



MASTER SYLLABUS

HUSV 421 – PRACTICUM IN HUMAN SERVICES

Updated by: Christina Lesyk, LMSW
Originator: Jennifer Waite, LMSW, CASAC

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT
Fall 2023**

A. TITLE: Practicum in Human Services

- B. COURSE NUMBER:** HUSV 421
- C. CREDIT HOURS:** 1 lecture hour per week for 15 weeks and 80 hours of practicum experience
- D. WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. GER CATEGORY:** None
- F. SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall and Spring
- G. COURSE DESCRIPTION:** In this course, under direct supervision of direct care staff and supervisors, students will be provided with the opportunity to put the knowledge and skills they have learned in the classroom into practice in a human services organization. Students accepted into this practicum are required to complete 80 hours of field experience (practicum) and attend one 50-minute class per week. Per the laws of the New York State Office of the Professions, students will not be directly involved in decisions regarding client evaluations, diagnosis, and treatment planning.
- H. PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
Pre-Requisite: Applied Psychology majors only. Senior Status, HUSV 420 Orientation to Practicum in Human Services, minimum overall 2.5 GPA, and permission of the instructor
Co-Requisite: None
- J. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (see key below):**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

Course Student Learning Outcome		PSLO	ISLO
a. Effectively demonstrate knowledge and skills with agency personnel and clientele.		Knowledge base in Psychology, Human Services, or Applied Behavior Analysis	5
KEY	Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]		
b. Demonstrate appropriate ethical and professional standards		Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World	4 [ER, IK]
1	Communication Skills		
c. Perform practicum requirements of the agency and document accomplishments in a professional portfolio.		Professional Development	5
2	Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]		
d. Analyze practicum experiences based on observations and direct client care*.		Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking	2 [IA, PS]
3	Foundational Skills		
4	Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]		
e. Demonstrate competence in observing, communication, and assisting professionals with agency clients.		Communication	1 [O, W]
5	Ethical Competence [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T], Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills		

K. APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT: Yes - Practicum

L. TEXT:

Sweitzer, H.F. and King, M.A. (2019). *The successful internship: Personal, professional, and civic development in experiential learning* (5th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage

Learning.

M. REFERENCES:

Alle-Corliss, L.A. and Alle-Corliss, R.M. (2006). *Human services agencies: An Orientation to Fieldwork*, (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

Kiser, P. (2016). *The human services internship, getting the most from your experience* (4th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

Neukrug, E.S. (2016). *Theory, practice, and trends in human services: An introduction* (6th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

N. EQUIPMENT: Technology enhanced classroom

O. GRADING METHOD: A - F

P. SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

Exams	Quizzes
Video Presentations	Projects (e.g., e-portfolio)
Written Assignments	Discussion Boards

Q. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

- I. Introduction to Practicum
 - A. Why Do a Practicum?
 - B. Expectations for the Practicum
 - C. SUNY Canton Academic Requirements

- II. Getting Started
 - A. Characteristics of the High-Quality Practicum
 - a. Developmental Stages of the Practicum
 - b. Deep and Broad Learning
 - c. Transformative Learning
 - d. Personal, Professional, and Civic Development

- III. Getting Acquainted
 - A. Getting to Know Your Agency and Its Role in the Community
 - B. Getting to Know Your Co-Workers (including other Practicum Students) and Your Role
 - C. Getting to Know the Clients Your Agency Serves

- IV. Supervision
 - A. Developing the Learning Contract
 - B. Supervisor Characteristics and Expectations
 - C. Student Characteristics and Expectations
 - D. Working within the Supervisory Relationship

- V. Learning from Experience
 - A. The Integrative Processing Model
 - B. Applying the Integrative Processing Model

- VI. Working with Clients
 - A. Who is the Client? Micro, Mezzo, and Macro Levels of Practice
 - B. Assumptions and Stereotypes
 - C. Rethinking Client Success
 - D. Acceptance of and by the Client

- VII. Writing and Reporting For Your Practicum Agency
 - A. Case Management
 - a. Documentation Writing
 - b. Oral Reporting and Presentations
 - B. Appropriate Use of Technology (including Social Media)

- VIII. Cultural Competence
 - A. Knowing Your Identities: Developing Personal Awareness
 - B. Using a Cultural Lens to Increase Cultural Knowledge

- IX. Developing Ethical Competence
 - A. Ethical, Professional, and Legal Issues
 - a. Codes, Laws, and Regulations
 - b. Principles
 - c. Values
 - B. Dealing with Ethical Dilemmas
 - a. Ethical Decision-Making Models
 - b. Liability
 - i. Professional Licensure and Registration
 - ii. Insurance

- X. Wellness
 - A. Developing Self-Awareness
 - B. Assessing Risk and Staying Safe
 - C. Stress and Time Management
 - D. Staying Engaged, Informed, and Focused

- XI. Culmination Stage: Celebrating the Achievements and Embracing the Future
 - A. Final Evaluations and Professional Portfolios
 - B. Closure with Clients
 - C. Closure with Your Supervisor
 - D. Closure with Your Co-Workers
 - E. Future Career Goals and Development

Disclaimer:

SUNY Canton B.S. in Applied Psychology

** The completion of this baccalaureate degree will not qualify the holder to apply for, be hired for, or perform the duties related to, employment which involves the provision of services prohibited by New York State Education Law Article 153, Psychology, Paragraphs 7601 and 7601a. This prohibits graduates from SUNY Canton who hold a BS in Applied Psychology, like other baccalaureate programs in Psychology, from performing tasks which only licensed providers are authorized to do under state law (i.e., psychologists, mental health counselors, psychoanalysts, creative arts therapists, marriage and family therapists, registered nurses, physicians, licensed master social workers, licensed clinical social workers, and licensed behavior analysts).*