

Human Services

Master of Arts in Human Services Graduate Certificate – 2

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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).

- 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** 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 ¹

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 ²	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 the closure options.

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	4
MPH 506	Research Methods in Public Health	4
MPH 511	Epidemiology	4
MPH 521	Introduction to Environmental Health	4
MPH 531	Public Health Policy	4
MPH 561	Public 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
- Graduate Certificate in Human Services Fundraising

Online or Blended Curriculum

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

Courses

HMS 401. Human Development Across the Lifespan. 3 Hours.

This course will focus on human development throughout the lifespan and how human service professionals can incorporate the concepts into practice. Specifically, physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development concepts throughout an individual's lifespan will be studied. Students will examine various theoretical perspectives as they apply to human development from birth to death. These concepts will assist future human service professionals in understanding client problems from a developmental perspective. This course will allow human service professionals to assess and understand their clients' developmental processes, and then provide appropriate strategies to help the client work through issues that block growth and adaptation.

HMS 499. Tutorial. 1-12 Hours.

Intended to supplement, not supplant, regular course offerings. Students interested in a tutorial must secure the consent of the faculty member concerned before registration and submit any required documentation to him or her.

HMS 501. Critical Perspectives in Human Services. 4 Hours.

Introductory course that should be taken during the student's first semester. Examination of the conflicting roles and functions of human services in an advanced, increasingly technological society. Special attention is given to the issues of poverty, health care and ageism, child welfare, family problems, substance abuse, and the privatization of human services.

HMS 502. Interviewing and Assessment Skills in Human Services. 4 Hours.

Graduate-level communication and assessment skills needed to develop, sustain, and manage a helping relationship with clients. Instruction in recognizing and using both formal and informal methods of assessment including a variety of tools used in human services.

HMS 508. Psychology Of Aging. 4 Hours.

This course serves as a foundation to the psychology of aging with emphasis on theories, methodologies, and research findings. Topics include the following: memory, cognition, dementia, gender issues, personality/intellectual development, and geriatric assessment. As a result of the readings assigned for this class, students will obtain a unique perspective on the individual aging process. Caregiver dynamics, both spousal and adult child, will be integrated into the course material.

HMS 509. Survey of Aging through Films. 4 Hours.

Aging is discussed using the medium of film to help students develop a comprehensive perspective of aging. This course is grounded in lifespan development and integrates the arts and humanities into the study of the aging process, reviews and acknowledges the contributions of people who are aging and reflects upon attitudes and perspectives on aging that include stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. Advocacy in the media is included.

HMS 511. Social Policy and Human Services. 4 Hours.

An in-depth understanding of social welfare policy, including the historical and current view of systems, concepts of human causes and needs, idealized components of delivery systems, roles and conflicts of the human services professional.

HMS 512. Neurobiological Health and Wellness in Aging. 4 Hours.

Looking through a neurobiological lens, this course creates an understanding of aging as a natural process that explores the natural aging process, longevity, and individualization. Also explored are the plasticity of the body and brain including points of reversibility, late life syndromes and diseases and their risk and prevention factors, and biomedical research discoveries with their applications to individuals and society.

HMS 513. Aging and the Family. 4 Hours.

Explores aging and the family from a communication approach in the context of the individual, the family, the community, and public policy. Using a systems perspective, this course identifies and listens to all stakeholders to develop effective programs that benefit the person who is aging. Discussion of the individual and the family ensues in the context of intergenerational relationships, culture, race and ethnicity, and socio-economic status.

HMS 514. Staff Development and Supervision. 4 Hours.

This course provides students with a background in direct and clinical supervision, personnel issues, staff development, supervision models, and culturally competent and ethical supervisory practices. Application of supervisory skills to practice is achieved by realistic and pertinent case studies.

HMS 516. Ethics and Professional Development. 4 Hours.

This course will examine the moral and legal bases for ethical guidelines and professional ethical codes for Human Service professionals. Students will examine their values and how their values affect the helping relationship.

HMS 521. Advanced Interviewing and Intervention. 4 Hours.

Instruction in facilitating and terminating therapeutic relationships designed to help clients improve their personal functioning and heal emotional pain. Emphasis on skill development in the areas of assessment, treatment, planning, and intervention. Course Information: Prerequisite: HMS 502 or equivalent experience.

HMS 525. Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. 4 Hours.

In-depth overview of the field of alcoholism and substance abuse. Topics include the physiological/biological effects of drugs, treatment and relapse issues, and ethical issues.

HMS 527. Assessment and Treatment of Substance Abuse. 4 Hours.

Evaluation of substance abuse patterns and assessment of various treatment alternatives. Process of intervention and various approaches to treatment. Course Information: Prerequisite: HMS 525 or equivalent.

HMS 528. Dual Diagnosis and Relapse Prevention. 4 Hours.

Recognition and treatment of clients who present with an initial diagnosis such as alcoholism and substance abuse but may also have a mental illness which, when left untreated, may cause relapse. Explores barriers to recovery, high risk factors to relapse, and the developmental process in recovery. Course Information: Prerequisite: HMS 525.

HMS 529. Perspectives on Aging. 4 Hours.

Theory and competencies related to the changing landscape of the increasing elderly population in America. In this overview of gerontology, students acquire a knowledge base for management skills and service provisions that include the biological, psychological, sociological, and economics processes of aging.

HMS 532. The Psycho-Social Aspects of Aging in the 21st Century. 4 Hours.

