

SLWK/HUSC 202

Human Behavior in the Social Environment

3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County
Common Course Outline

Description

SLWK/HUSC 202 – Human Behavior in the Social Environment: is a course that offers students an introduction to understanding human behavior and its development across the lifespan. This course integrates theories of human development with a focus on social contexts. NOTE: SLWK 202 is the same as HUSC 202. Earn credit for one only.

Pre-requisites: HUSC 101, or completion of SLWK 200 with a minimum grade of C

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. examine interrelated aspects of growth and development across the lifespan, including biological, cognitive, social, emotional, and spiritual dimensions;
2. assess theories of lifespan development and human behavior;
3. review social policies at the local, state, and federal level that impact well-being, service delivery, and access to social services;
4. investigate how cultural beliefs, social values, and oppression affect our development, our perceptions of self and others, and interpersonal relationships;
5. explore internal and external factors influencing development across the lifespan;
6. demonstrate the values of the social work profession orally and in writing;
7. demonstrate the importance of diversity in shaping life experiences across the micro, mezzo, and macro levels of practice;
8. reflect upon social, economic, and environmental justice to advocate for human rights at the individual and system levels; and
9. apply relevant laws, regulations, Codes of Ethics, and models of ethical decision making to ethical dilemmas across a variety of settings.

Major Topics

- I. Major models of lifespan development
- II. Social and ecological models of person-in-environment
- III. Social Policies
- IV. Personal values and cultural mores
- V. Professional values of the social worker
- VI. Social, economic, and environmental justice
- VII. The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics and ethical decision-making
- VIII. Populations with unique needs
 - a. Under resourced families and communities
 - b. Family and child welfare

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.

For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- c. People with disabilities
- d. People with Substance Use Disorders
- e. Aging adults
- f. People engaged in the criminal justice system
- g. Veterans and their families
- h. LGBTQ+ populations
- i. People seeking asylum

Course Requirements

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- a written personal analysis of one's own development in the social environment, including sociocultural influences and the role of dominant culture
- an observational research project and presentation
- a biopsychosocial assessment of a case study

Written assignments and research projects: students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources using APA Style.

Other Course Information

This course meets the Lifespan Development requirement of the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists.

Date Revised: 5/7/2024