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## Master of Science in Human Sciences Graduate Online Program

### About the Program

SFA ONLINE's Master of Science in Human Sciences degree equips professionals to provide innovative solutions to the challenges of a contemporary society and of a changing world. The program is offered in a convenient online environment and designed to help you advance your career in the field of Human Sciences.

This program, offered by Stephen F. Austin State University's School of Human Sciences, includes a core of required courses plus three focus areas. The online courses in this program require the same amount of work and are taught by the same experienced instructors as SFA's campus-based program. However, taking the courses online offers the flexibility you need to keep your job and meet the demands of your busy schedule.

The Master of Science in Human Sciences is a 30-hour online degree with a thesis option or a 36-hour non-thesis option. This degree provides graduate education to professionals in the field of Human Sciences. The fundamental focus of the discipline is on humankind and the human condition throughout the life cycle. This program provides three focus areas in which you may focus your studies.

### Focus Areas

The fundamental focus of the discipline is on humankind and the human condition throughout the life cycle. The Master of Science in Human Sciences provides three focus areas for students to focus their studies.

#### Healthcare Interior Design

The Healthcare Interior Design is a specialization area within Interior Design. Students may choose either the 30-hour thesis option or the 36-hour non-thesis option. The curriculum is designed around the body of knowledge outlined by the American Academy of Healthcare Interior Designers.

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**Coordinators:** Dr. Chay Runnels, Dr. Mitzi Perritt, and Dr. Rachel Jumper  
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## **Courses**

- Acute Care
- Data Analysis
- Research Method
- Healthcare Internship
- Medical Office Buildings
- Graduate Design Studio
- Long-term Care/Senior Living
- Ambulatory Care/Outpatient Facilities

For more information about this focus area, please contact the graduate advisors.

## **General Interior Design**

The interior design focus provides a broad general education that helps prepare for living and working as a design professional. Interior design is an integrated process applicable to both residential and commercial environments. It includes the designing and planning of space for commercial, industrial and residential areas. The in-depth look at the active, creative processes of programming and space planning can refer to residences, corporations, and other specialized public spaces.

For more information about this focus area, please contact the graduate advisors.

## **Dietetic Internship**

The Dietetic Internship admits interns on a competitive basis in preparation for the Registered Dietitian exam. Graduation from a DPD program is required for admission to this program per the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (<http://www.eatright.org>).

The Dietetic Internship at Stephen F. Austin State University is currently granted full accreditations by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics, the accrediting agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, (312) 899-0040 ext. 5400.

For more information about this focus area, please contact:

Darla O'Dwyer, Ph.D., R.D.

[dodwyer@sfasu.edu](mailto:dodwyer@sfasu.edu)

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## **Family and Consumer Sciences**

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**Coordinators:** Dr. Chay Runnels, Dr. Mitzi Perritt, and Dr. Rachel Jumper  
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The family and consumer sciences focus provides experience and knowledge in all the Human Sciences subject areas. This major prepares students for broad-based employment in the field of Human Sciences and for effective individual and family living.

For more information about this focus area, please contact the graduate coordinators.

### **Human Development & Family Studies**

The human development and family studies focus provides an in-depth understanding of the growth, change, and development of children and families in a social context.

Current information emphasizing a lifespan and family systems approach is taught. This knowledge base has proven essential for practical application in careers working with people across the lifespan from early childhood to late adulthood. The emphasis in Human Development and Family studies provides a foundation for careers such as early intervention specialists, senior living activities coordinators, and a variety of other occupations working with families.

For more information about this focus area, please contact:

Rachel Jumper, Ph.D.

[jumperr@sfasu.edu](mailto:jumperr@sfasu.edu)

Phone: (936) 468-2209

Fax: (936) 468-2140

### **Dates & Registration**

Applications are accepted continuously. Students should take care to ensure that applications are submitted well enough in advance of each semester's [registration deadlines](#) to allow time for processing and to avoid late registration fees.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all application materials are thoroughly completed and received by Stephen F. Austin State University and the School of Human Sciences.

## Costs & Scholarships

Estimated Semester Costs\*  
(Based on Fall 2019 Tuition Costs)

Hours	In-State Online Tuition & Fees	Out-of-State Tuition & Fees
3 hours	\$1251.50	\$1611.50
6 hours	\$2492.00	\$3212.00
9 hours	\$3732.50	\$4812.50
12 hours	\$4973.00	\$6413.00

\*These costs do not include all fees (course fees, lab fees, books, etc.).

Please visit the [SFA Tuition Calculator](#) for more information regarding tuition costs.

Financial aid is available to those who qualify. For more information, please contact the [SFA Financial Aid Office](#) at (936) 468-2403.

