GUIDE TO MAJORS AND PROGRAMS

College of Human Ecology

Human Ecology

Overview
The College of Human Ecology focuses first on people. The college’s academic programs focus on human health, behavior and well being from perspectives, all centered on improving the quality of life for individuals, families and communities.

Academics
Majors
General human ecology
This program can include courses from all areas of human ecology. The program’s flexibility allows students to choose courses to prepare for unique career goals and for careers in family and consumer sciences education in schools and extension. Some students initially choose general human ecology while exploring their academic options.

Family and consumer sciences education
This licensure program prepares graduates to teach family and consumer sciences at the middle school, senior high or postsecondary levels. Family and consumer sciences education directly addresses the needs of individuals and families related to nurturing relationships, parenting education, healthy lifestyles and resource management.

Apparel and textiles
The apparel and textiles program at K-State emphasizes the importance of sustainability in understanding the production, distribution and consumption of apparel and textile goods. Students are encouraged to integrate sustainability concepts into all stages of the apparel supply chain. Two specializations are available: apparel design and production — qualified advancement required — and apparel marketing. Graduates are prepared for positions in retail management, marketing and merchandising; apparel design and manufacturing; and product development.

Interior design
Admission to the interior design program is selective and limited. Review of applicants for the fall term begins Feb. 1 each year for admission the following fall term. Contact the admissions office for application information.

The interior design program in the College of Human Ecology emphasizes the interaction between humans and the interior environment. Interior designers typically develop a program of space needs with description of environmental qualities to guide design decisions. When developing solutions for interior spaces, interior designers consider a variety of factors, including spatial attributes, construction, material properties and energy consumption, as well as contextual factors such as precedent, building and site location, and behavioral and cultural patterns of use.

Graduates are employed in architecture and interior design firms and facility planning and management positions. The program is accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation, or CIDA, and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Communication sciences and disorders
Communication sciences and disorders is the academic program for the profession of speech-language pathology. It is for students interested in human communication and swallowing for individuals across the lifespan. The program offers both undergraduate and graduate degrees in speech-language pathology. A graduate degree is required for certification and licensure for professional practice.

The master’s program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Early childhood education
This accredited program prepares teachers and administrators for early care and education programs for young children from birth through kindergarten, including children with disabilities. The program meets Kansas teaching licensure requirements for early childhood unified, birth through kindergarten. Academic coursework is enriched by clinical experiences in a licensed child care center operated by the School of Family Studies and Human Services and in kindergarten classrooms of unified school districts.

Human Development and Family Science
The family studies and human services program focuses on the development of the individual in a family context. The program also emphasizes development of individuals across the lifespan. Courses focus on human development, development of healthy interpersonal relationships, human interaction and applying best practices when working directly with individuals. An optional internship is available. This program is approved by the National Council of Family Relations, or NCFR, for the Certified Family Life Educator, or CFLE, designation. Graduates work in youth programs, family and social service programs, residential programs, judicial system, cooperative extension, higher education, elder care and public health departments.

Personal financial planning
Personal financial planning combines coursework in human ecology, business and economics. Emphasis is placed on understanding financial products and how they work, the integral role of the family in financial decisions and planner-client relationship building skills. The program is registered with the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards and offers financial planning courses that satisfy the CFP®/Certified Financial Planner™ certification requirements. The program also is registered with the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education, and the International Association of Registered Financial Consultants.

Nutritional sciences (premedicine)
The nutritional sciences program prepares students for professional schools, including medical, dental, optometry or pharmacy schools, or for graduate study in the biological or nutritional sciences. This science-based program can be planned to fulfill the basic requirements for these professional programs or the entrance requirements for allied health professions including dietetics, physician assistants and other health occupations.

Points of pride
The College of Human Ecology at Kansas State University is the largest and most comprehensive human sciences program in Kansas, offering bachelor’s degrees, master’s degrees and doctorates. The college ranks third largest in undergraduate programs in the nation, and second largest in graduate programs.

k-state.edu/admissions/academics
Dual degrees: nutrition and kinesiology
Graduates are prepared for careers in health programs in hospitals, wellness centers, public and private clinics, athletic and health clubs, and public health settings. Graduates receive two degrees: a B.S. in human nutrition and a B.S. in kinesiology.

Nutrition and health
The nutrition and health curriculum emphasizes health promotion as well as human nutrition. Graduates of this program work in a variety of settings to promote diet and health among the general public. Positions include public health nutritionist; cooperative extension agent; nutrition expert for mass media; or nutrition specialist in food-related industries, trade associations, food commodity groups or pharmaceutical companies.

Dietetics
The dietetics program prepares students for careers as credentialed dietitians who provide leadership in the delivery of food service management and nutrition services. Dietitians provide information and guidance relating to questions of normal and clinical nutrition, including nutrition assessment and counseling. They work in acute care and outpatient health care settings, community and public health programs, fitness programs, food service management, private practice, and food and pharmaceutical industries.

Kinesiology
Kinesiology is the study of physical activity across a range of tasks, including exercise, daily living, play, sport and work. Kinesiology promotes an understanding of the necessity and application of physical activities for optimal health. Coursework integrates biological science and social and behavioral science approaches using biomechanical, physiological, psychological and sociological perspectives. Graduates pursue exercise-related careers or advanced education through health professional and graduate schools. More than 50 percent annually are admitted to physical therapy, physician assistant, public health, medicine and other health-related graduate degree programs. Outstanding students may pursue concurrent Bachelor of Science/Master of Science degrees in kinesiology or in kinesiology and public health. The combined degree programs are an accelerated route to an advanced degree.

Hospitality management
The mission of the hospitality management program at K-State is to prepare students for professional careers in hospitality management by providing theory-based instruction and practical experience. Students receive a general education; an understanding of business administration; specialized technical knowledge of hotel, restaurant and food service, or event and convention management; and practical experience in the industry. Students can elect to receive a business minor as they complete the hospitality management degree requirements. The program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration, or ACHA, of the Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institution Education, or CHRIE.

Minors
The college offers five minors, providing a basic understanding of a practice outside a student’s major curriculum, and include apparel and textiles, conflict analysis and trauma studies, hospitality management, human development and family science, and kinesiology.

Additionally, the college offers a certificate in conflict resolution and a secondary major in gerontology.

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Notice of nondiscrimination
Kansas State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including sexual harassment and sexual violence), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, genetic information, military status, or veteran status, in the University’s programs and activities as required by applicable laws and regulations. The person designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University’s Title IX Coordinator: the Director of the Office of Institutional Equity, equity@k-state.edu, 103 Edwards Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506, (785) 532-6220. The campus ADA Coordinator is the Director of Employee Relations, charlotte@k-state.edu, who may be reached at 105 Edwards Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506, (785) 532-6277.

Post Graduation Statistics
k-state.edu/postgrad-stats
ksdegreestats.org

For more information about human ecology or about transferring coursework from other institutions:

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