Human Services

Master of Arts in Human Services
Graduate Certificate – 1

www.uis.edu/humanservices/
Email: hms@uis.edu
Office Phone: (217) 206-6687
Office Location: BRK 332

Professional Development Sequence in
Gerontology (blended format)
The Human Services Department offers a 16-hour professional development sequence in gerontology. The sequence is designed for individuals who already have one graduate degree and are working in some capacity with the elderly or who otherwise desire or need basic graduate-level course work in gerontology. Contact the Human Services Program for more information.

Certificate in Alcohol and Substance Abuse (blended format)
The department offers a graduate certificate in Alcohol and Substance Abuse to provide education to individuals who wish to become certified in the substance abuse counseling profession, but who do not wish to complete a formal degree program. On completion of the required 20 semester hours of courses, students may take the Certified Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Counselor (CADC) exam through the Illinois Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association (IAODAPCA).

Online or Blended Curriculum
The Social Service Administration concentration is offered online; the Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Child and Family Studies, and Gerontology concentrations are offered in a blended format.

- Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Concentration
- Child and Family Studies Concentration
- Gerontology Concentration
- Social Services Administration Concentration

Note: All courses are required unless otherwise noted.

The Master’s Degree
The M.A. degree in Human Services (HMS) provides advanced professional education for students who have an undergraduate education in human services or who have completed specific prerequisite courses to prepare them for study in the field. It is a multidisciplinary degree that prepares students to become competent as human services professionals for multiple roles and settings.

The degree contains core courses that teach skills and concepts needed by all human services professionals and integrates content from several academic concentrations to allow students to develop specific expertise. The concentrations are:

1. alcoholism and substance abuse,
2. child and family studies,
3. gerontology, and
4. social services administration.

Students are prepared to practice with competency and confidence within all concentrations. Study in this degree program requires that students examine aspects of their past lives and family experiences in an effort to understand their beliefs, values, and biases. This self-awareness is necessary when working with vulnerable populations.

The degree program teaches students to appreciate contemporary and historic human characteristics, issues, and problems and to plan for the delivery of human services in the future. Courses teach students to design, assess, treat, plan for, advocate for, counsel with, manage, and collaborate with individuals, groups, or agencies needing and using human services.

Accreditation
The Human Services Alcohol and Substance Abuse concentration is accredited by the Illinois Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association (IAODAPCA).

Advising
The Human Services faculty has a professional and ethical obligation to conduct continual assessment with students so they are aware of limitations that may impede their future success. Moreover, the faculty has an obligation not to admit or to remove from candidacy any student who does not meet these requirements.

Grading Policy
Graduate students must earn a grade of B (3.0) or better in each course (grades of B- or lower will not be accepted).

NOTE: Students also should refer to the campus policy on Grades Acceptable Toward Master’s Degrees section of this catalog.

Internship
The four-credit hour internship is designed to provide an opportunity for students to integrate knowledge and skills gained in courses into direct practice. The internship consists of intensive work experiences with supervision (100 work hours for each academic hour) in a human services environment (500 hours are required for students in the Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Concentration).

Students with three years of supervised full-time experience in their designated human services field may, with approval of their academic advisor, submit a Student Petition form to substitute four hours of regular course work for the internship.

Degree Requirements
A master’s degree in Human Services requires 44 hours of graduate-level course work, including 24 hours of core course work, plus 20 hours earned in a concentration selected from one of four options outlined.

Prerequisite Courses (two courses) or the equivalent
1. A course in either human behavior in the social environment or a course in life-span developmental psychology, and
2. A course in either research methods or a course in statistics.
Core Requirements

HMS 501 Critical Perspectives in Human Services 4
HMS 502 Interviewing and Assessment Skills in Human Services 4
HMS 511 Social Policy and Human Services 4
HMS 516 Ethics and Professional Development 4
HMS 550 Internship 4
HMS 585 HMS Capstone 4
HMS 586 HMS Capstone Continuing Enrollment 0

Total Hours 24

1 Offered online each fall and spring semester.

2 Zero credit hour—one billable hour each fall and spring semester until completion.

HMS 580 is available with permission from the HMS department for those students who enrolled in the graduate degree program during the time when the project/thesis were used as the closure options.

