FAMILY STUDIES

Ph.D. in Family Studies

Application Process
Application materials for admission into the Family Studies Doctoral Program are available online through the Program or the Office of Graduate Studies websites. Please use online resources to submit and/or complete Family Studies Doctoral program application form, letter of intent, three letters of recommendation (at least two letters must be from full-time professors), GRE scores, an unofficial transcript from all undergraduate and graduate institutions, and any additional materials (if required). The completed graduate application form, including a non-refundable application fee of $50.00 and one official transcript from all undergraduate and graduate institutions (except UNM transcript) must be submitted online to the Office of Admissions (Graduate Studies).

It is recommended that all relevant paperwork be submitted two weeks prior to deadlines, which are March 15 for summer and fall semesters and October 15 for spring semester. Late applications may be accepted per UNM Catalog. Offers of admission are made only for the semester for which the student applies. Failure to enroll or to properly defer admission will cancel the student’s graduate student status. Any student who is not enrolled in graduate-level courses for three or more consecutive semesters (including summer) must apply for re-admission, using a special form that must be filed with the Office of Admissions by the above dates. An application fee is not required for re-admission status.

Students from academic backgrounds other than Family Studies are encouraged to apply. Students are expected to have a master’s degree or its equivalent in a related area. The GRE is required of all applicants and a combined score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative scales is generally required for admission. Additional requirements include a GPA of 3.0 in the last 60 hours of undergraduate study and a 3.3 graduate study GPA. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of relevant academic and work experience, evidence of interest in or experience with cultural pluralism as indicated in the letter of intent, demonstration of critical thinking and writing skills, and letters of recommendation from former professors and work supervisors with doctoral degrees (See Doctoral Admission Rating Form). All full-time faculty members independently review and rate each applicant based on the materials submitted. Following discussion of these ratings and resultant score by the faculty, two faculty members interview applicants with a mean score of 25 or higher. The interviewing faculty members present their recommendations regarding admission to the entire Family Studies faculty. A vote is taken and both the Family Studies Graduate Coordinator and he Office of Admissions communicate the resulting decision to the applicant.

Advisement
When students are notified of admission to the program, they are assigned an initial advisor. By the end of the second semester or first year, a Family Studies faculty member must be named by the student as the advisor. It is the student’s responsibility to inform, in writing, the initial advisor, the Graduate Coordinator, and the new advisor, if applicable.

Probationary Status
Students whose cumulative GPA falls below a 3.0 at any point will be placed by Office of Graduate Studies (OGS) on academic probation and will remain on academic probation until the cumulative GPA reaches 3.0. The student will be disenrolled from graduate status if the GPA does not reach 3.0 after 12 semester hours on probationary status. A student receiving two grades of F and/or NC even if his/her cumulative GPA remains above 3.0, will be disenrolled if a third NC or F is earned. Students placed on probationary status are not eligible for assistantships, nor are they allowed to take comprehensive exams, file for candidacy or graduate. If a student’s GPA drops below a 3.0 due to incompletes, she/he will be placed on Type 2 probation and will not be allowed to graduate. A student may not graduate with an incomplete in any course nor will she/he be allowed to take comprehensive exams. A student must be registered for at least 1 credit hour the semester she/he takes a comprehensive exam or schedules a dissertation defense.

Updated on August 2008