HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES, B.S. (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Brandywine, DuBois, Fayette, Mont Alto, Shenango, Scranton, York

Program Learning Objectives

Brandywine, Fayette Campuses

- Understanding of the complexity of individual and family development across the lifespan in diverse contexts and changing environments.
- Summarize, critique, and apply theories and concepts related to individual and family development from a multi-disciplinary, life-cycle perspective.
- Articulate how biology, psychology, and history influence diversity in individual and family structures and functions in a social/cultural context.
- Ability to evaluate and apply theory and research to practice and policy.
  - Demonstrate an understanding of the contribution of original research in human development;
  - Integrate and apply the findings of empirical research within a theoretical framework to human development;
  - Explain the strengths and weaknesses of various research methods in assessing human behavior;
  - Apply research skills in order to better understand the use of research in agency practice;
  - Explain the process of planning and conducting research, including the role of the IRB;
  - Demonstrate skills to analyze and interpret data;
  - Apply theories to identify and resolve problems.
- Ability to analyze processes, policies, and contextual factors that affect the delivery of human services to individuals and families.
  - Demonstrate knowledge of history and policies for ethical conduct in the delivery of human services;
  - Examine environmental factors shaping individual and family interventions (such as political, social, economic, cultural, and technological);
  - Demonstrate an understanding of community-based programs and services;
  - Understand and articulate individual and family needs and roles of human service organizations in fulfilling those needs;
  - Demonstrate knowledge of HIPAA regulations;
  - Develop a working knowledge of how to evaluate community-based programs and services.
- Professional ethical and culturally sensitive standards of conduct.
  - Articulate understanding of theories, skills, and competencies of an effective helper;
  - Demonstrate knowledge of the main ethical, legal, clinical, professional, and personal issues and challenges involved in the helping professions;
  - Demonstrate knowledge of informed consent for working with diverse groups of clients;
  - Understand and apply ethical decision making models;
  - Understanding how personal values and experiences influence one's ability to make professional decisions;
  - Recognize stereotypical and prejudicial language and attitudes and their impact on the helping relationship.

DuBois, York Campuses

- Understand the complexity of individual and family development across the lifespan.
- Evaluate and apply research and theory to practice and policy.
- Understand the processes, policies and contextual factors that affect the delivery of human services.
- Understand the professional, ethical, and culturally sensitive standards of conduct.
- Demonstrate knowledge and competence in helping, leadership and administrative skills.

Mont Alto, Scranton Campuses

- Demonstrate an understanding of the complexity of individual and family development across the lifespan in diverse contexts and changing environments
- Demonstrate an ability to evaluate and apply research and theory to practice and policy.
- Analyze processes, policies, and contextual factors that affect the delivery of human services to individuals and families.
- Demonstrate professional, ethical, and culturally sensitive standards of conduct.
- Demonstrate knowledge and competence in helping, leadership, and administrative skills for human services.

Shenango Campus

- Graduates can apply theories and principles of human services to clinical and/or practice and research.
  - Explain and cite appropriate theories that can be applied to a given scenario.
  - Compare and contrast, and can explain the pros and cons of major theories in human services.
  - Construct appropriate treatment plans and/or make appropriate referrals.
  - Develop a coherent research question and construct an appropriate research design and methodology to investigate the question.
  - Interpret and critique research findings.
  - Apply research/research findings to inform practice.
- Graduates will demonstrate professional and ethical accountability in dealing with clients and coworkers.
  - Interact respectfully with people of diverse populations at all times.
  - Define diversity and the benefits of diversity as it relates to the human services fields.
  - Conduct themselves successfully in interview settings whether as the interviewer or interviewee.
  - Demonstrate knowledge of laws concerning confidentiality, professional boundaries, and sexual harassment within the human services field, especially laws related to HIPAA, licensure regulations, and FERPA.
Human Development and Family Studies, B.S. (University College)

- Demonstrate a strong work ethic in their courses and in the field.
- Communicate, verbally and in writing, in a professional manner at all times.
- Take responsibility for and accept the consequences for their actions.
- Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively in teams or groups.
- Graduates can identify, access and utilize resources to better serve individuals, families, and communities at the micro and macro level.
  - Locate potential opportunities and develop high quality proposals to obtain funding from external sources.
  - Identify, locate, and access regional, national, and global resources for information, referrals, and assistance in performing their professional duties.
  - Locate policies, rules, regulations, and laws that impact their professional duties.
  - Explain the differences among profit, non-profit, and faith-based agencies and evaluate the relative credibility of those agencies.
- Graduates can use technologies necessary to perform professional duties efficiently and effectively.
  - Students will demonstrate a level of proficiency in email, web searches, presentation software, databases, publication software, library databases, statistical software, and word processing.
  - Students will recognize and effectively use appropriate software programs to more efficiently complete projects and assignments.
- Graduates will demonstrate strong verbal and written communication skills.
  - Students will demonstrate active listening skills and can construct effective questions to further explore issues and concerns.
  - Students will be proficient in APA style writing.
  - Students will be able to use proper grammar, sentence structure, accurate spelling, formal language, correct punctuation, coherent paragraphs, ... to write well organized and effective documents and professional communications.
  - Students will make effective presentations.
  - Students will construct effective arguments from multiple perspectives.
- Graduates will demonstrate personal and professional growth that leads to the ability to build and enhance skill sets.
  - Students will participate in professional development activities.
  - Students will demonstrate effective time management by completing all assignments and coursework by the assigned deadlines and attending class regularly.
  - Students will learn to recognize and deal with their personal issues and persist in their education and professional growth.
  - Students will identify their scope of practice based on their clinical limitations.