We’ll make a difference in your education so you can make a difference in the world.
Our college prepares future professionals who make a difference.

Students who enroll in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) at the University of Delaware are looking to make a difference in the lives of children, students and families, locally and around the world.

For our students, there is no greater joy than:

- Helping a child learn to read
- Showing parents how to engage their toddler with autism in beneficial play
- Identifying the stumbling blocks a student encounters when learning fractions
- Exploring the cultural differences of people, both locally and globally, to better understand and appreciate their educational and developmental needs.

Our programs are designed to solve the most critical education and social problems of our time – through research, teaching and service.

Our students participate in fieldwork from day one - applying their classroom knowledge in real-world settings.

Our faculty are here to teach, advise and guide students through classwork, research projects and internships.

Our alumni get jobs in education, social services and government organizations – helping to make a positive impact on individuals, families and communities.

Our centers provide services and research opportunities to improve the lives of the people we touch.

Mike (PoPs) Adams
Human Services
Class of 2004

“Growing up in Paterson, N.J., going to college wasn’t even a consideration. That was until I was offered a football scholarship in 1999. As an inner-city kid, I felt very out of place here, but I was determined to graduate. I wasn’t certain what to major in, but I knew I wanted to help people. Once I took classes in human development, I knew I’d found my niche.

“Although I am a professional football player (currently with the Denver Broncos), I never forgot the people back home. That’s why I teamed up with my childhood friend Gerald Hayes, of the Arizona Cardinals, and started the Rising Stars Foundation. We provide mentoring, backpacks full of school supplies and scholarships for post-secondary education to underprivileged children in New Jersey.”

“I created the Rising Stars Foundation to support the kids back home in Paterson, N.J. We want to help them overcome the negativity in the streets. We help them build self-esteem through football camps and mentoring.”

— Mike Adams
Our students build relationships that change lives.

The College of Education and Human Development is comprised of two academic units – the Department of Human Development and Family Studies and the School of Education. Our 100 faculty members and 200 professional and support staff are here to educate and guide more than 1,000 undergraduate students and 400 graduate students each year as they pursue their chosen fields.

While enrolled, CEHD students not only learn in the classroom – they gain valuable experience in the field. Starting freshman year, students are given field placements, where they can begin applying their knowledge from day one.

The college has four centers and four children’s programs that support the academic mission of the college, offering opportunities to conduct research and serve the community.

Our centers:
- Center for Disabilities Studies
- Delaware Center for Teacher Education
- Delaware Education Research & Development Center
- Mathematics & Science Education Resource Center

Our children’s programs:
- Early Learning Center-Newark and Wilmington
- Laboratory Preschool
- The College School

LAUREN HENNESSEY
Elementary Teacher Education, Class of 2013

“I am a peer mentor and coach in the Career and Life Studies Certificate program within the Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS). The certificate program provides young adults with intellectual disabilities an opportunity to take courses at UD, as well as participate in clubs and activities.

“My experience with CDS has allowed me to transfer material I learn from textbooks, research, and the classroom and apply it as I work with students. Every student is different, and I love that I have been able to observe new learning and progression each day. My goal is to become an elementary special education teacher. I know I have gained the knowledge, skills, and practice to help me in my future career, and for that I am grateful. I only hope I can make as much of an impact on the students I work with as they have left on me.”

—Lauren Hennessey

“My favorite aspect of CDS is the one-to-one relationships I have built with the students through individualized coaching sessions. I get to see the students’ progression as they develop life skills that will help them reach their ultimate goals.”

—Lauren Hennessey

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SERVICES OUR CENTERS PROVIDE.
Our students become part of a community of learners and leaders.

We often hear students say that they feel at home as soon as they arrive here. Small classes, supportive faculty and hands-on experiential learning provide a challenging yet comfortable learning environment. Our goal is to provide our students with the knowledge, skills and experiences to ensure they enter their chosen field as fully prepared professionals.

Students interested in making a difference in the lives of children and families around the world can choose from our three undergraduate majors*:
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Teacher Education
- Human Services

Our college also offers five minors:
- Disabilities Studies
- Educational Studies
- Educational Technology
- Human Development & Family Studies
- Urban Education

Graduates who receive a degree in education qualify for teaching certification in other states through interstate reciprocity agreements. Many of our education students are also eligible for dual certification in both elementary education and their area of concentration. Having a second teaching certificate in a high-need area makes our graduates very marketable.

