

Millikin University
Student Learning Outcomes

**Human Service Major
Academic Year 2017-2018**

Submitted By:

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July 2018

Executive Summary

This major is designed to provide students with a cross-disciplinary perspective necessary for beginning a career or graduate study in the fields of Social Work or Human Services. The core curriculum of this major includes 46 credit hours. The required courses cover a wide range of topics from fields of practice, skill development, and ethical issues to current social problems. The areas of student learning assessed are:

Goal I: Professionalism

Objective: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the role of a human service professional.

Goal II: Citizenship

Objective: Students will demonstrate competence in discipline-based citizenship.

Goal III: Life and Meaning and Value

Objective: Students will discover and develop a personal life of meaning and value.

Human Service Major Learning Goals

Goal I: Professionalism

Objective: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the role of a human service professional. Specific focus will be on the individual and their family and the relationship between organizations, institutions, and communities.

- a. Describe and evaluate the dynamics of people with diverse demographics, experiences, and beliefs. Identify how the issues of diversity impact the individual, family and community with regard to discrimination, social, political and other forms of inequality with regard to discrimination, social political and other forms of inequality, and
- b. Mastery of beginning human service skills of assessment, planning and intervention with individuals and/or groups.
- c. Demonstrate a beginning understanding of outcomes of intervention and the use of qualitative and quantitative methods, and
- d. Demonstrate beginning skills in written language, documentation and reporting appropriate to the helping field.

Goal II: Citizenship

Objective: Students will demonstrate competence in discipline-based citizenship by accomplishing the following learning outcomes:

- a. Perform the duties of a human service provider with the guideline of the code of ethics of the profession and function competently in the established stands of the field, and
- b. Articulate the concepts of advocacy and development of programs/services for individuals, families and groups within the community.

Goal III: Life and Meaning and Value

Objective: Students will discover and develop a personal life of meaning and value as they:

- a. Continue to participate in the personal values and ethics self review, the impact of their personal choices on the client population, and
- b. Actively seek continuing education/experiences that will assist them in growth and enhancement of personal skills and knowledge related to the field of practice.

Outcome Report for Academic Year 2017-2018:

Results of the assessment of the 2017-2018 graduates are superior. Millikin graduated 16 students in the Human Service major. 4 graduates (as of July 1, 2018) were admitted to Social Work graduate schools to begin study summer/fall 2018. The remaining 12 graduates are all employed within social service agencies across the country.

Data analysis of Capstone Internship experiences and Field Supervisors is attached.

CURRENT SITUATION IN HUMAN SERVICE MAJOR

This past academic year was a time of challenge and transition. Throughout fall semester 2017, the major was status quo with two full time faculty teaching courses and advising. Spring 2018 offered some challenges as three weeks into the semester, Professor White was granted medical leave for a month. This leave ultimately resulted in Professor White being gone for the remainder of the spring 2018 semester. Due to Professor White's leave of absence, several adjunct instructors were hired to teach courses allowing for the full academic load of Human Service courses to be offered as scheduled. During this time, Professor Garrison took on the responsibility of all Human Service advisees as well as the coordination of internship placements for fall semester 2018. This was all in addition to Professor Garrison's full academic load.

Professor Garrison continued in her role as a JMS advisor and taught 5 independent study courses over the academic year. These opportunities allow students to enhance their academic transcripts and resumes in creative ways highlighting their commitment and motivation to the field. These additional activities have had very positive impact upon graduate school applications and job opportunities.