Master’s Closure

Taken during the last semester of studies, HMS 585 helps students complete their Capstone. It integrates learning from core and concentration courses and further prepares students to use best practices. To receive credit, students must present their Capstone project to a faculty committee, and obtain formal committee approval.

HMS 580 is available with permission from the HMS department for those students who enrolled in the graduate degree program during the time when the project/thesis were used as the closure options.

Online or Blended Curriculum

The Social Service Administration concentration is offered online; the Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Child and Family Studies, and Gerontology concentrations are offered in a blended format.

Joint Degree Option – Human Services/Public Health (HMS/MPH)

The UIS Departments of Public Health and Human Services have an articulation agreement that allows interested students to obtain a joint master’s degree in Public Health and Human Services (MPH/HMS). Although many courses are offered online, the MPH/HMS joint degree is classified as an on campus joint degree. The HMS/MPH joint degree is a 68 credit hour master’s degree option that requires students to take 32 credit hours from both departments, plus a four hour internship from one of the departments. Students take core classes from both HMS and MPH, as well as elective courses. Closure exercises from both departments are required. Students must apply to both graduate departments to be eligible for the joint degree. All prerequisites from each department apply. Interested students must meet with an academic advisor prior to enrolling.

Degree Requirements

Core Requirements

HMS Core Courses

HMS 501 Critical Perspectives in Human Services 4
HMS 502 Interviewing and Assessment Skills in Human Services 4

HMS 511 Social Policy and Human Services 4
HMS 516 Ethics and Professional Development 4

MPH Core Courses

MPH 503 Biostatistics for the Health Professional 4
MPH 506 Community Health Research 4
MPH 511 Foundations Of Epidemiology 4
MPH 521 Environmental and Occupational Health 4
MPH 531 Public Health Policy and Administration 4
MPH 561 Community Health Education 4

Internship Requirement

HMS 550 Internship 4
or MPH 581 Internship

Elective Courses

HMS Electives

Select three courses from one of the following concentrations: 12
Alcohol and Substance Abuse (blended curriculum)

HMS 521 Advanced Interviewing and Intervention
HMS 525 Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
HMS 527 Assessment and Treatment of Substance Abuse
HMS 528 Dual Diagnosis and Relapse Prevention

Child and Family Studies (blended curriculum)

HMS 521 Advanced Interviewing and Intervention
HMS 525 Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
HMS 533 Child Abuse And Neglect
HMS 537 Treating Children from Diverse Populations
HMS 567 Family Dynamics and Intervention

Gerontology (blended curriculum)

HMS 508 Psychology Of Aging
HMS 529 Perspectives on Aging
HMS 563 Sociology of Death, Dying, and Bereavement
HMS 582 Aging And The Human Services

Social Service Administration (online curriculum)

HMS 514 Staff Development and Supervision
HMS 538 Social Services Administration
HMS 584 Introduction to Nonprofit Management
HMS 588 Grant Writing in Human Services

MPH Electives

Select two 500-level MPH courses 1 8

Closure Requirement

HMS Closure

HMS 585 HMS Capstone 4
MPH Closure 2 0

Total Hours 68

1 In consultation with and approval by the academic advisor. The student’s career path should be considered for the best selection of these electives.

2 Students complete the MPH comprehensive examination. No credit hours are awarded for completion of the exam. Students who do not complete the examination during their final semester of study must enroll in MPH 583 (zero credit hours, one billable credit hour) each regular semester (fall/spring) until they pass the exam.
• Graduate Certificate in Alcohol and Substance Abuse