

Human Development

2024-2025

The requirements listed below pertain to all students matriculating in August 2024 and January 2025.

All of the following sections are required to be completed to graduate.

Courses in areas 1-14 must be taken for a Letter Grade.

Students must receive a C- or above in course work in Areas 1-7 and 11 to complete the major requirements.

Overall Credits (REQUIRED)		
Total: 120 credits	Human Ecology: 45 credits (courses from DEA, FSAD, HD, NS, PUBPOL at any level or HE at the 3000/4000 level)	Human Ecology, outside the major: 11 credits (from DEA, FSAD, NS, and PUBPOL at any level or HE above 1500 level). Special Studies courses (4000, 4010, 4020) do not count.

- 1. HD Introductory Course** (3 credits)
HD 1130 Introduction to Human Development
- 2. Developmental Psychology** (6-7 credits)
Choose **two** courses from the list:
HD 2090 Mechanisms in Developmental Psychology
HD 2150 Infancy and Childhood
HD 2170 Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood
HD 2180 Adulthood and Aging
HD 2510 Social Gerontology: Aging and the Life Course
- 3. HD Depth Coursework** (6-8 credits)
Take **one** HD 3000-level course and **one** HD 4000-level course.
HD 4000, 4010, 4020, 4030, 4980, and 4990 cannot count for this requirement.
- 4. HD Breadth Course** (2-4 credits)
Students must take **one** course from one of the five areas (**Translational Research, Social and Environmental Influences, Cross-Cultural Perspectives, The Person in Context, or Engaged Learning**)
Breadth courses can be found online: <https://psychology.cornell.edu/-human-development-major-> Click on Degree Requirements (curriculum sheets)
- 5. Additional HD Coursework** (14-19 credits)
In addition to completing the above required course work, students must complete the remaining credits, totaling up to 36 HD credits.
Up to 12 credits from HD 4000, 4010, 4020, and 4990 can count toward this requirement.
HD 1111 cannot count for this requirement. HD coursework used for Area 6 cannot be used here.
- 6. Research Methods/Scientific Literacy** (2-4 credits)
Choose **one** of the following:
BIOG 1500 Investigative Biology Laboratory
COMM 2820 Research Methods in Communication Studies
GOVT 3999 How Do You Know That?
HD 2830 Research Methods in Human Development
HD 2930/PSYCH 2930 Data Science for Social Scientist I
HD 4765 How to Think Like a Scientist
PSYCH 3240 Behavioral Neuroscience Lab
STS 2011 What is Science?
- 7. CHE Core Curriculum** (5 credits)
Students must complete all three courses in their first three semesters:
HE 1800 Blazing Your Trail in Human Ecology
HE 1850 Introduction to Human Ecology
HE 2000 Human Ecology Pathways to Racial and Social Justice
- 8. First Year Writing Seminars** (6 credits)
Note: The 2 required first year writing seminar courses must be completed during the first two semesters at Cornell.
- 9. Social Science** (6 credits)
Any 2 courses with the Course Distribution SSC-AS, ETM-AS, SBA, or KCM
Note: Courses cross-listed with Human Development cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.
- 10. Humanities** (3-4 credits)
Choose any course with the Course Distribution Historical Analysis (HA or HST-AS), Literature and the Arts (LA or ALC-AS), or Cultural Analysis (CA).

11. Statistics (3-4 credits)

Must be taken at Cornell. AP Statistics is not accepted

Choose **one** of the following:

AEM 2100 Introductory Statistics

BTRY 3010 Biological Statistics I

ILRST/STSCI 2100 Introductory Statistics

PUBPOL 2100 Introduction to Statistics (*PUBPOL formerly PAM*)

PSYCH 2500 Statistics and Research Design*

* PSYCH 2500 is strongly recommended for HD majors. Students planning to do [honors in HD](#), must take the additional 4th credit in PSYCH 2500.

12. Natural Science I (3-4 credits)

Choose **one** of the following:

(a) **BIOG 1140** Foundations of Biology

(b) **BIOMG 1350** Introductory Biology: Cell and Developmental Biology

(c) **BIOG 1440** Introductory Biology: Comparative Physiology **OR**

BIOG 1445 Introduction to Comparative Anatomy and Physiology, Individualized Instruction

(d) AP Biology score of 5

Note: If AP isn't used to satisfy the requirement, then the **course must be taken at Cornell.**

Note: No lab is required.

13. Natural Science II (3-4 credits)

Any 3-4 credit course with a Course Distribution PBS, BIO-AS, PHS-AS, BIOLS-AG, or BIONLS-AG

(HD courses with Course Distribution PBS-HE courses cannot be used)

Note: No AP credit allowed, **course must be taken at Cornell.**

14. Additional Distribution Coursework (12 credits)

Any course with the Course Distribution PBS, ALC-AS, ETM-AS, HST-AS, SCD-AS, SSC-AS, SDS-AS, SMR-AS, BIOLS-AG, BIONLS-AG, SBA, KCM, MQR, LA, CA, or HA. Language courses may count here.

15. Electives (Variable)

Any courses that are not taken in Areas 1-14 above, count as Electives.

16. Physical Education Requirement (2 courses)

Physical Education must be completed in order to graduate. However, physical education does not count toward college and university minimum credit requirements for full-time status, nor does it count towards the 120 credits required for graduation.

17. Swim Test Requirement

A successful swim test must be completed in order to graduate.

All HD majors have the option to complete the [Human Development Honors Program](#), which is a two-year program where students are expected to defend an original research thesis. You must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and complete your first statistics class before applying in the Fall of your junior year.

College Policies:

- **120 Overall Credits**
 - Students must complete 120 credits toward graduation.
 - A maximum of 15 credits of AP credit and in absentia credit can count towards the 120 total credits.
 - 15 credits of Study Abroad/Exchange and Cornell-In-Washington or 12 credits of Capital Semester can count towards total electives.
- **45 HE Credits**
 - Students must complete a minimum of 45 HE credits.
 - HE non-departmental courses at the 1500-level and below do not count toward the 45 HE credits.
 - Students must enroll in a minimum of one 3-credit course each semester in HE for their first four semesters, excluding winter and summer sessions.
- **11 HE Credits outside the major**
 - Students must complete a minimum of 11 HE credits outside of HD.
 - FWS, HE non-departmental courses below the 1500 level, Statistics and Research Methods courses (PUBPOL 2100, PUBPOL 3120, DEA 3550, or HD 2830), Special Studies (4000, 4010, 4020), and teaching assistantships (4030) do not count toward this requirement.
 - These can be taken S/U only if course is NOT used to fulfill a curriculum requirement [Areas 1-14].
- **Pass/Fail Courses [S/U]**
 - S/U grading option may NOT be used for any required course [Areas 1-14] unless it is the only grade option offered for those courses.
 - S/Us MAY be used for the 11 HE Credits outside the major and for electives in Area 15.
 - Students may apply no more than 12 credits of S/U towards graduation requirements. If a required course is only offered S/U, it will not count towards this limit. Students may take more S/Us if they choose, but the additional credit will not be applied towards graduation.
 - The **deadline for changing grade options is the 57th calendar day of the semester**, the same as the “drop” deadline.
- **Special Study Courses [4000, 4010, 4020, 4030]**
 - A maximum of 12 credits of special study course work from Human Ecology or other colleges will count towards the 120 overall credits. Courses will be indicated on the class roster with a Component of either IND or RSC. [Additional credits can be taken but will not be applied.]
 - A maximum of 12 credits of 4000-4030 may count toward the 45 HE Credit requirement.
 - Credits from 4000, 4010, 4020, and 4030 cannot count towards the 11 HE credits outside the major requirement.
 - Students cannot TA (4030) the same course for credit more than once or take and TA the same course simultaneously. 4030 does not fulfill any requirements towards the major. Registration for 4030 may not exceed 5 credit hours per semester.