WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES  
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE: Research, Design and Evaluation of Programs in Human Services

COURSE NUMBER: AHS 6630

BLACK BOARD TECHNOLOGY WILL BE USED FOR THIS COURSE

I. COURSE RATIONALE:

As society has changed, the demands and work of Human Service Agencies has also changed. More than ever, competition for resources now requires leaders in Human Services to be able to account for the effectiveness of their programs. This requires that Human Service leaders be able to systematically analyze problems and determine effective interventions. Successful Human Services leaders will have to know how to conduct a systematic analysis, select appropriate interventions, and evaluate program effectiveness. This course emphasizes the application of social research methods to human service professional practice in the service delivery, program design, and evaluation.

II. INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:
The student will explore relationship of research process to human service work practice

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Explain how research methods and human service work are related
A-2 State how human service work research methods benefits from using a methodological approach

GOAL B:
The student will analyze types of interventions and measuring outcomes

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Explain the two key types of program evaluation
B-2 List common types of interventions and their advantages/disadvantages
B-3 Compare differences in approaches in measuring outcomes
B-4 Relate social and political influences and their impact on measuring outcomes

GOAL C:
The student will critique research methods and strategies
Learning Outcomes: The student will:

C-1 Justify decisions regarding the selection of research methods
C-2 Analyze research methods in various case studies
C-3 State the requirements/ advantages/ disadvantages and particular characteristics of quantitative research
C-4 State the requirements/ advantages/ disadvantages and particular characteristics of qualitative research

GOAL D:
The student will assess ethical issues involved in social science research

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

D-1 Identify the cultural considerations involved in human subject evaluation
D-2 Explain IRB requirements as they are related to social science research

GOAL E:
The student will learn differences and advantages of short term and strategic evaluation

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

E-1 Given a problem recommend short term evaluation of action
E-2 Given a problem recommend long-term evaluation for this problem
E-3 Identify the major types of human service work evaluation

GOAL F:
The student will develop a research plan for a human service program

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

F-1 Define a problem
F-2 Outline a needs assessment or needs analysis
F-3 Recommend interventions
F-4 Develop an evaluation plan
F-5 Communicate the research plan

GOAL G:
Students will demonstrate professional communication skills.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

G-1 Use effective interpersonal communication skills while working in groups in establishing project goals.
G-2 Outline and present a project proposal before an audience.
GOAL H:
Students will demonstrate competency in writing and formatting papers in academic style.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

H-1 Write a paper using appropriate grammar and language
H-2 Use appropriate academic writing style including citations
H-3 Apply APA style formatting to all written assignments