**Program in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies**

**School of Social Sciences and Education**

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**DISCLAIMER: Due to ongoing and substantial changes in credential legislation and degree programs in the State of California, please check with an official School of Education CAFS advisor for current information.**

***Shaping the Future***

**Vision Statement**

The vision within the Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies Program (CAFS) is to promote partnerships that foster healthy children, supportive family relationships, and an interactive community of learners.

This program will also offer learning activities that provide superior educational preparation for teachers, parents, and community professionals that will aid in the development of well prepared persons to interact with and support a diverse population within the local, regional, national, and global community.

**Philosophy**

The philosophy of the Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies Program (CAFS) has as its core a constructivist viewpoint that encompasses learning through all the domains of development as experienced by the individual, family, and community. This belief reinforces the premise that the study of Human Development is a process of examining the human experience in ever-changing environments.

**Program Description**

The Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies Program (CAFS) at California State University, Bakersfield offers a major leading to a Bachelor of Arts Degree. The CAFS program provides students with an undergraduate level of knowledge within Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies. This program highlights diverse theories, milestones across developmental domains, family systems, ethics, and developmental research methods.

The CAFS major focuses on the biological, cognitive, psychological, and sociological foundations of child behavior and development. Students will acquire knowledge and gain understanding through exposure to relevant literature, current research topics, selected service, fieldwork, and development of student research. Through a variety of courses, students obtain knowledge and refine skills in observing, assessing, interpreting, and implementing programs for children and families; working with and supervising child-centered programs; participating in supportive structures for children and adolescents; and understanding families from diverse backgrounds.

Students completing their BA with a CAFS major can expect to work as elementary school teachers, preschool teachers, directors, social workers, and many other jobs. This is also a good pathway for several different graduate programs, including counseling,

Within the CAFS major there are 3 tracks from which students may choose to complete their requirements for graduation. Each student is strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor to more thoroughly discuss each track. Students majoring in our program must also complete all CAFS coursework with a grade of “C-”or higher. The Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies program has a strong online component. Most of our major courses are taught online at least once every year.

The first track in the CAFS program is our **Future Academic Studies for Teachers (FAST Track)**, for future elementary school teachers. Students following this track may complete their BA and all of the coursework for the multiple subjects credential in 4 years (rather than the usual 5 years). This track is designed for students who want to be elementary school teachers, are interested in completing our general track, and can maintain a GPA of 2.67 or higher for their first 3 years and a GPA of 3.0 in their final year. The reason that future elementary school teachers may choose this track is because there is not currently a waiver to enter teaching credential programs. Students working toward a concentration in Elementary Education may be required to fulfill specific requirements for entrance to a credential program and may need different courses based on state or university standards for the credential program. Students must be advised by the CAFS Program Coordinator every year to register for this track and to stay in it.

The second track in the CAFS program is our **General Track**. This track may also be used by students who desire to become elementary education teachers, preschool teachers, social workers, counselors, advocacy personnel, etc. All general education coursework for the university must be completed in addition to the courses specific to this major. It is critical that students following this track who wish to enter a teacher credential program (either multiple subject or preschool) notify their faculty advisor of their intentions so that they can be advised correctly.

The third CAFS track is our **Elementary Education Teacher Preparation Track**. This track is rarely utilized, as most students prefer the FAST track. In the CAFS major the students take a significant amount of coursework preparing them specifically to work with children in developmentally appropriate ways. This degree track has been approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) as a program that prepares students for passage of the subject matter examination that candidates must pass to receive the multiple subjects credential required for multiple subjects instruction in the public schools. This track does change as state requirements are changed. However, students do not have to choose this track. Students may choose the general track or FAST track, and enter the multiple subjects teaching credential program. Students are must meet with the Program Coordinator when choosing this track. With both this track and the FAST track students must meet all the prerequisites for the Teacher Credentialing program, including passing the CSET and CBEST.

Each of the tracks leading to the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies requires a minimum of 180 units which includes courses for the major and minor and courses for the other university-wide graduation requirements: General Education, American Institutions, First-Year Experience, Gender-Race-Ethnicity, and Upper Division Writing, and Foreign Language (see pages 52-55). All CAFS majors must have current certification in First Aide and Adult, Child, and Infant CPR upon graduation.

