



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

## Norton School of Human Ecology

650 N. Park Avenue  
P.O. Box 210078  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0078

Ofc: (520) 621-1075  
Fax: (520) 621-9445

[cals.arizona.edu/fcs](http://cals.arizona.edu/fcs)

**DATE:** 9/8/22

**TO:** Greg Heileman, Vice Provost, Undergraduate Education

Liz Sandoval, Director, Curricular affairs

**FROM:** Laura Scaramella, Director, Norton School of Human Ecology

**RE: Change the name of the Graduate Degree from Family and Consumer Sciences to Human Development and Family Science**

The faculty of the Norton School of Human Ecology are requesting to change the name of the Family and Consumer Science M.S. and PhD to Human Development and Family Science. In a separate memo, we are seeking to drop the Retailing & Consumer Science and Family Studies and Human Development subplans. Thus, there is no longer a need for an overarching degree name. Instead we are requesting to change the name to match the course of study. The decision to change the degree name was unanimously supported through an anonymous faculty vote held on January 10, 2022. There would be no accompanying changes to any degree requirements.

### **Rationale.**

Historically, the graduate degree name, Family and Consumer Science, has been problematic for graduates. The Family and Consumer Science graduate degree was established in 1988. This broad name provided a mechanism by which the school could offer various doctoral degrees under the same CIP code. Each degree also included a specific emphasis area. Only two emphasis areas were created, Retailing and Consumer Sciences and Family Studies. The Retailing and Consumer Science emphasis area was disestablished in AY21-22, the only emphasis area remaining is Family Studies.

The name change will facilitate a better alignment of professional identities of faculty members and students graduating from our doctoral program with the name of the program. Scholars who have graduated with a doctoral degree in Family and Consumer Science, Family Studies emphasis, myself included, have had to provide transcripts and training evidence to support their faculty appointments in academic departments in Psychology, Human Development and Family Science, and related fields. This name change more accurately reflects the academic and research training our students receive.

### **Request: Change graduate degree names to Human Development and Family Science**

1. M.S. degree name: Change request. We are requesting to change master of science degree name from Family and Consumer Sciences (FCSCMS) to Human Development and Family Science (HDFSMS).
  - a. Effective date: Spring, 2023
  - b. Teach out plan: All incoming students will be admitted under the Human Development and Family Science program name. We will send a mass communication to all students who are currently enrolled in the Family and Consumer Science program name. Students will have the

option to continue with the current program name or to switch to the new program name.

- c. Changes to the existing course requirements: None.
  - d. Course prefix change: From FSHD to HDF5
2. PhD. degree name: Change request. We are requesting to change doctoral degree name from Family and Consumer Sciences (FCSCPHD) to Human Development and Family Science (HDFSPHD).
- a. Effective date: Spring, 2023
  - b. Teach out plan: All incoming students will be admitted under the Human Development and Family Science program name. We will send a mass communication to all students who are currently enrolled in the Family and Consumer Science program name. Students will have the option to continue with the current program name or to switch to the new program name.
  - c. Changes to the existing course requirements: None.
  - d. Course prefix change: From FSHD to HDF5
3. Graduate minors: Change request. We are requesting to change the name of the graduate minors from Family and Consumer Sciences (FCSCMING) to Human Development and Family Science (HDFSMING).
- a. Effective date: Spring, 2023
  - b. Teach out plan: All incoming students will be admitted under the Human Development and Family Science program name. We will send a mass communication to all students who are currently enrolled in the Family and Consumer Science program name. Students will have the option to continue with the current program name or to switch to the new program name.
  - c. Changes to the existing course requirements: None.
  - d. Course prefix change: From FSHD to HDF5

