

Prepared by the Department of Social Sciences, Behavioral Sciences, and Human Services

Date of Departmental Approval: March 2, 2015

Date Approved by Curriculum and Programs: March 23, 2015

Effective: Fall 2015

1. **Course Number:** HUS206  
**Course Title:** Human Services Practicum
2. **Description:** The course establishes learning opportunities in the field of human services. Based on National Community Support Skill Standards students are required to spend 100 clinical hours in a human services agency. In addition, students participate in a weekly class to process clinical experiences; expand skills, including sensitivity, empathy, confrontation and problem-solving. The course also addresses goal setting, case management and client assessment. CORI/SORI required. By permission of Human Services Coordinator.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes** (instructional objectives, intellectual skills): Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following:
  - A. **Knowledge Base of Human Services Practicum**  
Students who successfully complete the course will demonstrate experiential knowledge of the National Community Support Skill Standards: (1) participant empowerment; (2) communication; (3) assessment; (4) community and service networking; (5) facilitation of services; (6) community living skills and support; (7) education, training, and self-development; (8) advocacy; (9) vocational, educational, and career support; (10) crisis intervention; (11) organizational participation; and (12) documentation.
  - B. **Research Methods in Human Services Practicum**  
Students who successfully complete the course will demonstrate aptitude in the National Community Support Skill Standards # 3 (assessment) and # 12 (documentation), by writing memos and reports that involve the gathering, organization, analysis and interpretation of both qualitative and quantitative data. Students will use critical thinking when evaluating research methods used in human services by articulating strengths and limitations. Students will analyze important topics within the Human Services field.
  - C. **Critical Thinking Skills in Human Services Practicum**  
Students who successfully complete the course will demonstrate an ability to use critical analysis of mental health issues of the population being served and the academics the student has had up to this point. The student will demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking effectively by making connections between the difference in personal values and experiences and the field. The student will demonstrate critical thinking skills by utilizing the National Community Support Skill Standards # 2 (communication) and # 7 (education, training, and self-development).
  - D. **Application of Human Services Practicum**  
Students will demonstrate application of skills through the National Community Support Skill Standards # 1 (participant empowerment) and # 5 (facilitation of services). Students who successfully complete the course will understand and incorporate into practice how the impact of policies, organizations, and communities may vary with age, ethnicity, gender, race, and sexual orientation of the population involved. The student will demonstrate the ability to use different macro-intervention strategies for improving the inequities affecting marginalized populations. The student will learn to relate effectively with diverse populations (clients and colleagues). Students will demonstrate awareness of the importance of confidentiality and state regulations. Student will learn to use current state forms and write case notes.
  - E. **Values in Human Services Practicum**  
Students who successfully complete the course will embrace and adhere to the ethics and behavior of a professional, including demonstration of regular attendance, punctuality, commitment to duties and responsibilities, professional attitude, appearance, and respectful behavior towards others. Student is

able to assimilate into the work environment and engage cooperatively with clients, colleagues, other students, and staff.

Students will develop a personal philosophy of working with individuals that respects human diversity. The student will recognize and respect human diversity and understand that principles of mental illness may vary across populations and contexts. The student will recognize the necessity for ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of human services.

**4. Credits:** 4 credits

**5. Satisfies General Education Requirement:** No

**6. Prerequisites:** By permission of Human Services Coordinator.  
Co-requisites: PSY101 (General Psychology), HUS101 (Introduction to Human Services), COM103 (Human Communication)

**7. Semesters Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**8. Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** The methods of assessment used to measure these outcomes may be written assignments, tests, online and class discussion, small group activity and presentations.

**9. General Topical Outline:**

**Experience:**

Students experience learning at a human service agency to apply the knowledge, values, concepts, and skills of the human service profession. The student will complete 100 hours with a minimum of 3 hours per week. Under agency supervision, students will observe and participate in the basic procedures and routines with the client and the agency system. Emphasis will focus on the National Community Support Skill Standards.

**Classroom:**

- I. Participant empowerment
- II. Communication
- III. Assessment
- IV. Community and service networking
- V. Facilitation of service
- VI. Community living skills and support
- VII. Education, training, and self-development
- VIII. Advocacy
- IX. Vocational, educational, and career support
- X. Crisis intervention
- XI. Organizational participation
- XII. Documentation.