**Requirements for the Bachelor of Art Degree in Child, Adolescent and Family Studies: Fast Track**

**Total Units Required to Graduate 180 units**

**Major Requirements 58-60 units**

Prerequisites 12

Core Courses 25-28

Major Courses 18-20

**Minor Requirements**  **10-20 units**

(May be able to double count Area and Theme class)

**Other University Requirements 87-92 units**

CSUB 101 2

American Institutions 5

Area A 15

Area B 15

Area C 15

Area D 15

Theme 1 5

Theme 2 5

Theme 3 5

GRE 5\*

GWAR (Exam) or Class 0-5

\*satisfied in major, minor or other university requirement; may double count CAFS 320

**Additional Units 8-25 units**

**Requirements for the Major in Child, Adolescent and Family Studies (FAST) Track: Future Academic Studies for Teachers**

**Elementary Education Teacher Track**

1. **Year 1 (54 units)**

**Fall** (17 units)

CSUB 101, A2 (C or higher), Area C, D4

**Winter** (17 units)

A1, B1-BIOL 100, D3-PLSI 101, CAFS 110

**Spring** (20 units)

A3, B4-stats (C or higher), CAFS 200, 230 or 280 or 430

2.  **Year 2 (52 units)**

**Fall** (17 units)

EDTE 300, B2, Minor, CAFS 208 or 350 or 360

**Winter** (15 units)

HIST 231, D1 or D2 or D5, C4, Foreign Language **Spring** (20 units)

CAFS 320 (GRE- if not 320 then another upper division CAFS course must also be taken), Minor, CAFS 312, C3-HIST 210, CBEST

3. **Year 3 (53 units)**

**Fall** (18 units)

Theme 1, CAFS 400, Minor, EDSP 301, CSET

**Winter** (19 units)

Theme 2, CAFS 410, 313 or 313, EDTE 410, GWAR (exam or course)

**Spring** (16 units)

Theme 3, Minor, CAFS 490, EDTE 416

4. **Year 4 (42 units)**

**Fall** (16 units) EDTE 401, 415, EDEL 460, 461, 462

**Winter** (13 units)

EDEL 463, 464, 465, EDTE 402, RICA test

**Spring** (13 units)

EDEL 499, EDTE 403, 404

Recommended pattern of courses 201

**Requirements for the Bachelor of Art Degree in Child, Adolescent and Family Studies: General Track**

**Total Units Required to Graduate 180 units**

**Major Requirements 58-60 units**

Prerequisites 12

Core Courses 28

Major Courses 18-20

(9 Lower Division and 9 Upper Division)

**Minor Requirements 20** **units**

**Other University Requirements 82-92 units**

CSUB 101 2

American Institutions 5

Area A 15

Area B 15

Area C 15

Area D 15

Theme 1 5

Theme 2 5

Theme 3 5

GRE 0-5\*

GWAR (Exam) or Class 0-5

\*satisfied in major, minor or other university requirement

**Additional Units 8-20 units**

**Requirements for the Major in Child, Adolescent and Family Studies: General Track**

1. **Prerequisite (12 units)**

CAFS 110 or 310, 200, MATH 140 or PSYC 200

2. **Major Requirements (28 units)**

CAFS 311, 312, 313, 400, 410, 490

3. **Foundation Courses** (complete at least 9 units in lower division coursework (100 and 200 level classes), and at least 9 units upper division coursework (300 and 400 classes)

4. **Lower Division Coursework**

CAFS 208, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 280

5. **Upper Division Coursework**

CAFS 320, 350, 360, 414, 420, 430, 440

**Requirements for the Major in Child, Adolescent and Family Studies: Elementary Education/Subject Matter Preparation Track**

A specialty concentration in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies-Elementary Education provides an academic experience best suited to those who wish to teach in the elementary K-6 setting. The CAFS Elementary Education student will take classes that have been approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) as a program meeting the requirements for the Elementary Education Multiple Subjects preparation. Upon successful completion of the courses described below, the student will have completed all the California State Department of Education and California State University course requirements for the Elementary Education Multiple Subject preparation for entrance into an Elementary Education Multiple Subject Credential program. This specialty track is for students who plan to become elementary teachers. Please see an advisor for a current listing of the required courses.

**Requirements for the Minor in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies**

A student wishing to minor in Child, Adolescent and Family Studies should complete at least 20 quarter units in CAFS, of which at least 15 units must be upper division. A faculty member in the CAFS program must approve the specific course of study. This minor may be completed online. Courses required:

a. CAFS 200

b. Select three (3) of the following courses:

CAFS 311, 312, 313, 320, 350, 360, 430

**Please note:** CAFS 320 cannot count for your minor and your GRE requirement. It needs to be two (2) separate courses.

**Requirements for the Minor for Liberal Studies Majors**

Those students majoring in Liberal Studies and seeking a Child Development Concentration are recommended to take the following courses (a wider selection is available in the Liberal Studies office). This minor may be completed online. Courses required:

a. CAFS 200, 312

b. Select one (1) of the following courses:

CAFS 280, 311, 313, 350

c. Select one (1) of the following courses:

CAFS 320, 360, 430