b>	<b>13-18</b>

at: <https://online.hs.iastate.edu/graduate-degrees/family-financial-planning/>.

\* Electives: Courses from accounting, community and regional planning, economics, family and consumer sciences education, finance, gerontology, human development and family studies, journalism, management, marketing, political science, psychology, and sociology are suggested.

\*\*See Approved General Education options.

Students in Financial Counseling and Planning fulfill the U.S. Cultures and Communities (formerly U.S. Diversity) and International Perspectives Requirement by choosing three credits of coursework from each of the university-approved lists.

This sequence is only an example. The number of credits taken each semester should be based on the individual student's situation. Factors that may affect credit hours per semester include student ability, employment, health, activities, and grade point consideration.

The **Financial Counseling and Planning** minor may be earned by completing 15 credits

HDFS 2830	Personal and Family Finance	3
Twelve credits from the following:		12
HDFS 2390	Consumer Issues	
HDFS 3410	Income Tax Planning for Families	
HDFS 3780	Retirement Planning and Employee Benefits	
HDFS 3830	Fundamentals of Financial Planning	
HDFS 3840	Family Insurance Planning	
HDFS 4820	Family Savings and Investments	
HDFS 4840	Estate Planning for Families	
HDFS 4850	Capstone: Family Financial Planning	
HDFS 4890	Financial Counseling	
HDFS 4890L	Financial Counseling Laboratory	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15</b>

## Graduate Programs

A master's degree in Family and Consumer Sciences (MFCS) with a specialization in Family Financial Planning as well as a Family Financial Planning certificate are available. More information can be found