

CHILD LIFE



SACRAMENTO STATE

In Workflow

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Approval Path

1. 2025-10-10T03:20:07Z
Emily Oertling (oertling): Approved for FACS Committee Chair
2. 2025-10-10T03:21:57Z
Lynn Hanna (lhanna): Approved for FACS Chair
3. 2025-10-21T19:34:24Z
Bao Lo (lo): Approved for SSIS College Committee Chair
4. 2025-10-21T22:58:44Z
Emily Wickelgren (wickelgr): Approved for SSIS Dean

New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: 2025-10-10T02:38:35Z

Viewing: Child Life

Last edit: 2025-10-21T19:34:06Z

Changes proposed by: Ann Moylan (101015599)

Academic Group: (College)

Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies

Academic Organization: (Department)

Family and Consumer Sciences

Catalog Year Effective:

2026-2027 Catalog

NOTE: This degree major program will be subject to program review evaluation within six years after implementation.

Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
Ann Moylan	moylan@csus.edu	530-848-8777

Academic Master Plan Projection

Has this degree been approved for inclusion in the Academic Master Plan?

No

New degree major proposals must receive prior approval for inclusion in the Academic Master Plan before a New Program proposal can be submitted to Workflow. Submissions to the AMP can be made through the Miscellaneous Request form.

Type of Program:

Minor

Is this a pilot program?

No

Delivery Format:

Hybrid

Title of the Program:

Child Life

Designation: (degree terminology)

Minor

Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification:

Description (new)

This minor in Child Life will support students in meeting many of the academic requirements set forth by the Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) to become a Certified Child Life Specialist.

Justification

Sacramento State students who are interested in becoming certified in Child Life complete ten courses as REQUIRED by the Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP). In almost all cases, students have some (often half) of these 10 courses already completed or in progress as required by their major – typically in Child and Adolescent Development, Family Studies and Human Development, or Psychology. This minor provides the student with guidance in selecting the remaining courses needed for child life certification. This minor DOES NOT include the clinical internship that students must complete after graduation.

Formalizing the minor will allow recognition of these courses on the students' transcripts as a minor in Child Life. This will be advantageous to students who then compete after graduation for a clinical internship toward certification, as is required in the profession, or for admission into a graduate program. This also aligns with the CSU's commitment "to create flexible, career-integrated learning pathways" (source: CSU Forward: Thriving Students, Thriving University, Thriving California)." <https://www.calstate.edu/Strategic-Planning-for-the-CSU/Documents/csu-strategic-plan-2025.pdf>

University Learning Goals

Undergraduate Learning Goals:

Competence in the disciplines
Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world
Intellectual and practical skills
Personal and social responsibility
Integrative learning

Program Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome

Effectively exhibit communication skills including active listening, clarity in written and spoken delivery, accurate message receipt/understanding.

Demonstrate the use of analytical and critical thinking skills in problem-solving ability related to scope of practice.

Apply a code of ethics specific to Child Life professionals and including key values in the field.

Demonstrate cultural awareness/sensitivity including respect and support of multiple perspectives from other disciplines, societies, individuals, groups, and cultures.

Identify key components of a systems approach to understanding families, family structure and functions, family dynamics, family relationships, loss/bereavement, and family-centered care.

Learning Outcomes Display

Course Code	PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5
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Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?

No

Please attach a Comprehensive Program Assessment Plan

Comprehensive Program Assessment_ChildLifeMinor_2025.docx

Please attach a Curriculum Map Matrix

Curriculum Map Matrix_ChildLifeMinor.docx

Please attach a five-year budget projection

Budget Projection_ChildLifeMinor_2025.docx

Catalog Description:

The minor in Child Life is designed to support students in meeting the academic requirements designated by the Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) for those seeking to become Certified Child Life Specialists (CCLP). Students will be introduced to the practice and profession of child life, including scope of practice, ethical practice, the centrality of play in development, therapeutic play, the importance of a family systems approach, the impact of illness, and family-centered care.

NOTE: Students must also complete a CLINICAL INTERNSHIP which is **not included in the academic requirements** and involves a competitive process after completion of the Bachelor's degree.

Admission Requirements: Course prerequisites and other criteria for admission of students to the degree major program, and for their continuation in it.

Prerequisites:

In order to meet all course requirements as set forth by the Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP), students must complete two courses in child development (the two courses combined must cover development from birth to age 18) and a research course. *These 9 units are recommended prerequisites for the minor in child life (are not included in the units required for the minor), and may also be completed concurrently with the minor.*

Recommended prerequisites:

Two Child Development Courses

Lower division (3) units: CHAD 30 or CHAD 35 or FSHD 52, or PSYC 3, or equivalent.

Upper division (3) units: CHAD 137 or CHAD 138 or CHAD 143 or FSHD 152, or PSYC 148 or PSYC 149, or equivalent.

Research Course

FACS 100 or CHAD 123 or CHAD 133 or PSYC 8 or equivalent

Program Requirements: (If new courses are being created as part of a new program, it will be useful to propose courses first.)

EACH of these four courses 12 units)

- FSHD 150, Family Stress and Coping (3 units)
- FSHD 156, Child Life and Family-centered Care (3 units)
- CHAD 139, Educational Play: Theory and Practice OR KINS 128, The Science of Play (3 units)
- PSYC 151, Psychological Aspects of Death and Dying (3 units)

And 3 ADDITIONAL Courses from the following (or a substitution of a related course with minor advisor's approval). (9 units)

- CHAD 137, Cognitive Development (3 units)
- CHAD 138, Social and Emotional Development (3 units)
- CHAD 143, Mind and Brain in Developmental Context (3 units)
- CHAD 157, Infant and Toddler: Development and Care (3 units)
- FSHD 108, Family Communication (3 units)
- FSHD 154, Issues in Parenting (3 units)
- FSHD 162, Family Support Services (3 units)
- PHIL 102, Professional and Public Service Ethics (3 units)
- HLTH 6, Medical Terminology for Health Professionals (3 units)

For graduate programs, the number of declared undergraduate major and the degree production over the preceding years of the corresponding baccalaureate program:

N/A

Professional uses of the proposed degree major program:

This minor degree program in Child Life will assist students in completing the 10 courses required by the Association of Child Life Professionals. Some students may go into the Child Life profession, while others may find that this additional preparation is valuable in other professions related to child life. Understanding the impact of illness on children and families; children's conceptions of bodies, illness, and death; the significance of play in the life of the child; family dynamics, family systems, and family-centered care are valuable in all professions involving children, youth, parents/guardians, and caregivers.

Please attach any additional files not requested above:

Consultations for Child Life Minor.pdf

Key: 621