

# **Comparative Human Development**

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## **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 relevant to 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; 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 psychotherapies 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 are the preceptors, so students should contact the preceptors before contacting the undergraduate program chair.

## **Electronic Communication**

Program undergraduates should promptly join the CHDV undergraduate email listserv (humdev-undergrad) upon declaring a human development major to receive important announcements. For information on how to sign up for the listserv, visit [lists.uchicago.edu](http://lists.uchicago.edu).

## **Program Requirements**

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

1. **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 focuses on theories of development, with particular reference to the development of the self in a social and cultural context. CHDV 20100 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.
2. **Methods.** Students must register for one quantitative or one qualitative CHDV methods course (designated in the list of Courses with the letter "M") or one research methods (or statistics) course in a related department with the consent of the CHDV program chair. A petition is required for Methods courses outside of Comparative Human Development with the exception of STATS 20000, PSYCH 20100, or a higher-level Statistics course, none of which require a petition to count for the Methods requirement.
3. **Distribution.** Students must take one course in three of the below four areas. These *three* courses must be CHDV courses and must be designated as fulfilling the particular distribution requirement. (Examples of topics within each area are listed.) Students are encouraged to take 2XXXXX level courses for distribution requirements. If students want to count a 3XXXXX level course, they must consult with a preceptor for approval prior to enrollment to confirm that the content and level of the course are appropriate for fulfilling this requirement.
  - 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.
  - B. *Life Course Development:* includes courses on social and psychological development through the life course, including courses on childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and aging; education and development; introduction to language development; the role of early experience in development; sexual and gender identity; the study of lives and families in social and cultural context.
  - C. *Culture and Community:* includes courses on cultural psychology; psychological anthropology; social psychology; cross-cultural child development; language, culture, and thought; language socialization; education in ethnic and cultural context; psychiatric and psychodynamic anthropology; memory and culture.
  - D. *Mental Health and Personality:* includes courses on personality theory and research; social and cultural foundations of mental and physical health; modern psychotherapies and their supporting institutions; 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.

4. **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 have a CHDV course number. A student must petition for courses to count toward their specialization if the course is not already designated as fulfilling that specialization or for any course without a CHDV number.
5. **Electives.** A student must choose *three* additional CHDV courses or courses 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 are allowed. Only University of Chicago sponsored courses may be petitioned for CHDV requirements; no other form of credits (including AP) are allowed. Whenever possible, petitions should be emailed to the preceptor the quarter in which the student would like to take the course. If a petition is turned in after the end of the first week of the quarter in which the student is taking 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 the course is necessary to complete their major.

## BA Honors and Related Courses

To receive program honors at graduation, students must have (1) attained a GPA in the major of 3.5 or higher and an overall GPA of 3.25 or higher by the end of the quarter prior to the quarter of graduation, *and* (2) completed a meritorious BA honors paper under the supervision of a CHDV faculty member or other person in the field with a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. Students who seek departmental honors must complete the Honors Seminar (CHDV 29800) in Spring Quarter of their *third* year and then must register for the Honors Paper Preparation course (CHDV 29900) in Fall or Winter Quarter of their *fourth* year. [NOTE: Starting the 2017-2018 academic year, CHDV 29900 will only be offered in Fall Quarter. Please plan accordingly.] Students must work with a CHDV faculty member or associate faculty member who agrees to be on their BA Honors Committee. (See the section entitled Honors Guidelines for a complete account of the requirements.)

- **BA Honors Seminar.** The Honors Seminar (CHDV 29800) aims to help qualified students formulate a suitable proposal and find a CHDV faculty supervisor. Students eligible for program honors must take the Honors Seminar Spring Quarter of their *third* year (see the section BA Honors Guidelines for the prerequisites and the note on Residence). NOTE: Starting the 2016-2017 academic year the Honors Seminar will only be offered Spring Quarter. This course must be taken for a quality grade and may be counted as one of the required electives.
  
- **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 (an advisor and a second reader), at least one of whom must be a CHDV faculty member or associate faculty member. A list of CHDV Faculty is provided below. The paper should be about thirty to forty pages in length, and the grade given for it will become the grade of record for the Honors Paper Preparation course (CHDV 29900). Permission to register for the BA Honors Seminar course (CHDV 29800) will be granted to students based on their GPA at the end of the quarter prior to taking CHDV 29800. Permission to undertake a BA honors paper will be granted by the CHD undergraduate chair to students who (1) have successfully completed the BA Honors Seminar (CHDV 29800), and (2) have filed a properly completed BA Honors Paper Proposal Form with the CHDV secretary in HD S 102 no later than tenth week of Spring Quarter of the third year. To receive CHDV honors upon graduation, students (1) must have attained a cumulative overall GPA of 3.25 or higher *and* a major GPA of 3.5 or higher by the end of the quarter prior to the quarter of graduation, and (2) must have received a high grade on their BA honors paper.
  
- **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 Preparation Course.** This tutorial course (CHDV 29900) aims to help students successfully complete work on their BA honors paper. Students must register for the course in Fall or Winter Quarter of their *fourth* year, as a *thirteenth required course*. [NOTE: Starting 2017-2018 academic year, CHDV 29900 will only be offered in Fall Quarter. Please plan accordingly.]

- **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 Quarter of their third year should speak to the BA Preceptor about a separate arrangement. 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

1234 = additional courses as a specialization in one of their three distribution areas 2 core courses (CHDV 20000 and 20100)

1 methods course

3 distribution courses

3 additional courses as a specialization in one of their three distribution areas

3 electives\*

12\* total courses

\* Students applying for CHDV honors *must* also register for CHDV 29900 (Honors Paper Preparation), increasing the total to *thirteen* (13) courses. However, note that CHDV 29800 (BA Honors Seminar) 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.

## CHDV Faculty

J. Cole, S. Goldin-Meadow, W. Goldstein, S. Hans, G. Hong, M. Keels, S. Levine, J. Lucy, D. Maestripieri, J. Mateo, M. McClintock, A. Mueller, E. Raikhel, L. Richland, R. Shweder, M. Spencer

## Associated Faculty

K. Cagney, S. Carr, S. Mufwene, K. Schilt, L. Waite, A. Woodward