Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (CAFS) at California State University, Bakersfield provides breadth and depth in the scientific study of child, adolescent, and adult developmental domains. The program focuses on the biological, cognitive, psychological, and sociological foundations of learning from early childhood development, through adolescent growth, and adult behavior. The program design is based on contemporary learning theories, application of ethics and values, research methods and diverse family systems/approaches, with practical applications in disciplines that require direct interaction with children and families.

Mission Statement

The Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (CAFS) program offers learners specialized knowledge that enhances their skills and abilities to work and advocate in partnerships that foster healthy children, supportive family networks, and interactive community relationships. A social constructivist approach to learning is reinforced in the academic activities that result in superior educational preparation for teachers, parents, and community professionals. The mission of the program is to develop well prepared, highly skilled individuals who can envision, interact, and respond to the needs of diverse populations within the local, regional, national, and global community.

Program Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (CAFS) requires a minimum of 120 units which consists of courses for the CAFS major as well as other university-wide general education graduation requirements. Students pursuing a CAFS major must complete the pre-requisite classes.

Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (CAFS) requires a minimum of 120 units which consists of courses for the CAFS major as well as other university-wide general education graduation requirements. Students pursuing a CAFS major must hold a current certificate in First Aid and Adult, Child, and Infant CPR upon graduation. Students are expected to maintain a grade of "C-" or higher in all CAFS courses to count towards graduation.

Disclaimer: Due to substantial changes in credential legislation and degree programs in the State of California, please check with an official Child, Adolescent, and Family Studies (CAFS) advisor for current information.

Program Maps for Social Sciences and Education (https://programmap.csub.edu/academics/interest-clusters/a94a03c6-bc7d-471f-b602-cfeafa852c1aa/)

First-Year Seminar (FYS)

American Institutions: Government and History 6

Junior Year Diversity & Reflection (JYDR) 3

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) 3

Upper Division Thematic Area B and C 6

General Education Capstone 0

General Education Subtotal 53

Major Requirements

Prerequisites to the Major

CAFS 1100 Introduction to Child, Adolescent & Family Studies 3

CAFS 2000 Fundamentals in Developmental Theory 3

MATH 1209 Statistics in the Modern World 3

or PSYC 2018 Introduction to Statistical Methods in Psychological Research 3

or SOC 2208 Introduction to Statistics in the Social Sciences 3

Core Courses

CAFS 2080 Child, Family, and Community 3

CAFS 2500 Child Health, Safety, and Nutrition 3

CAFS 3110 Infant and Toddler Development 3

CAFS 3140 School Aged and Adolescent 3

CAFS 3500 Child Guidance, Supervision and Support 3

CAFS 4000 Introduction to Research Methods 3

CAFS 4100 Research, Assessment and Evaluation of Children and Families 3

CAFS 4908 Senior Seminar and Capstone 3

CAFS 3800 Multiple Perspectives on the Importance of Play 3

or CAFS 3550 Adulthood and Aging 3

CAFS 3560 Risk and Resilience in Children 3

or CAFS 3560 Aging and the Family 3

Major Electives

Aging and the Family 3

Risk and Resilience in Children 3

Introduction to Child, Adolescent & Family Studies 3

Fundamentals in Developmental Theory 3

Statistics in the Modern World 3

Introduction to Statistical Methods in Psychological Research 3

Introduction to Statistics in the Social Sciences 3

Senior Seminar and Capstone 3

Multiple Perspectives on the Importance of Play 3

Adulthood and Aging 3

Risk and Resilience in Children 3

Aging and the Family 3

Child Health, Safety, and Nutrition 3

Infant and Toddler Development 3

School Aged and Adolescent 3

Child Guidance, Supervision and Support 3

Research, Assessment and Evaluation of Children and Families 3

Senior Seminar and Capstone 3

Multiple Perspectives on the Importance of Play 3

Adulthood and Aging 3

Aging and the Family 3
Select two of the following:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAFS 1050</td>
<td>Practicum in Early Childhood Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 1250</td>
<td>Teaching in a Diverse Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 2100</td>
<td>Observation of Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 2200</td>
<td>Curriculum, Procedures, and Laboratory Experience for the Child</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 2300</td>
<td>Curriculum, Procedures, and Laboratory Experience in the Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 2400</td>
<td>Introduction to Administration of Child and Family Programs</td>
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<td>CAFS 2620</td>
<td>Philosophy for Children</td>
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<td>CAFS 2800</td>
<td>Multicultural Children’s Literature</td>
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Select two of the following:  

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<tr>
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<td>Individual and Family Development in Diverse Cultures</td>
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<td>CAFS 3600</td>
<td>Parenting and Family Relations</td>
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<td>CAFS 3620</td>
<td>P4C: Practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 4140</td>
<td>Advanced Practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 4200</td>
<td>Advanced Techniques for Working in Child and Family Programs</td>
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<td>CAFS 4300</td>
<td>School, Community, and Family Collaborations</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 4400</td>
<td>Advanced Practicum for Adult Education and Supervision</td>
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**Major Subtotal**  

51

**Additional Units Needed Towards Graduation**  

3  

16

**Total Units**  

120

1 Select two lower division courses  
2 Select two upper division courses  
3 Additional Units are needed to meet the 120 units graduation requirement.

**Note:** The following 3 courses are needed to meet the core requirements for CCTC Child Development Associate Teacher Permit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>CAFS 2000</td>
<td>Fundamentals in Developmental Theory</td>
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<td>CAFS 2080</td>
<td>Child, Family, and Community</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 2200</td>
<td>Curriculum, Procedures, and Laboratory Experience for the Child</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Total Units**  

9

**Note:** The following 3 courses are needed to meet the core requirements for CCTC Child Development Master Teacher Permit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<td>CAFS 2500</td>
<td>Child Health, Safety, and Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS 3110</td>
<td>Infant and Toddler Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAFS 3500</td>
<td>Child Guidance, Supervision and Support</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Total Units**  

9