

Associates of Science (A.S) in Mental Health and Human Services

Designed in response to a national and state-wide need, JMVU's A.S. Program in Mental Health and Human Services program prepares students for employment in a variety of community-based human services. Graduates of the Associate degree program can pursue successful careers as technicians and support personnel in crisis stabilization, case management, psychosocial and vocational rehabilitation, job coaching, community support work, crisis shelter management, and other services in a variety of agencies and institutions.

The A.S. degree in Mental Health and Human Services at JMVU prepares students to become a **Social and Human Service Assistant** (occupation code 21-1093) who assists other professionals in providing services to clients. These services include providing direct client services, or connecting clients to needed benefits or community services (Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition*).

The A.S. Program in Mental Health and Human Services is a challenging and specialized associate degree program that is designed to educate students to become a social and human service assistant under the supervision of other professionals in a wide variety of community settings. The coursework for the Associate's degree in Mental Health and Human Services has a focus on applied psychology and mental health, while an internship provides students with the opportunity to work in a human service, mental health, or substance abuse rehabilitation agency.

Students completing the A.S. Program will gain valuable skills in group dynamics, activity therapy, interpersonal communication, and case management. They will be taught to maintain records and prepare reports while respecting the confidential nature of the information.

Program Objectives

1. Understand the history, current state and nature of mental health and human services professions.
2. Become proficient in interviewing techniques and mental health and human services record-keeping.
3. Understand personality theory and the techniques that evolve from that personality theory.
4. Understand the issues of diversity as they apply to working in the mental health and human services field.
5. Understand the diagnostic classification system of mental disorders and demonstrate basic capability of using the DSM-IV-TR.
6. To find employment in the mental health/human services field, and to be able to work as a Social and Human Services Assistant at a level appropriate to the two-year associate degree in the wide variety of mental health/human services settings available to them.
7. To be prepared to pursue a Bachelor's degree in mental health and human services.

For students interested in pursuing certification in the field of Mental Health, the JMVU curriculum for the A.S. in Mental Health and Human Services is designed to allow students to fulfill the training requirements of the Behavioral Health Technician Certificate awarded by the Florida Certification Board. Written exams administered by the Florida Certification Board are required for certification. In addition, 1,000 hours of direct experience in the behavioral health field are required.

Students who are interested in pursuing certification through the Florida Certification Board should consult their website at www.flcertificationboard.org.

Graduation Requirements

A total of 60 credit hours must be completed by taking the following courses. Courses which meet the General Education requirements (18 credit hours) are labeled "GE".

SEMESTER I (requirement of 15 credits)

- Successful completion of the University orientation program.
- ENC 1000 Oral & Written Communications **GE** 3 Credits
- MAC 1105 College Mathematics I (Algebra & Geometry) **GE** 3 Credits
- PSY 2012 General Psychology **GE** 3 Credits
- PHI 2600 Ethics **GE** 3 Credits
- CGS 210 Office Applications 3 Credits

SEMESTER II (requirement of 15 credits)

- ENC 1101 Composition I (English II) **GE** 3 Credits
- STA 201 Introduction to Statistics for Health and Social Sciences 3 Credits
- PSB 200 Biological Basis of Human Behavior 3 Credits
- PPE 300 Theories of Personality 3 Credits
- PSY 260 History and Foundations of Psychology 3 Credits

SEMESTER III (requirement of 15 credits)

- SPC 1053 Oral Expression **GE** 3 Credits
- CLP 305 Foundations of Clinical and Counseling 3 Credits
- CLP 314 Abnormal Psychology 3 Credits
- DEP 200 Human Developmental Psychology- A Life Span 3 Credits

Elective – Choose one of the following:

- HUS 231 Strategies of Behavior Modification 3 Credits
- HUS 154 Understanding and Working with Families 3 Credits
- SOP 374 Psychology of Women 3 Credits

Semester VI: (requirement of 15 CR)

- HUS 100 Principles of Human Services and Helping Skills 3 Credits
- SYG 223 Stereotyping, Prejudice, Stigma and Marginality 3 Credits
- HUS 141 Case Management in Human Services 3 Credits
- HUS 182 Human Services Practicum I 3 Credits
- HUS 211 Interpersonal Skills in Human Services 3 Credits
- Successful completion of the university career services requirements.