

Common Course Outline
HUSC 106
Understanding and Empowering At-Risk Youth
3 Credits

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

HUSC 106 – Understanding and Empowering At-Risk Youth introduces the principles and skills necessary to work with vulnerable children and youth due to a variety of factors; focuses on proficiencies needed to work with individuals in foster care or at-risk for out-of-home placement.

3 Credits

Prerequisites: none

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. recall the major historical developments within child welfare;
2. apply principles of cultural competence with youth;
3. summarize the continuum of care in out-of-home placement;
4. describe the Adverse Childhood Experiences study;
5. appropriately communicate with children and adolescents;
6. recognize typical milestones of child and adolescent development;
7. predict the basic connections between parental attachment and child development;
8. describe child and adolescent maltreatment and interventions;
9. recall the signs and symptoms of the common developmental, mood, anxiety, and behavioral disorders in youth;
10. identify suicidal symptoms in a child or adolescent, and describe an intervention plan;
11. outline the common signs of adolescent substance use;
12. recognize drugs' effects on the developing adolescent brain;
13. label different learning styles, abilities, and disabilities;
14. discuss aspects of the educational partnerships with schools;
15. recall the different aspects of trust-building, boundary setting, and group dynamics;
16. practice writing objectively in field-specific documentation;
17. explore community resources for this population; and
18. describe a trauma-informed safety plan and its components.

Major Topics

- I. Orphan Trains
- II. Cultural competence continuum

- III. Continuum of Care
- IV. Verbal and nonverbal communication skills
- V. Child and adolescent developmental milestones
- VI. Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACE)
- VII. Parent/child attachment
- VIII. Physical, sexual, and psychological Abuse
- IX. Neglect and abandonment
- X. Child abuse reporting
- XI. Common child and adolescent mental health disorders
- XII. Suicide awareness and interventions
- XIII. Teen experimentation and drug use
- XIV. Learning styles and abilities
- XV. Americans with Disabilities Act, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Individualized Education Plan, 504 Plan
- XVI. Trust-based relationships
- XVII. Group dynamics
- XVIII. Trauma informed safety plan
- XIX. Objective report writing
- XX. Community resources
- XXI. Multicultural awareness

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Grading/exams

A minimum of two examinations

A comprehensive final exam

At least three written assignments demonstrating objective writing skills, minimum 1-page length

At least one reflection paper outlining a service learning assignment, minimum 4-page length

Written Assignments: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information

This course is a program elective in the Human Services Counseling degree program, and may also be taken by students in other programs or majors.