* Students interested in teaching secondary education will need to apply for a bachelor’s degree within the college offering their preferred subject area.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR DEGREE PROGRAMS.

KATE DEJULIUS
Human Services, minor in Spanish, Class of 2013

“I have been given so many phenomenal opportunities at UD. I have had excellent relationships with my professors, an abundance of hands-on experiences in the working world and the chance to learn all over the world. When I tell people about my experiences in college, I see their looks of amazement. I feel proud to be a student at the University of Delaware.”

CHRISTINE SCANNELL
Elementary Teacher Education, concentration in middle school math, Class of 2013

“My classes at UD have been a great experience. Each education class I’ve taken has been with a professor who was knowledgeable, caring and truly motivated by our success. The feeling of community and belonging within this college makes going to class a comfortable and enjoyable experience. With all the opportunities here for hands-on experience, CEHD has prepared me well for my career in teaching.”

Photo by Kathryn Atkinson
Our programs provide discovery learning through field experience beginning freshman year.

A key element of our program is that students work in their field - beginning their freshman year - gaining practical experience observing, tutoring, mentoring and teaching.

Our College has several “living laboratories” on campus that provide CEHD students with the opportunity to work with children, youth, parents, and individuals with disabilities. These are the settings in which students begin to develop their professional skills. We have a Children’s Campus with an early learning center, a preschool and a school for children in grades 1-8 with learning differences.

For students interested in the field of human services, we have the Center for Disabilities Studies and the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood, providing opportunities to work with individuals with disabilities, young children and families.

By integrating classwork with extensive field experience, our students are given the knowledge and tools to positively affect children and families, locally, nationally or around the globe. As a result, our graduates are in high demand in the job market.

Sarah Bergan
Early Childhood Education
Class of 2007
Administrative Coordinator, UD Laboratory Preschool

“Seeing our families arrive each day with smiles on their faces, hearing the children talking and singing and laughing in their classrooms, and getting goodbye hugs at the end of the day are constant reminders that I’m in the right field.” — Sarah Bergan

“Not only did I major in Early Childhood Education, upon graduation, I became the staff at the Laboratory Preschool and have been here four years. I love working in a place where learning occurs on so many levels. We are having a positive impact on our young children and their families as well as on our UD students who are preparing to work in this important field.”

“...when I first came to college, I didn’t know what major to choose. But during my freshman year, I toured the Laboratory Preschool and saw all the amazing opportunity for research and observation available to Early Childhood Education students right here on campus. I was so intrigued, and knew this was the major for me.”

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Our faculty are dedicated to promoting learning and development in our students and helping to develop solutions to the problems that face our schools and the challenges encountered by children, adults, families and the communities in which they live.

Our students have the opportunity to work with and learn from professors who are renowned in their fields. These include:

Roberta Golinkoff, H. Rodney Sharp Chair in the School of Education. She is a prolific researcher and the author of 12 books. As the director of two research laboratories on campus, she invites nearly 20 undergraduate and graduate students to work with her each semester. Students work closely with Golinkoff, acquiring in-depth experience conducting research — designing studies, running experiments, interviewing children, coding and analyzing data and writing up the findings for presentation or publication.

Cynthia Paris, director of the Laboratory Preschool, works with students in the Honors Program, introducing them to research through structured observations of children, interviews, data collection and analysis. Students may even present their work at professional conferences and, in some cases, co-author articles for publication.

“Through research, our students learn how to ask important, insightful questions, critically evaluate evidence and apply their findings to everyday life.” — Roberta Golinkoff

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Our faculty make a difference — helping to advance knowledge in the fields of education and human development by focusing on applied research. For example: Bahira Trask, professor of human development and family studies, is a respected author, writing and editing four books, including Globalization and Families: Accelerated systemic social change. In 2011, Trask was one of only two experts from the United States invited to speak to the United Nations in preparation for the 20th anniversary of the International Year of the Family. She discussed how current trends are affecting families around the world. Recently, she has spoken about globalization at conferences in Brazil and Argentina and a TEDx event in Delaware. Most importantly, Trask is dedicated to imparting her knowledge and wisdom to her students. She serves as an adviser for both undergraduate and graduate students, and her classes on family studies and human relations are highly regarded.

