

Family & Consumer Science

Degree: A.A. - Family & Consumer Science
(see also Nutrition & Foods)

Area: Health & Education
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Family and Consumer Science focuses on consumerism and the relationships and processes involved in the establishment of a strong home and community environment for individuals and families.

Career Opportunities

Students may choose a broad program or select specific courses to prepare themselves for careers as a foods consultant, market consultant, family and consumer science educator, public utility field representative, extension service advisor, consultant in consumer economics or researcher.

Many students complete their studies at a four-year institution, whether in family and consumer science or a related field. If this is your goal, be sure to talk with a counselor in order to prepare an educational plan—particularly if you plan to work toward a teaching credential in family and consumer science or home economics.

By careful selection of required and elective units a student can develop a broad family and consumer science major or specialize in child development, or foods and nutrition.

Additional units may be chosen from other family and consumer science courses, as well as from the college's programs in early childhood education, interior design, hospitality management, or nutrition and foods.

In fact, the diversity of these related offerings is one more reason why students find the ARC program so attractive. The program also offers practical experience in various situations at cooperating establishments in different specialty areas.

Requirements for Degree Major: 21-25 units

Early Childhood Education 312; Family and Consumer Science 302; Fashion 320; Nutrition and Foods 300, 330
choice of one course in Interior Design.

Recommended Electives

Additional units may be chosen from Family and Consumer Science, Early Childhood Education, Interior Design or Hospitality Management or Nutrition and Foods.

General Education Graduation Requirements:

Students must also complete the general education graduation requirements for an A.A. degree. See graduation requirements.

FCS 300 Consumer Power 3 Units

Formerly: FCS 4

Prerequisite: None

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course explores role of the consumer in today's marketplace. It is designed to develop knowledge, techniques, and attitudes necessary to become wise consumers. Information to develop skills for purchasing goods and services is provided. The course includes promotional devices, credit and contracts, complaint procedures and consumer protection.

FCS 302 Life Management 3 Units

Formerly: FCS 3

Prerequisite: None

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

A broad based introductory core class teaching life survival skills including effective functioning in changing family structures and societal pressures in the work place. Major topics include: values identification, goals, skills for decision-making, time, energy and conflict management, and techniques for improving self-understanding and interpersonal relationships.

FCS 314 The Child in the Family and Community (Same as Early Childhood Education 314) 3 Units

Formerly: FCS 35

Prerequisite: None

Advisory: ENGWR 102 or ENGWR 103, and ENGRD 116 or ESLR 320 and ESLW 320, or placement through assessment.

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course will cover the child within the family and within the community. The focus will be on the impact of parenting style, marriage and transitions within the family, culture, school, and media on the child's development. Students will have an opportunity to research and review the diverse community resources available to support the child and the family. Not open to students who have completed ECE 314. AA/AS area C2; CSU area D3

Family and Consumer Science

FCS 496 Teaching Assistant in Family and Consumer Science 1-4 Units

Formerly: FCS 46

Prerequisite: Department interview and appropriate Family and Consumer Science course with a grade of "C" or better.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 9-36 hours LEC; 27-108 hours LAB

This course provides opportunities to develop in-depth understanding of some facet of Family and consumer Science, and to learn to work with individual and small groups of students. The student will work closely with the instructor in classroom activities, audio-visual set-up and the recording of grades. May be taken four times for a maximum of six units.

FCS 498 Work Experience in Family and Consumer Science 1-4 Units

Formerly: FCS 48

Prerequisite: None

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 18 hours LEC; 60-300 hours LAB

This course provides practical experience in various situations for Family and Consumer Science majors. Students work in cooperating establishments in different areas in Family and Consumer Science. Recommended for those needing practical experience before employment. May be taken four times for credit up to a maximum of six units.