

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

College of Health and Human Services
Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Department Chair: Wendy Reiboldt

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Program Director: Peter Kreysa

Baccalaureate Program Coordinator: Richard V. Tuveson

Graduate Coordinator: Virginia Gray

Administrative Support Coordinators:

Mikal Lok, Marina Bendersky, Andrew Redmayne

Instructional Support Technician: Bonnie Rice

Career Possibilities

Consumer Advocates on Television and Radio Stations • Litigation Consumer Specialist • Product Safety Advocate • Credit Counselor • Food and Drug Consumer Specialist • Federal Trade Consumer Specialist • Community Consumer Educator • Consumer Affairs Teacher • Financial Advisor • Financial Counselor • Product Safety and Health Care Consultants • Customer Service Representative • Housing Counselor • Homeless Coordinator • Property Manager • Product Researcher (Some of these, and other careers, require additional education or experience. For more information, see www.careers.csulb.edu.)

Undergraduate Programs

Bachelor of Arts in Family and Consumer Sciences

This degree offers six options:

- Child Development and Family Studies
- Consumer Affairs
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- Family Life Education
- Fashion Design
- Fashion Merchandising

Degree and certificate information and requirements are listed under each option alphabetically in this catalog.

Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and Food Administration

This degree offers two options:

- Nutrition and Dietetics
- Food Science

Degree and certificate information and requirements are listed under each option alphabetically in this catalog.

Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management

Degree and certificate information and requirements are listed under each option alphabetically in this catalog.

Consumer Affairs

This program focuses on how businesses, government agencies, and community organizations interact with families and consumers.

Option in Consumer Affairs (120 units)

Take one of the following support courses:

PSY 100 General Psychology (3)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Students who score 147 or above on the English Placement Test or "C" or better in one of the following AFRS 100, ASAM 100, CHLS 104, ENGL 100S or ALI 150 or ALP 150 or equivalent.

SOC 100 Principles of Sociology (3)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: A GE Foundation course.

Take one of the following support courses:

ECON 100 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)

Prerequisite: MATH 103 or higher.

ECON 101 Principles of Microeconomics (3)

Prerequisites: MATH 103 or higher.

ECON 300 Fundamentals of Economics (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements.

Take one of the following support courses:

SOC 170 Elementary Statistics (4)

Prerequisites: Eligible to take a General Education Mathematics Course.

STAT 108 Statistics for Everyday Life (3)

Prerequisites: None

Take all of the following major courses:

FCS 299 Intro to Family and Consumer Sciences (1)

Prerequisites: None.

Not open for credit to students with credit in FCSE 299.

CAFF 223 Personal and Family Financial Management (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements.

CAFF 226 Consumer Life Skills (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements.

CAFF 228 Housing in Global Perspective (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements.

CAFF 321 Family and Consumer Resource Management (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements, one or more Exploration courses, and upper division standing.

CAFF 427 Consumer Dynamics (3)

Prerequisites: Students must have scored 11 or higher on the GEAR Placement Examination or successfully completed the necessary portfolio course that is a prerequisite for a GEAR Writing Intensive Capstone.

CAFF 429 Consumer Protection (3)

Prerequisites: Upper Division course in consumer affairs or consent of instructor.

FCS 499 Professionalism and Leadership in FCS (1)

Prerequisites: FCS 299, CAFF 321, 12 units of upper division course work in Family and Consumer Sciences. Must be taken in one of the last two semesters prior to graduation.

Not open for credit to students with credit in FCSE 499.

Take two of the following courses:

CAFF 307 Crimes against Consumers (3)

Prerequisite: None.

CAFF 309 The Consumer in the Legal and Economic Environment (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements; completion of one or more Exploration courses; upper division standing.

CAFF 322 Family Housing and Urban Community (3)

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

CAFF 420 Personal Finance for the Aging (3)

Prerequisites: 400-level course in Consumer Affairs or consent of instructor.

CAFF 422 Housing Policies: Public and Private (3)

Prerequisite: CAFF 322, upper division standing or consent of instructor.

CAFF 425 Personal Financial Planning Analysis (3)

Prerequisites: CAFF 223 or consent of instructor.

CAFF 426 Family Financial Problems (3)

Prerequisites: CAFF 223 or consent of instructor.

CAFF 492C Internship in Consumer Affairs (3)

Prerequisites: Student must be a Family and Consumer Sciences: Consumer Affairs major; have senior standing; approval of a faculty advisor in Consumer Affairs; or consent of instructor.

FCS 497 Directed Studies (3)

Prerequisites: Upper division standing, consent of instructor.

Not open for credit to students with credit in FCSE 497.

Each course on the student's program planner must be completed with a grade of "C" or better. In addition, a course in which a grade lower than "C" is received must be retaken and successfully completed prior to enrolling in any course for which it is a prerequisite. A student receiving a grade lower than a "C" may proceed with other courses with approval of the Consumer Affairs Area Coordinator.

Minor in Consumer Affairs

Fifteen units as approved by a Consumer Affairs faculty advisor. The Minor in Consumer Affairs is available to any non-Consumer Affairs major.

Take two of the following courses:

CAFF 223 Personal and Family Financial

Management (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements.

