

HUMAN SERVICES

HMS 146

Introduction to Gerontology (3)

Provides an interdisciplinary look at the aging process and social environment of older adults. Theories of aging, as well as physiological and psychological changes will be explored. Emphasis will be on the particular needs of the older adult and the resources, services, and policies to address them.

3 Class Hours

HMS 147

Eldercare Seminar and Internship (3)

Through integrated seminars and hands-on work experiences in eldercare settings, policies and practices in eldercare will be explored. Physical, psychological, social, recreational, and environmental needs of older people and how well these needs are accommodated in various care environments will be the focus of class seminars. A service component of four hours per week will allow students the opportunity to mesh theory and practice.

3 Class Hours

HMS 240

Perspectives on Death and Dying (3)

Examines individual and cultural beliefs and responses to death, dying and dying people, and the social/psychological patterns that surround them. Hospice care, advanced medical treatment, funeral customs, suicide, and euthanasia are examples of topics explored. An understanding of grief and the grief process is emphasized. Ethical/moral and legal responses to controversial issues are discussed.

3 Class Hours

HMS 250

Human Service Organizations (3)

A basic course in the social psychology of groups and organizations. Students will learn about the basic concepts and propositions that provide insight into the organizational dynamics that confront members of all types of human service organizations, such as perception of roles, norms, communication, power, leadership, and other issues. In addition, students will gain a heightened understanding of human service organizational culture issues that are specific to human and health care services in context of their changing economic, political, and ecological environments. The new organizational forms, strategies, and innovations made by human and health care services to these changes (at various organizational levels) will be emphasized.

3 Class Hours

HMS 260

Special Topics on Aging (3)

This course is designed to focus on special, current, and/or topical issues related to the field of gerontology and working with the elderly. Topics include leisure and recreational programming for older adults, long term/nursing home care, community based living arrangements, physical therapy for the elderly, health promotion in the elderly, communication/hearing disorders, aging policies and programs, etc. The purpose of the course is to allow for topics introduced in other gerontology courses to be studied in-depth and to facilitate a state-of-the-art awareness of current issues/needs of the older person. Some topics will change from semester to semester.

3 Class Hours

HMS 290

Human Service Field Experience (4)

A field placement in a health, human service or school setting, under the supervision of faculty supervisor and agency personnel. Objectives for each student's placement are developed in conjunction with the respective agencies, instructor, and student through a learning contract. Students will also participate in a weekly seminar on campus to develop helping-and relationship-building skills with instructor and other students. Each student will complete six hours per week (90 hours/semester).

1 Class Hour, Prerequisite: Six credit hours of psychology or sociology and concurrent enrollment in three additional credit hours in psychology. For Human Services majors.