Ph.D. program in Applied Developmental Science

Research to promote positive development across the life span

Department of Human Development & Family Studies

Colorado State University
College of Health and Human Sciences
**Applied Developmental Science Ph.D. Program**

The Applied Developmental Science Ph.D. Program at Colorado State University offers graduate training in research and its application to issues that affect the quality of life of individuals, families, and communities. The department of Human Development and Family Studies offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of development across the lifespan.

**Program Highlights:**

- Graduate students receive state-of-the-art training in human development theory and family sciences from a lifespan and ecological perspective, and develop the research skills to conduct both basic and applied research on human development.

- Graduate students are given the opportunity to apply knowledge to real-world issues. Faculty and students are committed to translating research into evidence-based practice and finding solutions to current challenges facing individuals, families, and communities.

- Students benefit from the perspectives of multiple disciplines and an understanding of the social and cultural contexts in which people develop. Collaborative and cross-disciplinary research is strongly valued.

- Students work closely with faculty mentors to pursue programs of research that are tailored to their individual interests and aspirations. Students become productive scholars in their own right and they are supported by our faculty to accomplish this goal. Scholarship is nurtured through intensive mentoring, seminars and colloquia, active research labs, and participation in professional meetings.

- The majority of Ph.D. students are supported by teaching and research assistantships that cover tuition and provide a monthly stipend during the academic year.
Faculty Research Areas

The Applied Developmental Science program is served by 18 full-time graduate faculty members in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. Faculty research interests and expertise encompass the entire lifespan and embrace a range of interests at the intersection of basic and applied research. Students are encouraged to identify potential faculty mentors as part of the application process.

Risk, Resilience, and Developmental Psychopathology

The HDFS department includes several faculty members who pursue research programs related to developmental risk and protective factors, processes related to developmental psychopathology and atypical development, and developmental disabilities.

Treatment, Intervention, and Prevention Science

Many faculty members in the HDFS department at CSU are concerned with translational research, devising effective intervention and treatment strategies that are based on empirical evidence and careful evaluations.

Emotion, Regulation, and Relational Processes

Another area of faculty expertise involves the study of socioemotional processes, including emotional development, attachment, self-regulation, and emotion regulation. Faculty members also focus on relational processes in the context of parenting, family caregiving, and family/school linkages.

Adult Development and Aging

Faculty research also focuses on emerging adulthood and development in midlife and the later part of the lifespan, as well as intergenerational family relationships.

Cultural Context and Diversity

Consistent with HDFS’s basis in ecological theory, many faculty members conduct research on cultural influences, on gender and power dynamics in families, and on other forms of diversity.

Focus on Methodological Rigor

Faculty members have expertise in the application of sophisticated research methods and analytical techniques to basic and translational research (e.g., dynamic systems methods, multilevel modeling, structural equation modeling, daily diary methods, qualitative methods).
Core Graduate Faculty in HDFS

KAREN CAPLOVITZ BARRETT, PH.D.
Emotion regulation; social emotions; family/cultural influences on emotions and early socioemotional development. 
Karen.Barrett@colostate.edu

ALLISON BIELAK, PH.D.
Normal and pathological cognitive changes in adulthood; influence of lifestyle factors on cognitive aging. 
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ZEYNEP BIRINGEN, PH.D.
Emotional availability & attachment; early child care; military families & separation experiences; effects of divorce; prevention/intervention. 
Zeynep.Biringen@colostate.edu

J. DOUGLAS COATSWORTH, PH.D.
Prevention science; family-focused interventions to promote positive parenting, effective family functioning and youth competence/resilience; mindfulness. 
Doug.Coatsworth@colostate.edu

LISA A. DAUNHAUER, SC.D.
Intellectual and developmental disability, including neurogenetic disorders; executive functioning, achievement, and engagement; individual variability. 
Lisa.Daunhauer@colostate.edu

MANFRED DIEHL, PH.D.
Self-concept development across the adult lifespan; self- and emotion regulation in adulthood; awareness of age-related change in adulthood. 
Manfred.Diehl@colostate.edu

DEBORAH J. FIDLER, PH.D.
Intellectual and developmental disability; atypical development; early intervention. 
Deborah.Fidler@colostate.edu

CHRISTINE A. FRUHAUF, PH.D.
Grandparent-grandchild relationships; family caregiving for older adults; quality of life for adults with Alzheimer’s disease; implications of service learning for gerontological education. 
Christine.Fruhauf@colostate.edu

WILLIAM J. GAVIN, PH.D.
Developmental neuroscience; neurophysiological mechanisms that underlie the perception of sensory stimuli within language and cognitive development using electroencephalography (EEG) and event-related potentials (ERPs). 
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SHELLEY HADDOCK, PH.D.
Gender and power dynamics in couples and families; LGBT individuals, couples, and families; internal Family Systems Therapy. 
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RACHEL G. LUCAS-THOMPSON, PH.D.
Family relationships and interactions; marital conflict; child and adolescent stress responding and mental health; stress physiology; maternal employment and children’s development; gender differences. 
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ERIKA LUNKENHEIMER, PH.D.
Parent-child interaction; developmental psychopathology; child self-regulation, socioemotional development, & school readiness; dynamic systems methodology; family intervention science. 
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DAVID MACPHEE, PH.D.
Competent vs. abusive parenting; early prevention & family support programs; risk & resilience; culture and parenting. 
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JENN MATHESON, PH.D.
Addictions & substance abuse; campus drug court treatment; gender and power; qualitative methods. 
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NATHANIEL RIGGS, PH.D.
Translating developmental neuroscience research into health intervention; school and after-school based positive youth development programs; multi-outcome health behavior intervention. 
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LAUREN SHOMAKER, PH.D.
Adolescent depression and stress as they relate to obesity and obesity-related health problems; etiology and developmental course of adolescent eating behaviors that promote obesity, health problems, and/or eating disorders. 
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LISE M. YOUNGBLADE, PH.D.
Child & adolescent health; development in context; health-care access and policy for vulnerable youth and families; program evaluation; adolescent risk-taking & health-promoting behavior. 
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TONI ZIMMERMAN, PH.D.
Diversity education for youth; work & family issues; analysis of cultural messages that promote or resist stereotypes. 
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For Further Information:

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS
Applied Developmental Science
Department of Human Development & Family Studies

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Visit our website for information on the application process and admission requirements. 
www.hdfs.chhs.colostate.edu

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 2ND

For Further Information: