Comparative Human Development

Department Website: http://humdev.uchicago.edu

Program of Study

The program in Comparative Human Development (CHDV) focuses on the study of persons over the course of life; on the social, cultural, biological, and psychological processes that jointly influence development; and on growth over time in different social and cultural settings. The study of human development also offers a unique lens through which we consider broad questions of the social sciences, like the processes and impacts of social change, and the interactions of biology and culture. Faculty members in Comparative Human Development with diverse backgrounds in anthropology, biology, psychology, and sociology conduct research on topics that include (but are not limited to): the social and phenomenological experience of mental illness; comparative education; the impact of socioeconomic context on growth and development; the influence of social interaction on biological functioning; the tensions inherent in living in multicultural societies; the experience and development of psychotherapists in Western and non-Western countries; and the ways in which youth in developing countries are forging new conceptions of adulthood. Given this interdisciplinary scope, the program in Comparative Human Development provides an excellent preparation for students interested in advanced postgraduate study at the frontiers of several social science disciplines, or in careers and professions that require a broad and integrated understanding of human experience and behavior—e.g., mental health, education, social work, health care, or human resource and organizational work in community or corporate settings.

Advising

The first point of contact for undergraduates is the preceptor. Preceptors can be emailed at humdev-preceptors@lists.uchicago.edu.

Electronic Communication

Upon declaring a Comparative Human Development major, undergraduates should promptly join the department undergraduate email listserv to receive important announcements. Students request to join the listserv by logging in with their CNet ID at https://lists.uchicago.edu and subscribing to humdev-undergrad@listhost.uchicago.edu (humdev-undergrad@uchicago.edu).

Program Requirements

The undergraduate program in Comparative Human Development has the following components:
Core Courses

A two-quarter introductory sequence in Comparative Human Development should be completed prior to the Spring Quarter of a student’s third year. CHDV 20000 Introduction to Human Development focuses on theories of development, with particular reference to the development of the self in a social and cultural context. CHDV 20100 Human Development Research Designs in Social Sciences focuses on modes of research and inquiry in human development, including basic concepts of research design and different methods used in studying human development (e.g., ethnography, experiments, surveys, discourse analysis, narrative inquiry, and animal models). Consideration is given to the advantages and limitations of each approach in answering particular questions concerning person and culture.

Methods

Students must complete one quantitative or one qualitative Methods course or one research methods (or statistics) course in a related department. Courses that are not on the following list may be petitioned to count for Methods (see Petitions below).

The following are courses since 2012 that have fulfilled the Methods requirement without a petition:

- STAT 20000 Elementary Statistics
- PSYC 20100 Psychological Statistics
- CHDV 20101 Applied Statistics in Human Development Research
- CHDV 20405 Pornography and Language
- CHDV 26228 Ethnographic Methods
- CHDV 29301 Qualitative Research Methods
- CHDV 30102 Introduction to Causal Inference
- CHDV 32411 Mediation, Moderation, and Spillover Effects
- CHDV 37802 Challenging Legends and Other Received Truths: A Socratic Practicum

Distribution

Students must complete one course in each of three of the four areas below. These three courses must be taught within the Department of Comparative Human Development and must be designated as fulfilling the particular distribution requirement. (Example topics and courses within each area are listed.)

A. *Comparative Behavioral Biology:* includes courses on the biopsychology of attachment, evolutionary social psychology, evolution of parenting, biological psychology, primate behavior and ecology, behavioral endocrinology

Courses since 2012 that have fulfilled area A:

- PSYC 20300 Biological Psychology
- CHDV 21500 Darwinian Health
- CHDV 21800 Primate Behavior and Ecology
CHDV 22201 Developmental Biopsychology
CHDV 23249 Animal Behavior
CHDV 26227 Neuroscience and the Social Sciences
CHDV 26232 Comparative Cognitive Development
CHDV 26660 Genes and Behavior
CHDV 27950 Evolution and Economics of Human Behavior
CHDV 30901 Biopsychology of Sex Differences
CHDV 34800 Kinship and Social Systems
CHDV 37500 Research Seminar in Animal Behavior I
CHDV 37502 Research Seminar in Animal Behavior II
CHDV 37503 Research Seminar in Animal Behavior III
CHDV 37850 Evolutionary Psychology

B. Life Course Development: includes courses on developmental psychology; introduction to language development; psychoanalysis and child development; development through the life-course; the role of early experience in development; sexual identity; life-course and life story; adolescence, adulthood, and aging; the study of lives

Courses since 2012 that have fulfilled area B:
CHDV 20150 Language and Communication
CHDV 20207 Race, Ethnicity, and Human Development
CHDV 20209 Adolescent Development
CHDV 21000 Cultural Psychology
CHDV 21901 Language, Culture, and Thought
CHDV 23900 Introduction to Language Development
CHDV 25900 Developmental Psychology
CHDV 26226 Becoming Adult in Postmodern Context(s)
CHDV 26233 Critical Approaches to Child Mental Health
CHDV 26235 Life Course Development
CHDV 30405 Anthropology of Disability
CHDV 30301 Research on Contextualized Learning, Cognition, and Development

C. Culture and Community: includes courses on cultural psychology; psychological anthropology; social psychology; cross-cultural child development; language, culture, and thought; language socialization; psychiatric and psychodynamic anthropology; memory and culture

Courses since 2012 that have fulfilled area C:
CHDV 20150 Language and Communication
CHDV 20207 Race, Ethnicity, and Human Development
CHDV 20405 Pornography and Language
D. Mental Health and Personality: includes courses on personality theory and research; social and cultural foundations of mental health; modern psychotherapies; psychology of well-being; conflict understanding and resolution; core concepts and current directions in psychopathology; emotion, mind, and rationality; body image in health and disorder; advanced concepts in psychoanalysis

Courses since 2012 that have fulfilled area D:

- CHDV 20209 Adolescent Development
- CHDV 23204 Medical Anthropology
- CHDV 23301 Culture, Mental Health, and Psychiatry
- CHDV 23620 Medicine and Anthropology
- CHDV 23800 Theories of Emotion and the Psychology of Well Being
- CHDV 26233 Critical Approaches to Child Mental Health
- CHDV 26310 Vulnerability and Human Rights
- CHDV 27700 Modern Psychotherapies
- CHDV 30320 Violence and Trauma
- CHDV 30405 Anthropology of Disability

Specialization

Students must take three additional courses in one of the three areas they have chosen in their distribution requirement (for a total of four courses in one area). Two of the four courses in one’s specialization must be offered within the Department of Comparative Human Development. A student must petition for a course to count toward his or her specialization if the course is not already designated as fulfilling that specialization, or for any course offered outside the Department of Comparative Human Development.
Electives

A student must choose three additional courses in Comparative Human Development, or in a related discipline with prior approval of the CHDV program chair (petition required).

Petitions

Students may petition for non-CHDV courses to count toward the Methods, Specialization, and Electives requirements. Petitions are not allowed for the Core Courses or Distribution requirements. A maximum of four petitions is allowed. Only university-level courses credited by the University of Chicago or study abroad may be petitioned for CHDV requirements; no other form of credit (including Advanced Placement) is allowed. Whenever possible, petitions (using the CHDV petition form found at humdev.uchicago.edu/page/undergraduate-studies) should be emailed to the preceptor the first week of the quarter in which the student would like to take the course. There is no guarantee that the petition will be approved. Petitions should include a copy of the course syllabus, since the course title alone is often not sufficient for evaluating a petition. If a student wishes to petition a course already taken after they declare their CHDV concentration, they must submit that petition upon declaration. In all cases, students should submit a course petition as soon as they realize it is necessary to complete their major.

