

Date: October 2006

Course Name: Human Services in Contemporary America

Prefix and Number: HUS 102

Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours - 3 contact hours

Catalog Description:

An introduction to the contemporary Human Services field. It includes a philosophical and theoretical orientation to Human Services; exploration of agency structure, personnel, services, and an agency visitation. Professional and personal human services competencies, ethics and the law are also examined.

II. Course Objectives and Outcomes

Students will develop an understanding of Human Services in contemporary America.

Become aware of and knowledgeable about Human Service agencies, service delivery systems, personnel and care giver roles.

Develop a working understanding of the "helping relationship."

Explore a relevant area of interest and complete a field visitation and agency report.

The following learning outcomes are addressed in this course: writing, oral communication, reading, ethics/values, citizenship and information services.

This is a required course for the AS Human Service Degree and the AAS Chemical Dependency Counseling degree and can be taken as a general elective.

III. Methods of Instruction

Course materials: Textbook, articles, handouts, documentaries, video clips and agency directories.

Methods of Instruction: Include lecture, discussion, small group work, use of audio visuals and agency/career professional presenters.

Method of Evaluation: Grades will be based upon tests, research papers, assigned exercises, oral presentation, group work and class participation.

Assessment Measures: Upon completion of the course students knowledge of fundamental human service theory and skills will have been assessed.

IV. General Outline of Topics Covered

Human Services in historical perspective

Groups in need

Theoretical perspectives

Careers in Human Services

Ethical Standards

Current controversies and Issues