Using the Lifespan perspective, this course explores aging in the 21st century. Topics include life transitions and the adaptive process, dementia, Alzheimer's, aging, dementia and society, economics and aging, aging, religion, and health, and societal attitudes toward the perceptions of aging.

HMS 533. Child Abuse And Neglect. 4 Hours.

This course explores the problem of child maltreatment. It teaches students to effectively deal with issues of child abuse and neglect, including recognizing and reporting abuse, missions of child protective agencies, interdisciplinary and community resources, and methods of improving the general well being of families who show indications of high risk.

HMS 537. Treating Children from Diverse Populations. 4 Hours.

This course focuses on the provision of services to children from diverse populations. Using a biopsychosocial perspective, emphasis is placed on the social, cultural, familial, and individual similarities and differences in values and behavior. Therapeutic techniques are explored. Course Information: Same as AAS 537.

HMS 538. Social Services Administration. 4 Hours.

This course provides comprehensive overview of administering human service organizations. Topics include leadership theory, strategic planning, time management, diversity management, staff employment challenges, fiscal management, funding, and resource development, team building, and board work. Application of administrative skills to practice is achieved by experiential activities and case activities.

HMS 541. Senior Care Administration. 4 Hours.

Using an administrative model, students learn to educate public regarding older persons. Course includes planning, organizing, operations and services, and resource development. Management of staff and evaluation of facility performance, government relations, hiring, training, and supervising employees are also included. Students will learn about involvement in the public policy process to advocate for fair and equitable treatment of our aging population.

HMS 550. Internship. 4 Hours.

Intensive direct service experience in a social service agency. Regular supervision is required. Placement is developed with adviser; 100 hours of service earns one credit hour. Service time may be concurrent with classes or may be full time. Course Information: Credit/No Credit grading only.

HMS 563. Sociology of Death, Dying, and Bereavement. 4 Hours.

This course will explore the social, psychological, cultural, and personal experiences of death, grief and loss. Examples of topics covered will include: cultural attitudes towards death, caregiver-patient relationships, hospice and palliative care, coping with life threatening illness, active and passive euthanasia, bereavement, grief and mourning. This class is not meant to serve as a grief recovery support group: however, the content does prompt personal reflections as we all continue to process the losses experienced in our lives. Course Information: Same as SOA 563.

HMS 567. Family Dynamics and Intervention. 4 Hours.

Comprehensive study of the dynamics of marriage and family life. The course teaches practitioners cultural sensitivity and variety in treatment methods. A study of models used in marriage, family, and divorce intervention is explored.

HMS 580. Master's Project/Thesis Continuing Enrollment. 0 Hours.

This course is offered to those students who enrolled in HMS 579 as their closure option and were unable to complete that option by the time four hours were accrued in continuing enrollment. Students must register in HMS 580 for zero credit hours (one billable hour) in all subsequent semesters until the closure option is completed. Course Information: May be repeated. Restricted to HMS.

HMS 582. Aging And The Human Services. 4 Hours.

The purpose of this course is to develop a working knowledge of current programs that provide services to older adults, to be able to critically analyze the policies and programs that are in existence, and to observe/evaluate the direct utilization/operation of existing programs. Guest speakers from gerontology programs will be a significant supplement to this course.

HMS 584. Introduction to Nonprofit Management. 4 Hours.

This course provides a comprehensive overview of contemporary issues in managing nonprofit organizations. Topics include theories of nonprofit management, basic leadership practice, social problem analysis, programmatic intervention strategies, effective program design, needs assessments, mission statements, goals and objectives, program evaluation and performance measurement, and successful diversity management.

HMS 585. HMS Capstone. 4 Hours.

Taken during the last semester of studies, this course provides students with the structure to complete a comprehensive assessment case study analysis. It integrates learning from core and concentration courses and further prepares students to use best practices. To receive credit, students must present their capstone document to a faculty committee and obtain formal committee approval. NOTE: If the closure option is not completed by the time four hours are accrued in continuing enrollment, students must register for HMS 586 for zero credit hours (one billable hour) in all subsequent semesters until the closure option is completed. Course Information: Restricted to HMS; student must be enrolled in last semester.

HMS 586. HMS Capstone Continuing Enrollment. 0 Hours.

Refer to NOTE in course description for HMS 585. Course Information: May be repeated. Restricted to HMS.

HMS 588. Grant Writing in Human Services. 4 Hours.

This course provides an overview of the grant writing process for human service programs. Students learn a step-by-step process by writing an actual proposal for an assigned human service organization. Students learn to collaborate with each other and their assigned organization resulting in a competitive grant proposal.

HMS 589. Financial Management in the Nonprofit Sector. 4 Hours.

HMS 589 lays the foundation for financial management in the nonprofit sector. This course begins with basic budgeting and covers an array of financial management topics. This course is an elective for SSA students. SSA students have the option to take another course in an alternative HMS concentration that is of interest to serve as their SSA elective. This course can serve as an elective. Restricted to graduate students and must have instructor approval.

HMS 591. Fundraising in the Nonprofit Sector. 4 Hours.

Fundraising is integral to the sustainability of nonprofit organizations large and small. HMS 590, Fundraising in the Nonprofit Sector, addresses critical practices and fundraising programs commonly seen in nonprofit organizations. This course covers topics that include principles of fundraising, gift giving, cause-related fundraising events, online fundraising, planned giving, managing fundraising, volunteers and legal and ethical issues.

HMS 599. Tutorial. 1-12 Hours.

Intended to supplement, not supplant, regular course offerings. Students interested in a tutorial must secure the consent of the faculty member concerned before registration and submit any required documentation to him or her.