CAFF 226 Consumer Life Skills (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements.

CAFF 228 Housing in Global Perspective (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements.

Take 9 units of Consumer Affairs courses in consultation with an Academic Advisor.

Consumer Affairs Courses (CAFF)

LOWER DIVISION

223. Personal and Family Financial Management (3)

Prerequisite: GE Foundation requirements.

A functional approach to personal finance including budget systems, consumer credit, insurance, debt collection system, status obligation, accumulating reserves. Applicable for personal and professional use.

(Lecture-discussion 3 hours)

226. Consumer Life Skills (3)

Prerequisite: GE Foundation requirements.

Consumer life skills with an emphasis on practical applications in the marketplace. Includes the history of the consumer movement, consumer rights and responsibilities, financial wellness, consumer debt, consumer behavior, fraud, and consumer redress.

(Lecture-discussion 3 hours)

228. Housing in Global Perspective (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements.

Family housing options and choices in urban and rural areas throughout the world viewed within the context of history, politics, culture, art, environment, geography, technology and economics.

(Lecture-discussion, 3 hours).

UPPER DIVISION

307. Crimes against Consumers (3)

Study of laws and agencies devoted to consumer protection; the investigation of consumer crimes, including product counterfeiting, consumer frauds/scams, false advertising, adulterated food, dangerous drugs and devices, and quackery; and college students, veterans, immigrants, and seniors as consumer crime victims.

Letter grade only (A-F) Same course as CRJU 307. Not open for credit to students with credit in CRJU 307.

309. The Consumer in the Legal and Economic Environment (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements; completion of one or more Exploration courses; upper division standing.

Incorporates an integrated coverage of the economic, legal, ethical and regulatory environment of consumers in avoiding and resolving disputes regarding fraudulent transactions, financial matters, personal and real property contracts, torts, credit and investment issues, and family relationships. Team taught.

(Lecture-discussion 3 hours) Same course as BLAW 309. Not open for credit to students with credit in FIN 309 or BLAW 309.

321. Family and Consumer Resource Management (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements, one or more Exploration courses, and upper division standing.

Basic management principles applied to personal and family settings. Examines role of values, goal formation, decision-making, planning, implementing, and evaluation of managerial behavior in diverse family and cultural settings.

Letter grade only (A-F). (Lecture-discussion 3 hours)

322. Family Housing and the Urban Community (3)

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing.

Critical analysis of family housing in urban community including aspects of shelter, city and service providers. Sociological, psychological, legislative, economic and technical factors investigated. Special attention given to families of various structures and socioeconomic background.

(Discussion 3 hours)

388. Consumers vs. Technology: Who's Winning? (3)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements, upper division standing, ENGL 100 or GE Composition (Area A1).

An examination and analysis of consumer interaction with rapidly expanding technology. Historical record of Consumers and Technology since 1900. What does the future hold? This is a writing intensive course.

Letter grade only (A-F). (Discussion 3 hours.)

420. Personal Finance for the Aging (3)

Prerequisites: 400-level course in Consumer Affairs or consent of instructor.

Personal finance as applied to the aging population.

Same course as GERN 420. Not open for credit to students with credit in GERN 420. (Lecture-discussion 3 hours)

422. Housing Policies: Public and Private (3)

Prerequisites: CAFF 322, upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Federal, state, and local policies, programs and legislation concerning housing and urban development. Analysis of the housing industry and its influence on the consumer market.

Letter grade only (A-F). (Discussion 3 hours)

425. Personal Financial Planning Analysis (3)

Prerequisite: CAFF 223 or consent of instructor.

Analysis and protection of personal and family resources; planning and forecasting goals; development of financial strategies utilizing insurance, investment, tax management, pensions, wills and trusts.

(Lecture-discussion 3 hours)

426. Family Financial Problems (3)

Prerequisite: CAFF 223 or consent of instructor.

Theory and practice in the diagnosis of family financial crises; selecting alternative solutions; constructing practical methods for the prevention of family financial problems.

(Discussion 2 hours, laboratory 3 hours)

427. Consumer Dynamics (3)

Prerequisites: Students must have scored 11 or higher on the GEAR Placement Examination or successfully completed the necessary portfolio course that is a prerequisite for a GEAR Writing Intensive Capstone.

Examination and analysis of consumer motivation, demand, and behavior. Consumers in the global marketplace. Exploration of individual, family, and household dynamics that influence decision making. This is an intensive writing course.

Letter grade only (A-F).

429. Consumer Protection (3)

Prerequisites: Upper Division course in consumer affairs or consent of instructor.

Concepts of consumer protection with analysis of a myriad of resources available for individuals and families with consumer problems.

(Seminar 3 hours)

492C. Internship in Consumer Affairs (3)

Prerequisite: Student must be a Family and Consumer Sciences: Consumer Affairs major; have senior standing; approval of a faculty advisor in Consumer Affairs; or consent of instructor.

Field experience in which student assumes a preprofessional role in a professional setting. Objectives developed by student with supervisor must be approved by major advisor and form the basis for evaluation.

May be repeated for 6 units maximum. (Seminar 3 hours)