Throughout this academic year, Professor Garrison has been engaged on many levels outside of the classroom as well. During National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week 2017, Professor Garrison hosted the 8th Annual Box City Event over a week's period of time engaging over 100 students in the issue of homelessness in our community and nation. Further, Professor Garrison coordinated week long events in the community related to hunger and homelessness awareness coordinated a panel at the Avon Theatre with over 75 participants in attendance. Professor Garrison engaged students in research related to mental health, homelessness, poverty and in the Decatur community culminating in professional presentations for all students involved. Professor Garrison presented a total of 12 times throughout the academic year on subjects including homelessness, poverty, and ethics to peer reviewed audiences at the local and state level. In particular, Professor Garrison presented to a group of 50 school social workers Decatur as well as over 100 social workers and counselors in Springfield on the topics of ethics and cultural competency providing required continuing education credits for these professionals. Professor Garrison also develops travel experiences each year for students through the Human Service Connection Program for which she serves as an advisor. In this reporting year, 5 students traveled with Professor Garrison to Los Angeles, CA and lived in a homeless shelter for 4 days as a way to gain an in depth understanding of what one experiences while homeless. Professor Garrison continued as advisor of Big Blue Backpacks in collaboration with Dennis Lab School and the Good Samaritan Inn and worked actively with students to successfully feed 80 students at Dennis School every weekend during the academic year. Professor Garrison volunteered bi-monthly with students at the Oasis Day Center providing manicures to individuals frequently the program. Mary continued her role on Council on Curriculum for the academic year. Professor Garrison and Professor Podeschi were the recipients of a research fellows grant working with 4 student research assistants focusing on the Point-in-Time homeless count and Housing Inventory shelter count. Both professors and students worked to create a survey and subsequently a data base. This data base stored collected survey data and analyzed that data regarding the rate of homelessness in Macon County. Professor Garrison works actively with community stakeholders addressing poverty and homelessness. Professor Garrison continues her role as a clinical supervisor in the community at the local mental health center and privately for individuals seeking clinical licensure. Professor Garrison continued her role as a Delegate Assembly member for the Association at the national level. Professor Garrison is board member of Kennedy Forum Illinois and the Leadership Council and this year represented Millikin at the Annual Kennedy Forum in Chicago, IL and hosted two "On the Table" events in Decatur (Decatur Public Library and Millikin University) on May 8, 2018 in an effort to discuss mental health and eliminate stigma. Further, Professor Mary continued her work with the Continuum of Care and was appointed to be a consultant on the 2018 HUD Competitive Application (Grant) to end homelessness. Professor Garrison continues her role as a clinical supervisor at Heritage Behavioral Health as well as a consultant to Dove, Inc. as the Coordinator of Continuing Education for the agency. Professor Garrison provided numerous presentations throughout the academic year and had a manuscript accepted for publication: *"She was more than a friend": Clinical Intervention Strategies for Effectively Addressing Disenfranchised Grief Issues for Same-Sex Couples.*

In spring 2018, Professor Garrison was the recipient of the Cesar Chavez Social Justice Award as well as the Student Development Partnership Award.

Professor White continued her role this year as a member of CSAS. Further, Professor White has continued her work with the equine/animal therapy community to expand this type of therapeutic intervention in this region in Illinois.

Human Service faculty work actively with admissions to meet the needs of prospective students and families via face to face meetings, email and by phone. Professor Garrison engaged in a campus visit day with prospective students and communicated with several prospective students via phone and email.

Both faculty hold the highest practice credential in the Social Work field which is a License in Clinical Social Work or LCSW, and both have been awarded through employment experience and national testing the highest national membership status in the National Association of Social Workers which is the ACSW. Please refer to attached vita's for fields of expertise and areas of publication/research interests.

HUMAN SERVICE LEARNING SEQUENCE

Each required course taught in the major sequence will have learning goal content mastery outcome indicators included in the course syllabus. Content to assist with learning goal mastery will be provided in each major course taught. Courses are grouped into the categories of Foundation Content, Methods Content, and Application Course assignments, examinations, papers, and other student work will support the learning and mastery of learning goal content.

Students are advised on an ongoing basis throughout the academic year and during spring 2018, Professor Garrison took on all Human Service advisees in light of Professor White's leave. For advising, the content of these meetings vary and are individually based to address specific student need. Faculty provide career counseling, graduate school selection/application assistance in addition to traditional academic counseling and personal professional growth and development information.

ASSESSMENT METHOD

An ongoing filing system of course major sequence syllabi which includes assignments and identified exams will be maintained in the Behavioral Science Office. These files will be organized by academic semester and classes taught. The documents will reflect the ongoing focus in course content and that faculty has on learning goals and the measurement process for the students.

In the Capstone Internship Class a series of evaluations developed and completed by the Millikin faculty, the internship site supervisor(s) and the students themselves will provide content to support and identify the level of goal mastery at the completion of this major course of study.

Additionally a yearly self evaluation survey will be given to the students upon completion of Capstone Internship prior to graduation. Human Service faculty will maintain completed evaluation forms from all evaluators in the student's permanent file in the Departmental office. A report will be generated from the cumulative data collected.

Assessment of course work maintained will take place utilizing the human services assessment rubric including foundation courses, methods courses and applied practice courses. The rubric includes green, yellow and red guidelines for each course and will be assessed based on human service learning goals.

Assessment Data and Results

Attached to this report are the data from the capstone site supervisor evaluation. Respondents to the evaluation of their skills and content mastery totaled 9 students for spring 2018 (data for fall 2017 is unavailable).

Improvement Plans

Professor White has retired as of May 31, 2018. We thank her for her service and commitment to the major. Moving forward, a faculty search for fall 2019 will begin (with Professor Garrison as Chair of the search) and a redistribution of roles will be forthcoming. Professor Garrison will take on the role of Internship Coordinator and will evaluate the program to establish new expectations and guidelines moving forward. Further, Professor Garrison will advise all sophomore to senior Human Service majors during the faculty transition.

As a major, we continue to hold a very high level of rigor for our students and provide the best preparation for professional success.

. IV. Appendices:

- + Curriculum Map for Human Service
- + Site Supervisor form for evaluation of Capstone Internship
- + Graduate Self Survey document
- + Vitas: Mary Garrison and Kay White