Jennifer Bostick
BS/MS Human Services
Leadership, Class of 2013

"After taking a class with Dr. Trask in 2010, she invited me to join her for a volunteer opportunity in Wilmington, Del., helping to improve the conditions of an inner-city neighborhood. Working alongside her, I found her to be not only an inspirational professor but a profound mentor as well. I am now serving an assistantship with the Center for Community Research and Service Blueprint Communities, where Dr. Trask continues to serve as my mentor and adviser. "What is most remarkable about Dr. Trask is her ability to connect and relate with her students, faculty and community leaders. She truly feels valued and understood in her presence."

"Dr. Trask not only forges connections on her own, but serves as a catalyst, bringing others together. She is a powerful presence in the lives of her students, and a humble, influential advocate in the diverse communities she works with."

—Jennifer Bostick

Watch Professor Trask’s Presentation at a TED Conference.
Our activities inspire our students with new ideas and experiences.

College is about more than just academics. To make the most of their time at UD, we encourage students to explore new ideas, meet new friends and develop new skills.

In CEHD, it’s easy for students to find a club or organization that enhances their college experience. We sponsor student chapters for a number of professional organizations in the fields of education and human development. We also offer opportunities to work in student government, serve as a college ambassador or mentor students within the ASPIRE Program, supporting underrepresented populations, to help them succeed in college. These organizations help our students develop leadership skills, network with peers and faculty and grow both personally and professionally.

For students interested in conducting research, there are several programs on campus that provide both monetary and academic support. These programs allow graduate and undergraduate students to collaborate with faculty and gain valuable hands-on experience.

Undergraduate and graduate students who meet the criteria are invited to join Kappa Delta Pi and Kappa Omicron Nu, two honor societies that recognize students for their excellence in scholarship, leadership and research.

AMBER BEAMAN
Elementary Teacher Education, math concentration, Class of 2013
ASPIRE member

“As a member of ASPIRE, I had the opportunity to gain valuable leadership experience. In addition, the scholarships that are offered have really helped me in my undergraduate career and allowed me to participate in things I would not otherwise have been able to experience.”

—Amber Beaman

“...I became interested in ASPIRE as a high school student, and in my senior year applied for an internship working at a Head Start program. I met a lot of great people at UD and from that experience I knew that I would be happy here.

“The summer after my sophomore year, I applied for a research internship through ASPIRE, helping to teach an enrichment program. While there, we tracked the students’ math abilities to see if they had increased. I was then able to help present our findings at a national educator’s conference in Georgia. This inspired me to examine and compare the teaching methods of math educators in the U.S. with other countries where student performance levels are higher. I worked with Professor Hiebert, School of Education, as a McNair Scholar, and discovered some practical things that U.S. educators can implement to help increase their students’ abilities.”

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Our study abroad programs...

The University of Delaware is a national leader in study abroad programs, consistently ranking among the top five public research-intensive institutions for student participation. Approximately 40 percent of undergraduate students travel abroad, studying with faculty on six of the seven continents.

Within the College of Education and Human Development, we encourage our students to take advantage of this life-changing experience. Just as eyeglasses improve vision, cross-cultural awareness and sensitivity can open a student’s eyes to a better understanding of people and cultures around the world. Approximately 140 CEHD students study abroad each year.

Study abroad programs are typically offered during winter or summer sessions. Recently, students have traveled to Australia, Barbados, France and South Africa.

In 2013, a new program will be offered in Milan, where students will learn about the childcare system in Italy and explore the challenges that organizations face while serving people with developmental disabilities.

“Not only do our students learn about their new environment and the people with whom they interact, they also discover a lot about themselves. They develop an expanded personal perspective, improve problem-solving skills, and often a deeper appreciation for their own privilege—something they took for granted.”

—Norma Gaines-Hanks

NORMA GAINES-HANKS, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

Professor Gaines-Hanks has been coordinating study abroad programs in South Africa and Barbados for more than 10 years. She has found that international service learning has an incredibly positive effect on students — personally, professionally and emotionally.

They develop a deeper appreciation for what they can accomplish as a human services professional and a better understanding of the challenges they may face.

NoRMA gAiNES-HANks,
Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Studies

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Participants in study abroad take classes augmented by guest speakers and excursions. The coursework includes visits or service-learning placement at local schools, orphanages or hospitals and inspires students to develop an appreciation and respect for people from radically different cultures.

