Human Development

Purpose: Materials purchased support the teaching and research in both the undergraduate and Master’s programs in Human Development as well as a recently added interdisciplinary doctoral program in Prevention Science.

Program Highlights: The undergraduate program’s focus is on human development across the lifespan as it occurs within the family, linked to a variety of contexts across communities. The program centers on understanding the complexity of physical, social, cognitive, and emotional development with an emphasis on development within the family. The curriculum examines human and family development across the lifespan (i.e., children, adolescents, younger and older adults).

The program features an opportunity to become state certified as a family and consumer sciences teacher in a junior or senior high school. The department also offers four certificates: early childhood education, adolescence, gerontology, and family studies. These certificates prepare students for careers working with children, adolescents, older adults, and/or families in a variety of professional settings including positions in foster parent programs, adoption agencies, childcare or Head Start programs, teen centers, juvenile justice programs, nursing homes or other community-based programs for the elderly, and family services agencies. There is an additional fifth certificate, Human Services Case Management and Administration, which assists students in building a theoretical and applied understanding of working with people in a variety of human service settings such as social service agencies, health care agencies, non-profits, and other educational institutions.

There are student learning outcomes for the program. These are: (1) an understanding of social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development across the lifespan in the family context; 2) an understanding of how contextual systems interact to influence family and individual development; 3) the ability to critically select, evaluate, and utilize information to understand and benefit individuals and families; 4) writing, listening, and speaking appropriate for human development related occupations; 5) application of human development knowledge and skills in professional settings.

The interdisciplinary doctoral program in Prevention Science prepares students to develop, evaluate, and disseminate scientifically based programs to promote the well-being of children, youth, and their families. Offered in collaboration with the Colleges of Communication, Education, and Nursing, as well as WSU Extension, graduates enter careers as faculty members, program evaluators, research analysts, and research associates to work in a range of settings including universities, research institutes, social service agencies, and consulting firms.

General Collection Guidelines:

Languages: English is the primary language of collection. We purchase works written in other languages in English translation unless we receive specific requests for materials their original languages.
Chronological Guidelines: Our primary emphasis is on acquiring current materials and only acquire historical materials selectively.

Geographical Guidelines: The collection’s primary focus of interest is on materials in English from the United States. We only selectively acquire materials from other English-speaking countries and from Western European countries translated into English. We rarely acquire materials from non-English-speaking countries not translated into English.

Treatment of the Subject: We acquire popular-level materials and upper-division textbooks selectively. We rarely purchase lower-division textbooks, curriculum guides, and juvenile fiction. We rarely collect biographies unless the person featured is of interest locally. We purchase case studies and works describing therapeutic techniques selectively.

Types of Material: The lion’s share of materials collected in support of Human Development is in the form of books and journals. We add basic reference materials, such as indexes, abstracts, encyclopedias, directories, etc., selectively. We add individual government documents, Federal and Washington State, apart from those added as a part of the depository program, selectively.

Date of Publication: Each year we try to purchase as much of the new imprint (works published within the last two years) as is possible given our funding. Retrospective purchasing is very selective and may involve purchasing in an available format other than the original (e-book, computer file, DVD, microform, reprints, or photocopy). In 2018, the selector estimates that between 60-80% of all items (books, journals, indexing, video) purchased for the Human Development program is in an electronic format.

Other General Considerations: Additional resources on the WSU campus include the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center, which provides assistance with statistical analysis and access to federal census data tapes. The university is a member of ICPSR (Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research) which allows access to all of its data holdings to all WSU students, faculty and staff.

Observations and Qualifications by Subject with Collection Level:
Human Development: C(1)

An emphasis is on practitioner preparation that trains students to work with children, adolescents and older adults in a variety of social service settings. Material covers all periods of the life span with a recent emphasis on gerontology. This collection serves students from several fields including education, nursing, psychology, sociology and women’s studies.

Family Studies: C(1)

Collecting activities focus on family-focused topics including family relationships, child development, family resource management, pre-family therapy, and include issues related to social welfare and
community service. This collection also serves students from several fields including education, nursing, psychology, sociology and women’s studies.

Consumer Studies: C(1)

An emphasis is on the preparation of majors for careers in consumer-oriented private and government agencies. Students aspiring to be family and consumer services teachers in middle and high schools also use this facet of the human development collection. Consumer studies will also be of interest to other majors including business, communications, international marketing, economics, education and sociology. Students studying consumer studies will make ample use of government publications, including statistical sources.

Early Childhood Education: C(1)

This facet provides materials for those preparing to do professional work in early childhood education in programs from preschool through 3rd grade or otherwise seek careers in social services focused on children. Included within are materials dealing with special education for children and materials unrelated to school environments. This facet does not include materials related to schools, including kindergarten, that fall within the education cost centers.

Aging: C(1)

This facet includes interdisciplinary materials related to working with or providing services to older persons. Social services in the home, enrichment classes and programing, and hospital or nursing home services are included. The materials prepare students for a practitioner’s career in aging services or graduate training in gerontology.

Christy Zlatos

May 2018