

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL POLICY PROGRAM PHD

Degree Requirements

The following requirements are in addition to, or further elaborate upon, those requirements outlined in The Graduate School Policy Guide (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/tgs/academic-policies-procedures/>).

Master's

There is no terminal degree in Human Development and Social Policy. Students pursuing the PhD may receive the MA as part of their doctoral course of study at their discretion; those leaving the program prior to the completion through to earning the PhD may receive the MA if they qualify.

Total Units Required: 14

Course	Title
HDSP Proseminar (1 unit)	
HDSP 401-0	Proseminar in Human Development and Social Policy I

Foundations of Human Development (4 units)

HDSP 413-0	Theories of Human Development
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Three of the four following courses:

HDSP 402-0	Child Development and Social Policy
HDSP 403-0	Adolescent Development
HDSP 404-0	Adult Development and Aging
HDSP 415-0	Nature vs. Nurture Revisited

Foundations in Empirical Research Methods (5 units)

HDSP 410-0	Quantitative Methods I: Probability and Statistics
HDSP 411-0	Quantitative Methods II: Regression Analysis
HDSP 412-0	Quantitative Methods III: Empirical Tools for Causal Quantitative Analysis
HDSP 432-0	Field Methods
HDSP 435-0	Advanced Qualitative Methods

Foundations of Social Policy (4 units)

Students must take 4 courses from among the following:

HDSP 430-0	Economics of Social Policy
HDSP 429-0	Social-Community Interventions
HDSP 451-0	Topics in Human Development & Soc Policy (Organizations, Institutions and Society: Persistence and Change Among Public, Private and Non-Profit Sectors)
HDSP 428-0	Education Policy: Design, Implementation and Effects
HDSP 427-0	Sociology of Education
HDSP 433-0	Modern Theories of the State and Social Policy
HDSP 442-0	Social Policymaking and Policy Implementation

Other MA Degree Requirements

- **Examinations:** none specified
- **Research/Projects:** see master's thesis below
- **Master's Thesis (HDSP Trial Research):** The Trial Research addresses questions that can be answered through empirical, feasible investigations (please note that neither a critical review of the literature on a topic, nor a speculative essay, is acceptable). The final paper should include the student's particular

- research questions
- conceptual framework and review of prior literature
- methods of data collection
- results, and
- discussion, conclusions, interpretations, and suggestions for further research.

PhD

HDSP Curriculum Overview To obtain a PhD in Human Development and Social Policy (HDSP), students entering the program without master's degrees must complete 21 credits (14 required courses and 7 electives), including the core curriculum and electives, a trial research and an annotated course outline. Students entering the program with a master's degree are required to complete 18 courses (14 required and 4 electives) including the core curriculum and remaining 4 electives. There are no qualifying examinations. Instead, successful completion of the Trial Research and The Guided Literature Review OR Course Outline admits a student to PhD candidacy. There is a two quarter teaching requirement to serve as a teaching assistant. The last requirement for the degree is completion of a dissertation.

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HDSP 412-0	Quantitative Methods III: Empirical Tools for Causal Quantitative Analysis
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HDSP 435-0	Advanced Qualitative Methods

Foundations of Social Policy (4 units)

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HDSP 428-0	Education Policy: Design, Implementation and Effects
HDSP 427-0	Sociology of Education
HDSP 433-0	Modern Theories of the State and Social Policy
HDSP 440-0	The Politics of Public Policy