**Human Services Technician Program**

**Associate of Applied Science**

**Program Description:**

The Human Services Technician program is designed to provide students with knowledge and application of the human services field. The human services profession is one which promotes improved service delivery systems by addressing not only the quality of direct services, but also by seeking to improve accessibility, accountability, and coordination among professionals and agencies in the Human Services field. This program incorporates the culture, values, and perspectives of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa throughout all courses. Students will graduate from the program understanding the historical and current circumstances of the local community and how to effectively work within it. Graduates will be prepared to work in various human services and counseling careers or further study toward a four-year degree with an emphasis on working within Native American/Indigenous communities.

**Essential Functions/Skills:**

● Communication Skills

● Compassion

● Interpersonal Skills

● Organizational Skills

● Problem-Solving Skills

● Cultural Competency

**Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of the program students will be able to:

● Demonstrate increased knowledge and insight related to the Human Services/Helping Professions field, their motives for becoming a Human Services professional, their strengths and weaknesses that could affect their ability to provide services in the helping professions

● Demonstrate knowledge of the language, terms, and concepts used in the human service profession.

● Demonstrate an understanding of the moral, ethical, and legal responsibilities in the human services field.

● Demonstrate increased knowledge related to working in various social and cultural contexts as well as with clients of various social and cultural backgrounds.

● Explain interventions and strategies for assisting individuals, families, groups, and communities

**Employment Outlook:**

According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook, Human Services Technician employment is on the rise with a projected 17% increase between 2022 and 2030, much higher than the average (8%) for all occupations. The median annual wage for Social and Human Services Technicians in May 2021 was $37,610; North Dakota is one of the top 5 highest paying states for Human Services Technicians.

https://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/social-and-human-service-assistants.htm#tab 1

**What can I do with a Human Service Technician degree?**

Social and human service assistants provide client services in a variety of fields, such as psychology, rehabilitation, and social work. Graduates of the Human Services Technician program will have the skills to attain employment in a variety of settings including but not limited to:

Addictions Counselor Assistant, Advocate, Residential Care Assistant, Social Services Aide, Social Services Assistant, Social Work Assistant, Social Work Associate, Social Worker Assistant, Human Services Technician, Behavioral Health Technician.

Organizations that graduates may find employment with include, but are not limited to:

* Probation and Parole, domestic abuse shelters, victim’s service program, mental health facilities, substance abuse programs, social service agencies, children’s service agencies, employment services, rehabilitation services.

**Human Services Technician Program**

**9-Month Certificate and Associate of Applied Science**

**Year One - 9-Month Certificate**

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| **Semester 1 Fall** | | **Credits** |
| HST 120 | Introduction to Helping Skills | 3 |
| HST 101 | Intro to Human Services | 3 |
| SWK 250 | Interpersonal Skills | 3 |
|  | Core Courses | **9** |
|  | General Education Courses |  |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Semester 2 Spring** | | **Credits** |
| HST 204 | Case Management | 3 |
| HST 125 | Crisis Intervention | 3 |
| SWK 205 | Motivational Interviewing | 3 |
|  | Core Courses | **9** |
|  | General Education Courses  \*A minimum of 14 credits of gen eds must be taken to earn the 9-month certificate. |  |

**Year Two - Associate of Applied Science (Year 1 + Year 2)**

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| **Semester 3 Fall** | | **Credits** |
| PSYC 205 | Addiction Studies I | 3 |
| SWK 255 | Social Work in Modern Society | 4 |
| HST 220 | Working with Families | 3 |
| SWK 256 | Development of Social Welfare | 3 |
|  | Core Courses | **13** |
|  | General Education Courses |  |

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| **Semester 4 Spring** | | **Credits** |
| SWK 257 | Human Behavior in Social Environment I | 3 |
| PSYC 206 | Addiction Studies II | 3 |
| HST 225 | Child Welfare | 3 |
| HST 297 | Human Services Internship | 2 |
| BOTE 177 | Job Readiness | 1 |
|  | Core Courses | **12** |
|  | General Education Courses |  |

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| **General Education Courses (must select from this list only)** | | **Credits** |
| COMM 110 | Fundamentals of Public Speaking | 3 |
| ENGL 110 | Composition I | 3 |
| ENGL 120 | Composition II | 3 |
| HPER 210 | First Aid/CPR | 2 |
| PSYC 111 | Intro to Psychology | 3 |
| HIST 296, HIST 251 or 252, HIST 262, SOCI 271, OR SOCI 275 | Native American History OR Sociology Course (TMBC History, Chippewa History I or II, Indian History II, Contemporary Indian Issues, OR Native American Studies) | 3 |
| PSYC 250 or PSYC 252 | Developmental Psychology OR  Adolescent Psychology | 3 |
|  | Total General Education Credits | **20** |
|  | Total Program Credits | **43** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total Program Credits** | **63** |

**Course Descriptions**

**HST 101 Intro Human Services, 3 credits**

This introductory course covers the historical aspects of human services, the requirements and skills of the human services worker, and examines service delivery models and processes. Students will explore trauma informed care, strengths-based approach, and understanding multicultural influences when working with clients. Students will survey current local community resources and programs. This course requires 20 volunteer hours in an approved Human Services program.

