CONSUMER SCIENCES, MS

The Master of Science in Consumer Sciences is a 30-credit-hour degree program that offers advanced study in two complementary concentration areas.

**Consumer Economics Concentration**

The Consumer Economics concentration offers an applied microeconomics approach to understanding consumers in home, policy, and market environments. This concentration prepares students to continue study in a doctoral program or employment in a research-oriented setting investigating consumer decision-making, personal finance, and related family and consumer policy. This research-oriented concentration requires the successful completion of a thesis.

**Family Financial Planning and Counseling Concentration**

The Family Financial Planning and Counseling concentration focuses on the knowledge and skills necessary for a career in financial planning and related careers. The curriculum fulfills the educational requirements to sit for the CFP® certification exam that leads to the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification registered with the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. Students who successfully complete the concentration may sit for the CFP® certification exam that leads to the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification. The concentration also fulfills the educational requirements to sit for the Accredited Financial Counselor® exam offered by the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education®. Successful completion of a capstone project, practicum, or portfolio is required.

**Admissions**

See the Admission Criteria section of this catalog for more information.

**Curricular Requirements**

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<tr>
<th>Consumer Sciences, MS Core Courses</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>CSM 555 or CSM 560</td>
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<tr>
<td>BER 540 or CSM 558</td>
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<tr>
<td>BER 640 or CSM 554</td>
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**Family Financial Planning and Counseling Concentration**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code and Title</th>
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<td>CSM 500</td>
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**Transfer Credit**

See the Master's Degree Academic Policies section of this catalog for more information.

**Accelerated Master’s Program**

See the Accelerated Master's Degree Academic Policies section of this catalog for more information.

**Comprehensive Exam/Capstone**

See the Master’s Degree Academic Policies section of this catalog for more information.

**Fieldwork/Practicum/Internship**

See the Master’s Degree Academic Policies section of this catalog for more information.

**Plan I: Thesis**

The Consumer Economics Concentration requires completion of a thesis (Plan I). Upon admission to the M.S. program in Consumer Sciences, students are assigned an interim advisor (i.e., program coordinator or program director). The interim advisor will assist the student in the evaluation of previous work and selection of coursework. Students identify a permanent master's program advisor no later than the end of the first year of study for Consumer Economics concentration and end of the first semester of study for FFPC concentration. Advisors help students plan a course of study and research or professional internship experiences. Students should consult their advisor at least once per semester to review their progress. Students pursuing the Consumer Economics Concentration will select a thesis advisor who will assist in the formulation of the thesis committee. A student's advisor may also serve as their thesis advisor.

See the Master’s Degree Academic Policies section of this catalog for more information.
Plan II: Non-Thesis
The Family Financial Planning and Counseling Concentration is a Plan II program. As such, no thesis is required. Instead, Plan II students complete a supervised practicum or a capstone project.
See the Master's Degree Academic Policies section of this catalog for more information.

Time Limits for Degree Completion Requirements
See the Master's Degree Academic Policies section of this catalog for more information.

Student Progress Requirement
See the Master's Degree Academic Policies section of this catalog for more information.

Academic Misconduct Information
See the Academic Misconduct section of this catalog for more information.

Withdrawals and Leave of Absence Information
See the Withdrawals and Leave of Absence section of this catalog for more information.

Academic Grievances Information
See the Academic Grievance Procedures section of this catalog for more information.

Scholastic Requirements
See the Scholastic Requirements Policies section of this catalog for more information.

Graduate School Deadlines Information
See the Graduate School Deadline page for more information.

Application for Graduation Information
See the Application for Graduation section of this catalog for more information.