



Program Description:

The Direct Support in Human Services Certificate program provides students with the knowledge and skills to effectively support individuals who may have disabilities or who seek assistance from human service agencies. The program offers courses to develop the basic skills that have been identified by the U.S. Department of Labor as key to becoming a competent human service worker. Students are also prepared to enter the associate degree program in Human Services.

Career and Transfer Outlook:

Graduates are competitive candidates for immediate employment or advancement in human service agencies. The coursework transfers into the Human Services Associate in Science degree program.

Program Outcomes:

- Graduates of the Direct Support in Human Services Certificate program are prepared to:
- Demonstrate basic counseling skills, including active listening, paraphrasing, confronting and engaging clients;
 - Demonstrate an understanding of the human service system in the United States, the history, course of development, and the current operation of services designed to assist major target populations;
 - Recognize problems in the human service system, analyze causes and contributing factors to the problem, and posit appropriate professional responses to the problems identified;
 - Demonstrate basic research skills, including identifying reliable sources of information;
 - Demonstrate an understanding of the 12 basic skills enumerated in the Community Support Skill Standards;
 - Demonstrate mastery of four Community Support Skill Standards, including Consumer Empowerment and Documentation;
 - Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical standards for human service workers and apply them in internship experiences;
 - Demonstrate basic writing skills, including the ability to accurately record client activity in accordance with current standards of human service practice;
 - Demonstrate an understanding of group process and the dynamics found in client groups;
 - Analyze the impact of cultural differences in providing human services and demonstrate cultural competence in working with people of different abilities, cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

DIRECT SUPPORT IN HUMAN SERVICES • Certificate

LOWELL CAMPUS - DAY

	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS	PREREQUISITES
✓				
—	HUS 101	Introduction to Human Services	3	ENG 060 or higher placement and eligible for ENG 101
—	HUS 099	Special Topics in Mental Retardation or		
—	HUS 152	Current Issues in Human Services	3	ENG 101
—	HUS 153	Supervised Field Placement	4	HUS 200
—	HUS 201	Counseling Skills	3	PSY 101, ENG 101 or permission of the instructor
—	PSY 122	Child Growth and Development or		Placement above or successful completion of ENG 101 and eligible for ENG 101
—	PSY 123	Developmental Disabilities or		ENG 060 or higher placement and eligible for ENG 101
—	PSY 162	Alcoholism and Substance Abuse	3	ENG 101
—	PSY 160	Dynamics of Interpersonal Relations I	3	ENG 060 or higher placement and eligible for ENG 101
—	ENG 101	English Composition I	3	C- in ENG 071 or eligible for ENG 101 and placement above or successful completion of ENG 060
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Helpful Hints:

Students who are currently employed by agencies funded by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Retardation may be eligible for scholarships and subsidies for the certificate program. Students should contact the Direct Support in Human Services Certificate program coordinator for scholarship information.

Note: Additional coursework may be required based on college placement testing. Students are urged to meet with their academic advisor for proper course sequencing. In order for a student to be eligible to participate in an academic, community or clinical program that involves potential unsupervised contact with children, the disabled, or the elderly, the student may be required to undergo a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check and/or a Sex Offender Registry Information (SORI) check. See page 151 for details.