The School of Human Sciences offers the largest number of scholarships on campus. Recipients of a scholarship who enroll in the online program will also be exempt from out-of-state tuition. Apply for scholarships online at on the [Admissions scholarship page](#). Scholarship applications are due by February 1.

## Admission Requirements

Please refer to the [Graduate School website](#) for graduate school admissions requirements.

The requirements for admission to the School of Human Sciences are below:

1. Submit a 2-3 page typed essay that addresses the following points:
  - The role that a graduate degree in Human Sciences will play in enabling you to achieve your professional goals
  - Your reasons for choosing the particular focus area you have indicated within the HMS graduate program
  - Your philosophy regarding the following concepts:
    - Academic excellence through critical, reflective, and creative thinking
    - Openness to new ideas, culturally diverse people, innovation, and change
    - Integrity, responsibility, diligence, ethical behavior, and life-long learning
2. Submit your current resume
3. Provide three letters of reference that address your potential to complete a graduate program of study

\*The Healthcare Interior Design focus area does NOT require GRE scores; student must have an undergraduate degree in Interior Design or a related discipline.  
Please mail or email items 2-4 to:

Dr. Mitzi Perritt, Dr. Chay Runnels, and Dr. Rachel Jumper  
Graduate Co-Coordinator  
School of Human Sciences  
P.O. Box 13014, SFA Station  
Nacogdoches, TX 75962

## How to Apply

Once you have identified a program to which you want to apply and believe you meet the admission requirements, follow the succeeding steps:

1. Apply to SFA's Graduate school via [ApplyTexas.org](https://applytexas.org) and pay necessary fee.
2. Complete the School of Human Sciences requirements (please see Admission Requirements section above to view what you will need to send).
3. Apply for financial aid and scholarships (if needed).
4. Once you are admitted to SFA's School of Human Sciences for the MSHS online program, an advisor will be assigned to you:

### Dietetic Internship

Darla O'Dwyer, Ph.D., R.D.  
[dodwyer@sfasu.edu](mailto:dodwyer@sfasu.edu)

### Human Development and Family Studies

Rachel Jumper, Ph.D.  
[jumperr@sfasu.edu](mailto:jumperr@sfasu.edu)

### Interior Design

Leisha Bridwell, MFA  
[lbridwell@sfasu.edu](mailto:lbridwell@sfasu.edu)

### Healthcare Interior Design

Mitzi R. Perritt, Ph.D.  
[mperritt@sfasu.edu](mailto:mperritt@sfasu.edu)

### Family and Consumer Sciences

Nancy Shepherd, Ph.D.  
[shepherdn@sfasu.edu](mailto:shepherdn@sfasu.edu)

## Courses

Students have the option to complete a 30-hour thesis option or 36-hour non-thesis option. Below are the Masters of Science in Human Science courses:

**HMS 500** Philosophy of Human Sciences

**HMS 501** Service Management in Human Sciences

**HMS 502** Employee Development Issues in Human Sciences

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HMS 508 Sustainability  
HMS 512 Long Term Care/Senior Living  
HMS 514 ID Studio  
HMS 516 Advanced Lighting  
HMS 520 Advanced Practicum  
HMS 523 Other Medical Facilities  
HMS 524 Acute Care Facilities  
HMS 525 Ambulatory Care  
HMS 526 Field Experiences  
HMS 533 Policy in HDFS  
HMS 534 Theories of Human Development & Family Studies  
HMS 539 Food & Nutrition Studies  
HMS 540 Consumer Problems  
HMS 545 Administration and Supervision in Human Sciences  
HMS 549 Family and Consumer Sciences Occupations  
HMS 551 Child Development and Parenting  
HMS 552 Family Studies  
HMS 560 Advanced Housing  
HMS 572 Topics in Human Sciences  
HMS 574 Human Sciences Delivery Systems  
HMS 575, 576 Independent Study - Student works on major project with faculty member via distance.  
HMS 578 Seminar  
HMS 586 Adult Development and Aging  
HMS 589 Thesis Research  
HMS 590 Thesis Writing  
SOC 550 Communicating and Interpreting Statistical Information  
SOC 551 Research Methods

The online thesis option Master's in Human Sciences is 24 hours coursework plus **HMS 589** (Thesis Research) and **HMS 590** (Thesis Writing), to equal 30 hours. If students wish to take non-thesis, they will confer with their advisor.

The non-thesis option is 36 credit hours of coursework. All courses are customized to the students' major (Human Development & Family Studies, Interior Design/Healthcare Interior Design, Family and Consumer Sciences) and will focus on work appropriate for their field.