Call for Applications for Graduate Programs

M.S. & Ph.D.

Department of Human Development & Family Sciences
Texas Tech University

Priority Deadline: December 1, 2020

The priority deadline will be used in consideration of prestigious fellowship offers. The HDFS Department will continue accepting and reviewing applications after the priority deadline on a rolling basis through the start of the semester. Scholarship and fellowships will continue to be offered based on funding availability.

Request Information at: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/hdfs/request_informatio Graduate.php

The mission of the Department of Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS) at Texas Tech University is to promote the health and well-being of individuals, families and relationships across the life span through research, teaching, service and community outreach and engagement. Our department offers a wide range of courses in the areas of early childhood, human development across the life span, interpersonal relations, and family sciences. Graduates of the department become qualified to pursue a variety of careers in education, human services, health, advocacy and business, and/or pursue graduate studies.

Funding: The HDFS Department at Texas Tech University offers comprehensive funding for graduate students either as RA or TA including tuition waivers up to 5 years for Doctoral students without a M.S. degree and up to 2 years for master's students.

Faculty: Our Ph.D. program features nationally renowned researchers to train the next generation of Human Development and Family Sciences faculty. Visit our Faculty Profiles and their research labs at: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/hdfs/faculty.php & http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/hdfs/research_labs.php

Current Students & Alumni: Graduates of Texas Tech's programs in Human Development and Family Sciences have earned post-docs, research positions, and tenure-track faculty appointments at major universities across the country. Visit our Graduate Students' Profiles: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/hdfs/graduate_students/index.php

Research Facilities: The College of Human Sciences is committed to research focused on individuals, families, and their environments for the purpose of improving and enhancing the human condition. Our internationally recognized centers, research clusters and institutes are led by outstanding faculty members who are invested in advancing research in the areas of developmental science. For more information: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/hdfs/research_facilities.php

Please contact Dr. Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo (elizabeth.trejos@ttu.edu), Graduate Program Director, with any questions regarding graduate applications.
FACULTY MENTORS ACCEPTING STUDENTS FOR FALL 2021

BioSocial Interplay in Development Lab, directed by Dr. Zhe Wang: This lab studies the development of cognitive abilities and achievement outcomes in children and adolescents, with an emphasis on factors contributing to the diverse growth trajectories observed in children.

Center for Adolescent Resiliency (CAR) Lab, directed by Dr. Sara Dodd: Using a Positive Youth Development framework, the Center partners with families, schools, and community organizations to create environments of success for adolescents through direct intervention and guided program replication.

Child Development Lab, directed by Dr. Yoojin Chae: This lab is committed to the study of cognitive and social development in childhood. Their research emphasis primarily concerns children's memory, being particularly directed toward several controversial issues regarding stress, coping, and autobiographical memory.

Child Development and Relationships Lab, directed by Dr. Wonjung Oh: The lab focuses on investigating developmental change patterns of social behavior, mental health, regulatory functioning, and relationship processes (mother-child; father-child; spouse; peer) using innovative advanced methodology.

Early Childhood Development, directed by Dr. Malinda Colwell: The Early Childhood Development lab is a multidisciplinary lab focused on multiple aspects of young children's social and emotional development, including those relationships most salient to the children (i.e., mothers, fathers, teachers, caregivers).

Economic Hardship, Families, and Development, directed by Dr. Monica Martin: This lab investigates the influence of economic disadvantage and other types of disparities (racial, ethnic, and educational) on the emotional and behavioral health of individuals and families.
Emerging Adulthood, directed by Dr. Alan Reifman: Emerging adulthood (EA) is a transitional stage or process in between adolescence and full-fledged adulthood. The lab studies emerging adulthood in a variety of ways.

Families and Sexuality, directed by Dr. Dana Weiser: This lab explores how family experiences are associated with adults' later romantic relationships and sexual health and how parents communicate and model behaviors which later influence individuals as they enter into their own relationships and become sexually active.

Gender and Relationships, directed by Dr. Elizabeth Sharp: The Gender SEAMS (Sexuality, Embodiment, Affect, Movement, and Space) research team seeks to critically examine the ways in which bodies and environment are shaped by shared cultural experience.

Methodology, Problem Behavior, Social Context, and Development Lab, directed by Dr. Gabriel "Joey" Merrin: This lab seeks to clarify the developmental processes through which adolescent's experiences with their families, peers, teachers, and communities influence (mitigate/exacerbate) the development of problem behaviors adolescence and in the transition to young adulthood.

Parent-Child Affect, Interaction, and Regulation (PAIR) Lab, directed by Dr. Niyanthi Ravindran: Examines parent-child interaction during emotionally challenging situations to better understand both factors that determine how parents respond to children and the implications for young children's ability to effectively manage negative emotions and stress.

Positive Youth Development (PYD), directed by Dr. Elizabeth Trejos: This lab investigates the effects of individual and contextual factors, toxic-stress, trauma, resilience and well-being on adolescence development with a particular focus on minorities (race, ethnicity, immigrant groups) and vulnerable youth (foster youth, juvenile justice).
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Relationships, Social Networks, and Media, directed by Dr. Jacki Fitzpatrick: This lab focuses on individuals' actual social relationships (with romantic partners, family friends, peers), parasocial relationships (individuals' sense of connectedness to celebrities/fictional characters) and media representations of social relationships.

Romantic and Marital Relationships, directed by Dr. Sylvia Niehuis: Research in the SMITTEN lab focuses on the development of dating, premarital, and marital relationships within social and cultural contexts. The group's largest longitudinal project focuses on the transition from courtship to marriage and changes in the early years of marriage, in a sample of predominantly Hispanic newlywed couples.

Social Influence on Brain & Socioemotional development (SIBS) Lab, directed by Dr. Christy Rogers: The SIBS Lab investigates how salient relationships, such as siblings, parents, and peers, shape development from early adolescence into emerging adulthood.