

**Certificate: Advanced Marriage and Family Functioning****Certificate Description:**

The certificate in advanced marriage and family functioning prepares students for entry-level work in the human services industry. This certificate is developed and granted by BYU-Idaho.

| Course Code | Course Name               | 15 Credits |
|-------------|---------------------------|------------|
| FAML 220    | Parenting                 | 3 Credits  |
| FAML 300    | Marriage                  | 3 Credits  |
| FAML 400    | Family Theories/Dynamics  | 3 Credits  |
| FAML 460    | Child and Family Advocacy | 3 Credits  |
| FCS 340     | Money Management          | 3 Credits  |

**Course Descriptions:*****FAML 220 (3 credits) – Parenting***

This course involves a study of theories, principles, and practices needed to build nurturing and supportive parent-child relationships and to guide children toward healthy developmental outcomes.

***FAML 300 (3 credits) – Marriage***

This course focuses on contemporary issues affecting marriage, along with skills and principles needed to build strong and successful marriages.

***FAML 400 (3 credits) – Family Theories/Dynamics***

This course involves an in-depth look at family theories and their assumptions including: systems theory, exchange theory, family development theory, and symbolic interactionism and ecological theory. Family processes related to power, communication, dysfunctions and addictions, rules and patterns of interaction, distance regulation, and family rituals will be explored. Students will use theory to develop intervention and prevention programs.

***FAML 460 (3 credits) – Child and Family Advocacy***

This course focuses on current challenges or issues being experienced by children and families and on the development of public policies to address these issues. An ecological approach to the study of policy formation with the aim of gaining knowledge and skills to successfully advocate for appropriate and effective child and family policies will be explored.

***FCS 340 (3 credits) – Money Management***

This course covers financial concepts of direct concern to the individual or family. Budgeting, financial institutions and services, consumer buying, use and control of credit, financial records, buying and selling homes, insurance, and basic investments will be explored.

### **Outcomes:**

- Create practical plans for improving marriage and family functioning.
- Locate and synthesize relevant research findings pertaining to marriage and family studies.
- Effectively advocate for marriage and family through persuasive writing.

### **Potential Employment:**

Typically, additional certificates or degrees could be required in this field before jobs could be expected. In the United States it is possible this may lead to entry level, support positions in the following fields:

- Social and community services
- Family mediation
- Parent education