



MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

A. HSER 1100 Introduction to Social Work and Human Services

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the history of human services and social work and the current roles, responsibilities, and workplace settings of social workers and human service workers. Many current policies and laws drive the function and focus of the social worker and human service worker. To understand more fully the functions of these policies and laws, this course examines a few of the important policies and laws that affect workers in this field. The NASW, NOHS, and ACA Code of Ethics will be discussed and closely reviewed during the course as well as the basic skills and interventions that are required of generalist social workers and human service workers.

(3 Cr – 3 lect, 0 lab)

C. *Core Theme: Critical Thinking

D. RIVERLAND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course addresses the following Riverland Institutional Learning Outcome(s):

- ILO 1: critical thinking (*Core Theme Goal 2*)
- ILO 2: awareness of the larger global community (*Core Theme Goal 7 or 8*)
- ILO 3: ethical, engaged citizenship (*Core Theme Goal 9 or Goal 10*)
- ILO 4: communication and collaboration (*Discipline Goal 1 and by any learning outcome(s) involving communication or collaboration*)

E. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- Historical perspectives in Human Services and Social Work
- Typical employment titles, job duties, and various levels of education needed in this field
- Role functions of social workers/human services workers
- Social work and human services boundaries, code of ethics, special populations, and multicultural issues that affect clients and service workers
- Problem assessment; planning, case management, behavioral approaches and the person in need, theories relating to psychotherapy, and crisis intervention
- Group project in the social work/human services field that includes reviewing current policies, laws, and ethics

F. GOAL TYPES, OBJECTIVES, AND OUTCOMES:

<u>GOAL</u>	<u>OBJECTIVES</u> Students will be able to	<u>OUTCOMES</u> The student will successfully
<u>*Critical Thinking</u>	analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. examine the historical evolution of social work and human services. 2. conduct interviews with human service professionals and develop an understanding of the social welfare system and the roles and responsibilities of the workers. 3. examine human services and social work perspective on human diversity, oppression, and privilege. 4. compare and contrast the differences and similarities between professional social workers and other service providers. 5. present the information to the class.
<u>CS</u>	understand the role of social work/human services values and ethics in the practice of these professions.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. develop an understanding of the importance that ethics and boundaries have in human services and social work. 2. examine the role of the social work generalist. 3. demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and in written and oral communication. 4. differentiate the roles and responsibilities of workers in the various fields of practice in human services and social work. 5. identify socioeconomic and related issues impacting populations at risk including issues of social justice and systems of oppression. 6. identify their comfort level to work with persons different from themselves. 7. examine ethics in the human services and social work field.
<u>CS</u>	gain knowledge about the employment in the human services/social work field.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. examine employment opportunities, requirements, educational expectations, and current trends in human services as presented by guest speakers.

<u>CS</u>	develop an understanding of human services and social work and apply strategies used to advance social and economic justice locally, nationally, and globally.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. discuss topics with professionals in the field through interviews and with class speakers. 2. identify social problems, social welfare agencies' response, and the role played by social workers in these various settings. 3. compile information and locate resources that assist clients.
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G. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

This course may require use of the Internet, the submission of electronically prepared documents and the use of a course management software program. Students who have a disability and need accommodations should contact Accessibility Services at the beginning of the semester. This information will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or current media, upon request.

H. COURSE CODING INFORMATION:

Course Code A/Class Maximum 48; Letter Grade

Revision date: 12/20/10; 09/01/16; 11/06/17; 01/18/23; 03/04/25

AASC Approval date: 11/21/17; 05/02/23; 04/15/25

*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes. Every course in the Riverland Community College curriculum shall meet outcomes from one of these themes.

**These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines. Riverland's MnTC courses also shall meet outcomes from a Discipline Area.

NOTE: The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum "10 Goal Areas of Emphasis" are reflected in the five required discipline areas and five core themes noted in the Riverland Community College program of study guide and/or college catalog.

*Riverland Community College Core Themes	MnTC Goal Number
Critical Thinking (CT)	2
Human Diversity (HD)	7A, 7B, 7A/B
Global Perspective (GP)	8
Ethical and Civic Responsibility (EC)	9
People and the Environment (PE)	10

**Riverland Community College Discipline Areas	MnTC Goal Number
Communication (CM)	1
Natural Sciences (NS)	3
Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (MA)	4
History and the Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS)	5
Humanities and Fine Arts (HU)	6

Riverland