This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.
Unit Name | Human Services Organisations: A Critical Introduction
---|---
Unit Code | HS401
Award | Graduate Diploma in Social Science
Credit Points | 10
Core/Elective | Elective
Pre/co-requisites | Nil
Modes | Internal
        | External
Delivery/Contact hrs | **Internal**
        | Lectures and Tutorials | 39 hours
        | Reading, study and preparation for lectures | 39 hours
        | Assignment preparation | 52 hours
        | TOTAL | 130 hours
        | **External**
        | Engagement with study materials | 78 hours
        | Assignment preparation | 52 hours
        | TOTAL | 130 hours
Teaching Staff | Don Smith
Unit Rationale | Students in the area of the human services need to have a foundational understanding of the nature of the human services sector, its historical roots and the philosophical perspectives and policy debates which underpin it. An overview of the human services sector in Australia today, examining the role of both government and non-government providers of community services, is presented, allowing students to begin to understand the sector in which they are planning to work. Major conceptual frameworks and important philosophical debates will be highlighted in order to enable students to reflect on the issues underpinning human services provision and the formulation of public policy in this area. At postgraduate level, students also need to develop skills to critically analyse the philosophical discourses that underpin human services theory and practice, and selectively integrate learning into their developing approach to practice.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this unit students will have provided evidence that they have:

1. Investigated and analysed policy and processes relating to the management and administration of human services programs;
2. Explained and evaluated the nature of key conceptual frameworks and philosophical debates which underlie current public policy and practice in the human services sector;
3. Identified and described a variety of approaches and agencies for the provision of human services;
4. Understood and critically reflected on various conceptualisations of social justice including from the perspective of a distinctively Christian worldview;
5. Integrated learning into their own developing practice perspective and identified personal areas of interest within the human services field;
6. Written at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation.
### Content:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Underpinning principles of human services: social justice, human rights and Christian worldview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>A brief history of human service provision and organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Government and community expectations of human services organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Administrative processes, financial management and funding proposals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Teamwork, supervision and leadership I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Teamwork, supervision and leadership II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Approaches to case management I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Approaches to case management II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Liaison with government and non-government agencies I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Liaison with government and non-government agencies II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Contemporary debates and trends in human services practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Legal, professional and ethical considerations of human services practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Caring for carers in agency contexts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Set Text Requirements:


### Recommended Readings:


**Journals**

*Australian Social Work*

*Journal of Progressive Human Services*

*Social Work and Christianity*

**Assessment:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Week Due</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evaluative Report</td>
<td>Describe and critically analyse a specific human services program or initiative (e.g., the Home and Community Care program), including underlying philosophy, aims, criteria, relevant legislation, application process and outcomes.</td>
<td>1-3, 6</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td>Select a specific human services provider and identify its key areas of service provision. Describe the activities of the provider, examine the philosophy, models and approaches of the provider, including details of what values emerge from written material and in practice; and critique the service provision, including whether stated philosophies or apparent goals/outcomes statements are achieved in practice.</td>
<td>1-3, 6</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Essay</td>
<td>Explore and critique a range of conceptualisations of social justice and human rights as they relate to the theory and practice of human services organisations. Critically reflect on these conceptualisations from the perspective of a Christian worldview and discuss areas of persona; and professional application.</td>
<td>2, 4-6</td>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2250 words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>