

SOCIAL SERVICES, Associate in Arts Degree - 5060

Health & Public Service Department

The Social Services AA degree prepares students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities offering baccalaureate degrees in social work, psychology, human services, or other social service professions. This degree also prepares students for work in the Human Services field. Students are required to complete a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Criminal Background Check, and a State Police Criminal Record Check prior to enrollment into the practicum course. If the student has any questions regarding this, he or she should contact the Program Director or Practicum Coordinator. Because students are planning to transfer to other institutions, it is essential to choose an intended transfer institution as soon as possible and carefully follow the program described in that college's catalog, as four-year institutions vary widely. The complete program is available at the Gettysburg, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon and York campuses.

Transfer Opportunities

This transfer curriculum is provided as a guide for students planning to transfer to a four-year institution. Transfer students may continue their education in a wide variety of social services field such as mental health, intellectual disabilities, substance abuse, gerontology, women's services and family services. Graduates of the program receive the training and education for positions in a number of social service fields such as social and human services assistants.

Competency Profile

This curriculum is designed to prepare students to:

- Take advanced academic work at a four-year institution in one of the helping professions
- Recognize the characteristics of culturally diverse populations
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with clients and their families to plan treatments and/or services
- Perform case management responsibilities in a variety of settings
- Explain the ethics and laws applicable to the human service field

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (TOTAL CREDITS = 63)

General Education		Major Requirements		Other Required Courses	
ENGL 101 English Composition I	3	HUMS 100 Introduction to Human Services	3	SOCI 201 Intro to Sociology or SOCI 205 Race & Cultural Relations	3 (3)
ENGL 102 English Composition II	3	HUMS 120 Social Welfare Programs and Policies	3	Science w/ a Laboratory Elective***	3
COMM 101 Effective Speaking	3	HUMS 121 Skills and Methods in Human Services I	3	Transfer Electives	9
Humanities & Arts Elective*	3	HUMS 122 Skills and Methods in Human Services II	3		
Humanities & Arts Elective or Social & Behavioral Science Elective**	3	HUMS 200 Group Work Practice	3		15
Mathematics Elective (Recommend: MATH 202)	3	HUMS 206 Human Development in a Social Environment	3		
Science w/ a Laboratory Elective - BIOL 111	3	HUMS 215 Fieldwork Practicum	4		
Social & Behavioral Science Elective - PSYC 101	3		22		
First-Year Seminar Elective	1				
Wellness	1				
	26				

*Students must select a Philosophy course. PHIL 225 – Belief and Ethics is recommended.

** Students must select either a Literature course (ENGL 200-299) or one of the following foreign language courses: SPAN 101, 102; FRCH 101, 102; or GRMN 101, 102.

***Students must select an additional laboratory science elective from the following courses: ASTR 103, 104; BIOL 101, 108; CHEM 101, 113; or PHYS 201.

Note: A grade of C or higher is required for all HUMS, PSYC and SOCI courses.

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

Part-time students can complete this program by taking one or more courses each semester.

Fall Semester I	Spring Semester I	Fall Semester II	Spring Semester II
BIOL 111	3 COMM 101	3 Humanities/Arts or Social/Behavioral Science Elective	3 Humanities/Arts Elective
ENGL 101	3 ENGL 102	3 HUMS 121	3 HUMS 200
FYS Elective	1 HUMS 120	3 HUMS 122	3 HUMS 215
HUMS 100	3 HUMS 206	3 Science w/ Lab Elective	3 Transfer Electives
Mathematics Elective	3 SOCI 201 or 205	3 Transfer Elective	3 Wellness
PSYC 101	3		1