Our students have said of their experience:

“I gained new insight into how independent kids can be.”

“It made me grow to love the Mohau kids as if they were my own.”

“It changed my thinking in terms of the needs of the children. At first supplies and such seemed to be their biggest need. Later I learned that the number one need of the children is affection.”

Many students express an increased sense of gratitude as a result of their international experience:

“going abroad made me so grateful for what I have here.”

“it changed the way I value my life and the opportunities I have been given.”

The experience is so profound, many students participate in more than one program or even return to their host country on their own.

Katie LibeRopoLos
Human Services, minor in disabilities studies and sociology Class of 2013

In 2012 I spent my Winter Session in South Africa. As part of my curriculum, I was placed at Luvuyo Day Center and Orphanage. Living in Luvuyo for a month opened our eyes to a culture entirely different from our own. There were countless happy and beautiful moments, intermixed with the sad and challenging stories. The relationships we formed with the children and women at the sites grew each day and will always be apart of us.

“Not a day goes by when I do not think about the people at Luvuyo. It made me appreciate everything I have in my life and realize how blessed I am.”
Our small state leads to big connections and more opportunities.

Delaware is a small state — the second smallest in size and the sixth smallest in population. Instead of finding this limiting, our students discover it to be a great advantage.

UD is located in Newark, Del., recently recognized as having a “Great American Main Street.” The University is big enough to offer extensive opportunities, while small enough to provide a warm, community feel.

Our alumni have strong ties to their alma mater, allowing students to make valuable contacts. Prominent graduates of UD include Vice President Joe Biden, who donated his senatorial papers to the UD library, and his wife, Jill Biden, a doctoral alumna of our college. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie has spoken a number of times on campus and regularly attends UD football games. Rita Landgraf, CEHD alumna, is secretary of Delaware’s Department of Health and Social Services.

Our students have the opportunity to meet with, work for and learn from the people who are defining the policies that affect the citizens of our state and the nation.

Jodi Stark Thorpe
Early Childhood Education
Class of 2013

“As part of a group project for HDFS 355 - Professional Issues in Early Childhood, my classmates and I had to advocate for a service we were passionate about. Along with six other early childhood education majors, we decided to increase awareness on the importance of play. We wrote to Delaware Gov. Jack Markell and petitioned him to establish a Play Day for the state, explaining the benefits that unstructured play offers to children. Within a few weeks, he sent us a proclamation, declaring June 1, 2012, as a statewide Day of Play. We have created a website that features helpful play events and information and will continue Play Day as an annual celebration. It was remarkable that the governor was so receptive to our initiative.”
Our students receive recognition and support to achieve their goals.

We appreciate the dedication our students demonstrate while pursuing their education. To show our gratitude, we have a number of awards and scholarships available that provide not only public recognition, but monetary benefits as well.

In the Department of Human Development and Family Studies, we offer awards that support students who demonstrate high academic achievement, strong leadership skills, an interest in research or dedication to disabilities services, gender studies of child advocacy.

In the School of Education, students are recognized for excelling in their chosen fields of math, social studies, special education and research.

Students interested in conducting research with our University faculty may enroll in the Summer Scholars Program. Working closely with a CEHD faculty member for 10 weeks in the summer, each Scholar receives a stipend for their work.

Through these scholarships and awards, promising students are provided opportunities they might otherwise not have had.

“Attending the University of Delaware and majoring in human services with a minor in disability studies is one of the best decisions I have ever made!”

—Kylie Melvin

“...I have worked with Special Olympics Delaware since I was 11 years old. I love working directly with children and adolescents with disabilities, which is why I became a human services major. In 2010, I received the Swank Human Services Disabilities Award, a two-year scholarship given to a student with a minor in disabilities studies. This was a wonderful honor, and I am very grateful to the Swank family for their support. I have always wanted to make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities because they have been such a positive influence on my life. Upon graduation, I was hired as coordinator of youth and school initiatives for Special Olympics Delaware. My experiences at UD not only shaped me into the individual I always wanted to be, but landed me the position of my dreams.”

KYLIE MELVIN
Human Services major, concentration in clinical services, minor in disabilities studies, Class of 2012

LEARN MORE ABOUT AVAILABLE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS.

