

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CANTON, NEW YORK**



**MASTER SYLLABUS**

**HUSV 310 – WORKING IN HUMAN SERVICES AGENCIES**

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

- A. **TITLE:** Working in Human Services Agencies
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** HUSV 310
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3 lecture hours per week for 15 weeks
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **GER CATEGORY:** None
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall or Spring
- G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**  
 In this course, students will be introduced to the basic skills and knowledge required of entry-level personnel in human service agencies. The course examines the conditions creating human needs and how agencies respond to these needs. Emphasis will be on working with others in a human service agency, how these agencies provide services to people in need, and how professionals help clients to function more effectively.
- H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**  
**Pre-Requisite:** HUSV 201 or permission of the instructor.  
**Co-Requisite:** None.
- I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES** (see key below):

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

<b><u>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</u></b>	<b><u>PSLO</u></b>	<b><u>ISLO</u></b>
a. Demonstrate knowledge of mission statements, financial obligations, terminology, and roles in human service organizations.	Knowledge base in Psychology, Human Services, or Applied Behavior Analysis	5
b. Analyze the legal and ethical obligations of human service workers and their agencies,	Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking	2 [IA]
c. Describe aspects of supervision and managerial responsibilities related to workforce issues.	Professional Development	5
d. Demonstrate skills for working in a team-oriented, diverse agency	Ethical and Social Responsibilities in a Diverse World	4 [IK, T]
e. Identify internal sources of organizational change and coping strategies for workers.	Communication	1 [O, W]

<b>KEY</b>	<b>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</b>
<b>ISLO #</b>	<b>ISLO &amp; Subsets</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Communication Skills</b> Oral [O], Written [W]
<b>2</b>	<b>Critical Thinking</b> <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry &amp; Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
<b>3</b>	<b>Foundational Skills</b> <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
<b>4</b>	<b>Social Responsibility</b> <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
<b>5</b>	<b>Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills</b>

**J. APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT: No**

**K. TEXTS:**

Furman, R. & Gibelman, M. (2021). *Navigating human service organizations* (4th ed.). Lyceum.

**L. REFERENCES:**

Watson, L.D. & Hoefler, R.A. (2014). *Developing nonprofit and human service leaders: Essential knowledge and skills*. SAGE Publications, Inc.

Summers, N. (2016). *Fundamentals of case management practice* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Cengage.

**M. EQUIPMENT: Technology-enhanced classroom**

**N. GRADING METHOD: A-F**

**O. SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Exams
- Presentations
- Written Assignments
- Quizzes
- Discussion Boards
- Projects

**P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

- I. Getting to Know the Human Service Organization
  - A. The Work Setting
  - B. Agency Roles for Human Service Workers
  - C. Terminology
  - D. Conflicts between Professionals and Organizations
- II. Distinguishing Features of Organizations
  - A. Defining Human Service Organizations
  - B. Types of Organizations
  - C. Missions of Organizations
  - D. Organizational Structure
- III. How Organizations Are Financed
  - A. Sources of Funds
  - B. Corporate Contributions
  - C. Other Sources of Revenue
  - D. Managing Finances
- IV. Who Has the Power? Roles in Human Service Organizations
  - A. Role of the Board of Directors
  - B. Chief Executive Officer
  - C. External Key Players
- V. Supervision within the Organizational Setting
  - A. Definition of Supervision
  - B. Functions of Supervision
  - C. Enhancing Professional Development

- D. Evaluating Job Performance
  
- VI. The Work Environment
  - A. Impact of Managerial Style
  - B. Agency's Workforce
  - C. Volunteers
  - D. Physical Environment
  
- VII. Human Service Practice in Host Settings
  - A. Work Challenges in Host Settings
  - B. Host Setting Issues
  - C. Unique Challenges
  
- VIII. Conditions of Work
  - A. Organizational Policies
  - B. Laws Governing Employment
  - C. Workplace Rules
  - D. Unions
  
- IX. The Changing Environment of Organizations
  - A. Organizations as Open Systems
  - B. Changing Public Policies
  - C. Managed Care
  - D. Changing Patterns of Service Delivery
  
- X. Internal Sources of Organizational Change
  - A. Management Turnover
  - B. Changing Client Base
  - C. Planning Processes
  - D. Obstacles to Change
  
- XI. Coping with Change
  - A. Strengths Perspective
  - B. Empowerment
  - C. Directing Power Resources
  - D. Importance of Outcomes
  
- XII. Making Your Organization Better
  - A. Selecting Your Battles
  - B. Mentoring
  - C. Looking Toward Your Future
  - D. Developing Skills for Your Agency and Yourself

Q. **LABORATORY OUTLINE:** None