Clemson University Ph.D. & Certificate in International Family and Community Studies

A doctoral program in International Family and Community Studies is offered by the Department of Youth, Family and Community Studies at Clemson University. The Department of Youth, Family and Community Studies (YFCS) helps generate, share and apply the research foundation for youth, family, and community development. Work at YFCS starts from the premise that strong communities support strong families and vice versa, and that both are necessary for the healthy development of children and youth. To accomplish these goals, our department offers graduate programs, conducts empirical research, performs policy analyses, develops and evaluates programs, and provides technical assistance and community education.

The Ph.D. program is based on a unique interdisciplinary curriculum, drawing from the humanities, social sciences, health sciences, community development, and policy studies. Graduate courses focus on family and community life, human rights and social justice, community development and policy analysis, cultural area studies, and research methods. A 12-hour certificate, based on the same curriculum, is also offered for students who are not interested in pursuing a Ph.D., but who want to advance their expertise in this area.

The program began in 2006 and is designed to appeal to current or prospective educators, interdisciplinary researchers, leaders of non-governmental organizations, government officials, community developers, social workers, psychologists, public health workers, and others. Current graduates of the program occupy positions in academia, domestic and international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Courses are offered in real time (Eastern Standard Time) in a blended format with on-site students attending class at the University Center in Greenville, SC, while off-site students simultaneously participate through web conferencing.

New Ph.D. students are accepted once a year and begin classes in the fall semester (mid-August). Applications must be submitted through Clemson University’s web application system (http://www.clemson.edu/admissions/) and received by February 1 for consideration for that year’s fall semester. The application must include: a resume or CV, GRE scores, TOEFL/IELTS/PTE scores (for international students), transcripts, three letters of recommendation from professionals familiar with applicant’s academic and/or professional work, a 500-word personal statement about the applicant’s career aspirations and goals as they relate to this graduate program, and a writing sample. Certificate applications are accepted on a rolling basis and applicants need only to provide their CV, transcripts, a 500-word personal statement and TOEFL/IELTS/PTE scores (if international).

For more information, please visit our website: www.clemson.edu/yfcs.
Additional Information

Graduate School Admissions
www.grad.clemson.edu/admission/

Financial Aid
www.clemson.edu/financial-aid/

Tuition and Fees
www.clemson.edu/finance/student-financials/tuition-fees/

University Center in Greenville
www.ucgreenville.org/

Graduate Record Exam
www.ets.org/gre

TOEFL
www.ets.org/toefl

PTE
https://pearsonpte.com

Contact Information

yfcsinfo@clemson.edu
www.clemson.edu/yfcs

Mailing Address

International Family and Community Studies
Department of Youth, Family & Community Studies
Clemson University
225 S. Pleasentburg Drive, Suite E3
Greenville SC 29607
tel. 864.656.3410
Requirements

Applicants must hold a bachelor’s or a master’s degree from an accredited degree program.

In addition to strong academic performance, experience in volunteering and/or professional public service is desirable.

Individuals interested in applying to the Ph.D. program should submit a resume or CV, transcripts, GRE test scores, three letters of recommendation from professionals familiar with the applicant’s academic work and/or professional experience, a 500-word personal statement about the applicant’s career aspirations and goals as they relate to this graduate program, and a writing sample.

Students for whom English is not their first language are also required to submit TOEFL/IELTS/PTE scores.

Both U.S. and international students are welcome, as are both new graduates and experienced professionals. Applications are reviewed once a year for Fall admission.

Deadline for Applications is February 1.

To learn more about the programs, please visit www.clemson.edu/yfcs or email the Graduate Studies Coordinator at yfcsinfo@clemson.edu

About Us

The Department of Youth, Family and Community Studies (YFCS) helps generate, share and apply the research foundation for youth, family, and community development. Work at YFCS starts from the premise that strong communities support strong families and vice versa, and that both are necessary for the healthy development of children and youth.

To accomplish these goals, our department offers graduate programs, conducts empirical research, performs policy analyses, develops and evaluates programs, and provides technical assistance and community education.

We work at all levels, from neighborhood to global. A comparative perspective offers insights into understanding grassroots phenomena in neighborhoods and assists in developing effective responses in public policy and community development practice.

Our department offers a unique interdisciplinary graduate curriculum, drawing from the humanities, social sciences, health sciences, community development, and policy studies.

Graduate Programs

Graduate courses focus on family and community life (globalization, human development and family life in cultural context), human rights and social justice (international human rights law, the right to health, international law and policy related to children’s issues), community development and policy analysis (community development principles and practices, community transformation, policies and programs in human services, humanitarian assistance), cultural area studies, and social research methods.

Our programs benefit current or prospective university educators, interdisciplinary researchers, NGO leaders, government officials, community developers, social workers, psychologists, public health workers, and others.

Our campus-based program is offered at the University Center in Greenville, South Carolina.

For those students whose job or place of residence prevents them from attending classes at the University Center in Greenville, courses are delivered in a synchronous online format. Our courses allow students to participate and interact with faculty and fellow classmates in real time using web conferencing. Students can also maintain regular contact with faculty by phone, Skype, and web conferencing.

Ph.D. Program in International Family and Community Studies

The Ph.D. program consists of 57-63 credit hours, depending upon whether candidates enter with a master’s degree. At least 18 credits must be for dissertation research.

Certificate

A certificate program is also available, which consists of 12 credit hours, designed to meet individual student needs.

www.clemson.edu/yfcs