Course Syllabus

Department: Social Science

Date: 11/2/12

I. Course Prefix and Number: HUS 102

   Course Name: Human Service in Contemporary America

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

   Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites:

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

   Relationship to Academic Programs and Curriculum including SUNY Gen Ed designation if applicable:

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

II. Course Student Learning Outcomes: The student will:

   Be able to identify various Human Service agencies and facilities in the Colleges geographic area and describe the services offered to meet the needs of their target populations.

   Be able to identify the structural and functional aspects of Human Service agencies by creating a hypothetical agency complete with a board of directors, personnel flow charts, service delivery systems and budget.

   Develop core skills in data gathering by practicing; observation and recording methods, problem assessment and constructing action plans.

   Recognize recent and future trends in Human Services and be able to apply critical thinking skills to analyze their impact on the field.

   Explore a relevant area of interest and complete a field visitation and agency report.
College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course:

- writing
- + oral communications
- reading
- mathematics
- + critical thinking
- computer literacy
- + ethics/values
- citizenship
- global concerns
- + information resources

III. Assessment Measures (Summarize how the college and student learning outcomes will be assessed):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List identified College Learning Outcomes(s)</th>
<th>Specific assessment measure(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oral communication, critical thinking and information services.</td>
<td>Students will write and present a research project on a Service Population that demonstrates the following proficiencies: The ability to gather and assess relevant information. Use concepts, theories and definitions accurately and objectively. Make inferences and come to well reasoned conclusions. Communicate effectively in both written and oral forms.</td>
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<td>Ethics and Values</td>
<td>On an essay exam, students will define Ethical Standards and explain in detail at least three ethical principles.</td>
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IV. Instructional Materials and Methods

**Types of Course Materials:** Textbook, articles, handouts, documentaries, video clips, and agency directories.

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

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

- Human Services in historical perspective
- Groups in Need, e.g. people with disabilities, mental illness, substance abuse, homeless people, elderly, etc.
- Service Models, e.g. public health, medical and human services
- Careers in Human Services
- Ethical Standards
- Basic Human Service Skills, e.g. observation, communication, problem solving, documentation, report writing
- Stress and Burnout in Human Service work
- Recent and Future Trends, e.g. deinstitutionalization, the community mental health movement, working with culturally diverse populations, aging in America, social justice and advocacy, etc.