BA Honors Guidelines

Students with qualifying GPAs may seek to graduate with honors by successfully completing a BA honors paper that reflects scholarly proficiency in an area of study within Comparative Human Development. The paper should reflect original research of an empirical, scholarly, or theoretical nature and must be rated as worthy of honors by the student’s BA Honors Committee. This committee shall consist of two University faculty members (a chair and a second reader), at least one of whom must be a CHDV faculty member or associate faculty member. The paper should be about 30 to 40 pages in length. The grade given for it will become the grade of record for the Honors Paper Preparation course (CHDV 29900 Honors Paper Preparation). To receive departmental honors upon graduation, students (1) must have attained a cumulative overall GPA of 3.25 or higher and a major GPA higher than 3.5 by the end of the quarter prior to the quarter of graduation, and (2) must have completed a meritorious BA honors paper under the supervision of a CHDV faculty member and received a high grade on their BA honors paper. Students who seek departmental honors must complete CHDV 29800 BA Honors Seminar and then must register for CHDV 29900 Honors Paper Preparation with a CHDV faculty member who agrees to supervise their honors paper.

Permission to undertake a BA honors paper will be granted by the CHDV undergraduate chair to students who (1) have successfully completed the BA Honors Seminar and (2) have filed a properly completed BA Honors Paper Proposal Form with the departmental secretary no later than tenth week of Spring Quarter of the third year.

BA Honors Seminar
The CHDV 29800 BA Honors Seminar aims to help qualified students formulate a suitable proposal and find a CHDV faculty supervisor. Qualified students who wish to seek departmental honors must register for the CHDV 29800 BA Honors Seminar during their third year. Permission to register for CHDV 29800 BA Honors Seminar will be granted to students with a GPA that, at the end of Autumn Quarter of the third year, shows promise of meeting the standards set for honors (see above). This course is always offered during Spring Quarter and may be offered Winter Quarter as well (this is not guaranteed). This course must be taken for a quality grade and may be counted as one of the required electives.

**Honors Paper Preparation Course**

This tutorial course, CHDV 29900 Honors Paper Preparation, aims to help students successfully complete work on their BA honors paper. Students must register for the course with their CHDV faculty supervisor either in the Autumn or Winter Quarter of their fourth year, as a 13th required course.

**BA Honors Paper for Dual Majors**

In very special circumstances, students may be able to write a longer BA honors paper that meets the requirements for a dual major (with prior approval from the undergraduate program chairs in both departments). Students should consult with both chairs before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year. A consent form, available from the student’s College adviser, must be signed by both chairs and returned to the College adviser, with copies filed in both departmental offices, by the end of Autumn Quarter of the student’s graduation year.

**Honors Paper Due Date**

Honors papers are due by the end of fifth week of the quarter in which a student plans to graduate (typically in Spring Quarter).

**Residence**

Qualified students who wish to seek CHDV honors but who plan to study elsewhere Spring or Winter Quarter of their third year should make arrangements to take CHDV 29800 BA Honors Seminar in the Winter Quarter (if studying abroad in the spring) and the Spring Quarter (if studying abroad in the winter). Students who have already undertaken a BA honors project who plan to study elsewhere during their fourth year must have prior approval from their CHDV faculty BA project supervisor and the CHDV undergraduate chair.

**SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHDV 20000</td>
<td>Introduction to Human Development</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHDV 20100</td>
<td>Human Development Research Designs in Social Sciences</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Methods Course</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Distribution Courses</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Three Specialization Courses (chosen in one Distribution area)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Three Elective Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units</strong></td>
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* Students applying for CHDV honors must also register for CHDV 29900 Honors Paper Preparation; however, please note that CHDV 29900 does count in the body of the major, and can only be used to count as general elective. CHDV 29800 BA Honors Seminar, is also required and may be counted as one of the three required program electives.

**GRADING**

All courses required for the major in Comparative Human Development must be taken for quality grades.

*The courses below are a guide. For up-to-date course plans, please visit the quarterlyClass Schedules (http://classes.uchicago.edu) or the Anticipated Courses List at humdev.uchicago.edu/page/courses.*