**HST 120 Helping Skills, 3 credits**

This course is designed to introduce students to theoretical principles and knowledge to enhance personal skills necessary in the helping relationship. Students will learn to think critically about the helping process, recognize personal biases, acknowledge cultural traits, and gain understanding of maladaptive thoughts and behaviors and practice learned skills to develop positive helping relationships. Helping skills such as attending, active listening, demonstrating empathy, assessment and referral will be discussed, role played and applied in an experiential manner.

**HST 125 Crisis Intervention, 3 credits**

This course focuses on the fundamentals of situational and developmental crises, how they occur and how to manage them. Will review traditional counseling methods as they relate to crisis intervention; as well as explore behavioral dynamics associated with crisis situations. Students will learn how to conduct suicide assessments and mental status exams.  *Prerequisite: HST 120, HST 101*

**HST 204 Case Management, 3 credits**

This course introduces students to case management. Emphasis is given to the foundations of case management, phases and models of case management and on concepts of effective intake interviewing, problem identification and assessment. This course will also particularly focus on ethics and other professional responsibilities for Human Service workers. *Prerequisite: HST 120, HST 101*

**HST 220 Working with Families, 3 credits** This course is an introduction to the study of family systems theory, dynamics, and family counseling, with an emphasis on Turtle Mountain Chippewa culture. It emphasizes parent-child relations, developmental milestones, family systems theory, family communication, and family composition. Other topics include same-sex parenting, inter-racial families, as well as the effect of historical and intergenerational trauma on the families. *Prerequisite: HST 120, HST 101*

**HST 225 Child Welfare, 3 credits**

This course will examine child welfare practice in the United States, its history, and current best practices. Specifically, it will explore the Interactional Model, the Safety Framework practice model, phases of child welfare practice and the worker’s role in each phase, family support, child protection and the investigation process. Students will also conduct an in-depth review of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), current legislation regarding ICWA, and best practices in child welfare focusing on Tribal child Welfare programs.

**HST 297 Human Services Internship, 2 credits**

This course provides students with the opportunity to expand and apply practical and classroom experiences in human services settings. Students will work in a Human Services setting under the supervision of a professional worker. Along with field experience, the student will complete a practicum seminar and attend weekly check-in meetings with their instructor. Placements may include, but are not limited to, settings involving mental health, developmental disabilities, children and family services programs, and community services programs. Prerequisite: Completion of all required courses as listed in the catalog. *Must be taken last semester of program.*

**PSYC 205 Addiction Studies I, 3 credits**

This course is a study of the history of use and abuse of legal and illegal drugs and the disease concept of addiction, its etiology, and complications.

**PSYC 206 Addiction Studies II, 3 credits**

This course is the study of the treatment of chemical addiction including the American Indian cultural aspects of treatment. The family illness concept and prevention education are explored.

**SWK 205 Motivational Interviewing, 3 credits**

This course will lay a foundation for students to begin developing motivational interviewing skills to help people accomplish change. Students will learn the four processes of motivational interviewing using the textbook, supplemental handouts, along with lecture, role-playing, videos and group discussion. *Prerequisite: HST 120, HST 101*

**SWK 250 Interpersonal Skills, 3 credits**

This is an introductory course in basic interpersonal communication skills from the Human Services perspective. Students discuss, evaluate, and demonstrate skills of appropriate verbal and non–verbal communications, cross-cultural communications, appropriate self-disclosure, active listening, and appropriate challenging. They acquire these skills through small group discussion and practice.

**SWK 255 Social Work in a Modern Society, 4 credits**

An introduction to the social work profession including: the development of the profession, generalist practice, the problem-solving process, the strengths perspective, social work values and ethics, levels of practice, and fields of practice; Students enrolled in this course will be required to complete 40 hours of volunteer experience.

**SWK 256 Development of Social Welfare, 3 credits**

This course covers the history, values, political and economic conditions which influence the development and provision of social welfare services. Information about inequality, and the major social welfare programs that benefit the disadvantaged, is included. A basic analytic model will be presented to evaluate social welfare policies.

**SWK 257 Human Behaviors in the Social Environment, 3 credits**

This course provides an emphasis on ecological/social systems theory as the conceptual framework. Bio-psycho-socio-cultural aspects of human development.