

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 科目簡介

COURSES FOR 4-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

HSM3001 Introduction to Health and Social Care (3 credits)

(Note: From 2020-21, students under Health and Social Services Management Stream of BSocSc programme have to take this course in their year 3.)

This course provides a fundamental understanding of the study and practice of health and social service and care delivery. It will introduce students to the historical, theoretical, policy, institutional and regulatory aspects of social services and social care with the view of giving a broader perspective on the subject. The course will discuss issues of health-related inequalities, the nature of the social services, diversity and categories of populations in need of social services. These issues and others will be discussed with practical cases drawn from Hong Kong and globally. The course will be delivered through lectures, tutorials and student-led seminars. The lectures will be interactive engagements where students will be expected to contribute to the discussions having read at least the required materials for the week. Each lecture will last for 2 hours, with an additional hour of tutorials. The student led-seminars are geared toward motivating students to select their interest areas in health and social services (including social care). Working in groups, students will make presentations on critical topics in health and social care using relevant concepts, theories and case studies.

HSM3002 Health and Social Service Provisions for Special Populations (3 credits)

The world is experiencing several social problems some of which are new while several older ones have taken new and complicated dimensions. These social problems need to be understood from local and global perspectives to enhance its management. This course discusses several social problems within the context of health and social service delivery. Students will be led to reflect on how unique and vulnerable populations groups, such as older persons, children and youth, the poor, drug abusers, the mentally ill, and disability, experience health and social care and their place in society. The course relates the various social problems to policy measures and institutional structures meant to deal with them. It will be delivered through lectures and some field visits to elderly homes, prisons and interactions with people with disabilities and refugee seekers. The module will expand students' horizon about these social problems and equip them with first-hand knowledge in addressing the health-related plights of these groups from a social care perspective.

HSM3003 Big Data Analytics for Health and Social Service Management (3 credits)

(Prerequisite(s): BUS1102 Statistics for Business or SOC3101 Sociological Research Methods)

Health information systems are systems that manage individual health data and assist health and allied health professionals in their daily operational tasks. Increasing automation over the years has allowed these systems to accumulate a large volume of data. With an increasing demand for operational efficiency, these data represent an opportunity to extract useful knowledge to support decision-making by health and social service managers and policymakers. Health information systems store a wide variety of structured and unstructured data from different aspects of healthcare management, including medical, administrative and financial data. This course is designed to equip students with the skills to apply appropriate statistical and data mining tools to different types of data to support decisions in a health and social care setting.

HSM3004 Community-based Social Services (3 credits)

This course is delivered in partnership with the Office of Service Learning (OSL) and Asia Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies (APIAS). The course involves engagement in the community. Some students will be attached to the OSL's "We Care, We Serve & We Learn

at Tuen Mun" Programme and the "Think-Act-Contribute (TAC) Health Programme". Those in the former programme will be conducting interviews, writing feature stories, doing video shooting, interviewing partners for a community story-book in the context of health and social care. Those in the latter programme will engage in raising awareness about the importance of the relationship between youth and older generations which initiates the participants to "think" and towards a healthy community. Through activities such as Funky Dance (i.e. the Act), the course promotes health and intergenerational harmony. It also contributes to health promotion through exercises and awareness creation about illness in the community. The TAC activity will be delivered together with APIAS' project on intergenerational communication. Students are expected to document their experiences throughout the course and submit a report of the activities and the relevance for health and well-being of the participating groups and individuals.

HSM4001 Leading and Managing Health and Social Services (3 credits)

(Prerequisite: From 2020-21, HSM3001 Introduction to Health and Social Care)

(Note: From 2020-21, students under Health and Social Services Management Stream of BSocSc programme have to take this course in their year 3.)

Studies show that successful health and social services delivery is generally predicated on effective management and leadership. This course discusses theoretical and practical issues relating to management and leadership in health and social service institutions from local and global perspectives. It offers students analytical skills to understand and evaluate the role of management in leading diverse teams and in providing ethically sound and quality services despite resource limitations and erratic social and political environment. The module will be delivered through lectures, tutorials and workshops led by practitioners from both the public and private sectors who will offer real-life examples. One of the workshops will focus extensively on communication skills with service users and providers. The tutorial section is dedicated to discussions on various forms of empirical research cases on management and leadership matters in the area of social services, particularly social care. To build their teamwork skills, students will work in teams to address specific institutional social care problem as part of the course. The course consists of a weekly lecture (3-hour sections). Two of the lecture periods will be dedicated to the practitioner workshops.

HSM4002 Health and Social Service Project (3 credits)

This course is delivered in partnership with the Office of Service Learning at Lingnan University and in conjunction with several service and social care institutions in both the private and public sector. The institutions will include non-governmental organisations and relevant hospital units. Students will be involved in activities of these organisations in form of service-learning with the aim of learning about and critically examining a specific health and social care issue. They are expected to come out with a report that contains students' experiences, supported by data gathered through appropriate data collection methods and approaches. Where applicable, the students can focus on a particular project at the institution where they will be attached.