



University of Illinois Springfield Human Services Program with a Concentration in Social Services Administration (SSA) - MA

Program Description



The Human Services Master of Arts degree program has four concentrations: Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Child and Family Studies, Gerontology, and Social Services Administration (SSA). The last of these, SSA, is now available fully online, while other concentrations are moving toward a hybrid online/on ground format. With no campus visits required, the Social Services Administration concentration already has students from across the country. For online study, SSA online must be specified upon application to the program.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree, preferably with a foundation in the liberal arts. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Some exception can be made and conditional acceptance is granted.

Prerequisite courses are a lifespan development course and a research methods course with content consistent with the ones listed in the Admission Requirements section of the college catalog.

For admission, students must submit an application to the university, an application to the HMS program, two completed recommendation forms from professional or academic sources, a personal statement detailing their reason for seeking admission into the program, and undergraduate transcripts. An interview with program faculty will then be arranged.

The master of arts degree in human services (HMS) is designed to provide advanced professional education for students who have an undergraduate education in human services or who have completed specific prerequisite courses to prepare them for study in the field. It is a multidisciplinary degree that prepares students to become competent as human services professionals for multiple roles and settings. The degree contains core courses that teach skills and concepts needed by all human services professionals and integrates content from several academic concentrations to allow students to develop specific expertise.

The concentrations are:

- Alcoholism and substance abuse
- Child and family studies
- Gerontology
- Social services administration (online)

Degree Requirements

The master's degree in human services requires 44 hours of graduate-level courses, with 24 hours of core requirements and 20 concentration-specific hours. Students are required to complete all coursework within a 6 year time frame following admission to the program.

Each student in the HMS program must complete the following courses (24 hours):

- HMS 501 Critical Perspectives in Human Services (4 hours)
- HMS 502 Interviewing and Assessment Skills in Human Services (4 hours)
- HMS 511 Social Policy and Human Services (4 hours)
- HMS 516 Ethics and Professional Development (4 hours)
- HMS 550 Internship (4 hours)
- HMS 585 HMS Capstone (4 hours)

Concentration Requirements: (24 hours)

- HMS 514 Staff Development and Supervision (4 hours)
- HMS 538 Social Services Administration (4 hours)
- HMS 584 Introduction to Nonprofit Management (4 hours)
- HMS 588 Grant Writing in Human Services (4 hours)
- One additional graduate level elective course with approval of academic advisor

Official degree requirements are available in the UIS catalog at www.uis.edu/uiscatalog

Program Contacts

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