PHOTO BY EVAN KRAPF
Graduates from UD’s College of Education and Human Development are sought after in the fields of education and human services. We hear time and again from local school districts that our alumni are exceptionally well equipped to handle the challenges of a classroom. They can create effective lesson plans, manage their classes and address the needs of students who have a wide range of abilities.

In the human services field, our graduates find themselves leading organizations, directing programs and initiatives and becoming key decision makers in human services organizations.

Students who choose to further their academic career are also well-prepared to handle the demands of graduate programs.

We offer a variety of master’s and doctoral degrees. For students who know they will want to continue their education, we offer several 4+1 programs. In their junior year, students will begin to take classes that incorporate master’s level subjects. Once they complete their undergraduate degree, they can complete their master’s degree in one year.

We have established a proud legacy — training well-respected and well-rounded professionals.

Our legacy is creating well-respected and well-rounded professionals.

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We have established a proud legacy — training well-respected and well-rounded professionals, conducting quality research and serving the needs of children, youth, adults and families. Join us in making a difference.
CEHD makes a difference.

Join us, so you can too.

SHANE PALKOVITZ, Honors degree in Human Services and Honors with Distinction in English, Class of 2012

Palkovitz dedicates his life to making a difference. He has been described as a catalyst in the construction of communities, ranging from the local music scene to faith-based organizations. A talented musician, he uses his guitar to connect with people from all walks of life. He has brought it to Pretoria, South Africa, where he studied political displacement and ethnic dislocation, drawing crowds in the street. He has used it to comfort children while mentoring at an inner-city elementary school. And he teamed up with other musicians to record a Christmas album to raise money for charity.

Palkovitz has left an indelible mark on each community that he has entered. No matter what the endeavor, his efforts have always encouraged excellence, creativity and compassion.

ELENA DELLE DONNE
Human Services, Class 2013
2012 NCAA Academic All-American –Women’s Basketball

My experiences here have been nothing short of amazing. I chose this major because I had a strong desire to have a positive impact on the lives of others. Looking back on my college career, these hopes have not only been reached, but exceeded. My successes — both academically and athletically — would not have been possible without CEHD’s supportive and understanding staff. The faculty has been extremely flexible in accommodating my hectic schedule and has made my educational journey truly enjoyable.

TONY ANDERSON
Ph.D. in Education, Class of 2011

Anderson enrolled in the UD doctoral education program in 2002. For his thesis, he examined the use of hip-hop music to motivate and educate behaviorally challenged students at a Delaware middle school. With his dedication and ongoing support, the entire group graduated from high school and were admitted to four-year colleges.

While pursuing his doctorate, Anderson taught classes at UD and, in 2008, was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award for a graduate student. Once he completed his Ph.D., Anderson joined the Mastery Charter School in Philadelphia.

Matthew Troha, principal, says of Anderson: “He plays a critical role in our program. Dr. Anderson’s ability to hold all students to high standards while also building their trust is rare. I’m fortunate to have such an intelligent, caring and determined educator on my team.”

SHANE PALKOVITZ, Honors degree in Human Services and Honors with Distinction in English, Class of 2012

ELENA DELLE DONNE
Human Services, Class 2013
2012 NCAA Academic All-American –Women’s Basketball

My experiences here have been nothing short of amazing. I chose this major because I had a strong desire to have a positive impact on the lives of others. Looking back on my college career, these hopes have not only been reached, but exceeded. My successes — both academically and athletically — would not have been possible without CEHD’s supportive and understanding staff. The faculty has been extremely flexible in accommodating my hectic schedule and has made my educational journey truly enjoyable.

TONY ANDERSON
Ph.D. in Education, Class of 2011

Anderson enrolled in the UD doctoral education program in 2002. For his thesis, he examined the use of hip-hop music to motivate and educate behaviorally challenged students at a Delaware middle school. With his dedication and ongoing support, the entire group graduated from high school and were admitted to four-year colleges.

While pursuing his doctorate, Anderson taught classes at UD and, in 2008, was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award for a graduate student. Once he completed his Ph.D., Anderson joined the Mastery Charter School in Philadelphia.

Matthew Troha, principal, says of Anderson: “He plays a critical role in our program. Dr. Anderson’s ability to hold all students to high standards while also building their trust is rare. I’m fortunate to have such an intelligent, caring and determined educator on my team.”

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Dare to be first.

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