

Prepared by the Department of Social Sciences
Date of Departmental Approval: January 23, 2009
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Effective: Fall 2010

1. **Course Number:** HUS101
Course Title: Introduction to Human Services
2. **Description:** This course is an introduction to the historical, political and social aspects of Human Services. Topics include themes and purposes of Human Services, theoretical orientations, history and evolution of the Human Services profession, skills and intervention strategies for generalist practice, the helping process, working within a system, child and family services, mental health, substance abuse and treatment. Also covered are professional concerns including ethical standards, decision making, confidentiality, and clients' rights.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes:**
 - A. **Knowledge Base of Human Services**
Students who successfully complete the course work are able to demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of common problems in living, consumer populations and helping models. Students become familiar with service agencies and are able to identify strategies for effective delivery of Human Services. Students are able to explain the value of participant empowerment, access appropriate supportive services, and expeditiously navigate the Human Services system.
 - B. **Research Methods in Interdisciplinary Fields**
Students who successfully complete the course work are able to understand basic research methods in psychology and sociology. Students characterize the delivery and nature of Human Services as an interdisciplinary service. The student articulates strengths and limitations of different research methods.
 - C. **Critical Thinking Skills in Human Services**
Students who successfully complete the course work are able to use critical and creative thinking to solve problems related to Human Services and Human Services delivery. The student brings a depth of analysis to questions of how best to help people meet their basic needs.
 - D. **Application in Human Services**
Students who successfully complete the course work are able to understand and apply principles of effective helping including assessment and confidentiality.
 - E. **Values in Human Services**
Students who successfully complete the course work are able to analyze the ethics and delivery of helping including conflicts surrounding AIDS, reproductive choice, stem cell research and sex offenders.
4. **Credits:** 3 credits
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** Behavioral and Social Sciences
6. **Prerequisite:** None
7. **Semester(s) Offered:** Fall, Spring
8. **Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** The final grade will consist of written papers, class participation, examinations and small group activity.
9. **General Topical Outline (Optional):**
 - What are Human Services?
 - What do Human Services Workers Do?
 - The Changing Nature of the Helping Process
 - Intervention Strategies
 - Attitudes/Values, Skills & Knowledge
 - Values and Ethical Dilemmas
 - The Social Welfare System
 - Poverty
 - Working with Diversity
 - Interviewing
 - Case Management/Counseling
 - Facilitating Groups
 - Program Planning
 - Understanding Legal Issues
 - Methods of Organizing & Changing System