Master of Science (MS) in Human Services with a specialization in Multidisciplinary Human Services
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The master’s Multidisciplinary Human Services specialization is designed to help learners apply a multidisciplinary approach for solving complex social problems. Learners engage in a curriculum that focuses on multidisciplinary human services theory, research, practice, skills, and ethics. Learners also have the opportunity to choose their elective curriculum, providing them with the flexibility to develop a program of study that reflects their personal and professional interests and goals. Successful graduates of this specialization are prepared to apply a multidisciplinary knowledge and skills in their work serving individuals, communities, and agencies.

This specialization is part of Capella University’s broad portfolio of public service leadership offerings. Capella features a multidisciplinary approach to public service education that brings together faculty and learners from public administration, public safety, and health care, professions that often must work together to address complex public sector challenges. Learners benefit because they gain an in-depth understanding of their specialized professions in the context of the larger public service environment.

Knowledge gained through work experience and industry certifications may help you earn academic credit toward your degree through Capella’s Prior Learning Assessment process, offering you potential savings on tuition and time to completion.*

This specialization is offered in the GuidedPath delivery model.

*Residents of Washington may receive credit for prior learning only in the bachelor’s and MBA programs.

This guide is intended to provide an overview of the specialization and is subject to change. Your enrollment counselor can provide updates, details, and Capella’s official University Catalog that specifies your program requirements.
## Career Information

### RELATED EMPLOYMENT SETTINGS TO EXPLORE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child welfare/children's services</th>
<th>Victim service program</th>
<th>Health maintenance organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Adoption agency</td>
<td>• Court</td>
<td>• Hospice program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Group home</td>
<td>• Prison</td>
<td>• Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Residential facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Early intervention program</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Family preservation agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Therapeutic school/camp</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Community organizations</strong></td>
<td><strong>Educational institutions</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mental health</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Domestic violence shelter</td>
<td>• Land-based or online college or university</td>
<td>• Employee assistance program</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Substance abuse treatment center</td>
<td>• Community college</td>
<td>• Community mental health center</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Educational center</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Residential treatment center</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Homeless shelter</td>
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<td>• Family service agency</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Criminal justice/corrections</strong></td>
<td><strong>Government</strong></td>
<td>• Managed mental health program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Police department</td>
<td>• City, county, state, or federal agency such as the department of health and human services</td>
<td>• Day treatment program</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Community-based living facility</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Health care</strong></td>
<td><strong>Health care</strong></td>
<td><strong>Private sector</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Senior housing facility</td>
<td>• Clinic</td>
<td>• Religious organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nursing home</td>
<td>• Nursing home</td>
<td>• Nonprofit organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Group home</td>
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</tbody>
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### RELATED JOB TITLES TO EXPLORE*

- Program coordinator
- Behavior analyst
- Senior center director
- Case coordinator
- Child and family service reviewer
- Community programs director
- Advocate
- Development director
- Behavioral technician
- Education employment counselor
- Employee assistance program representative
- Family activities coordinator
- Program associate
- Executive director
- Program representative
- Social service administrator
- Grant writer
- House manager
- Case manager
- Housing specialist
- Director of community service
- Personal service coordinator
- Project coordinator
- Protective service caseworker
- Referral specialist
- Residential counselor
- Behavioral specialist/consultant
- Human services clinician
- Social service supervisor
- Instructor
- Program manager/director
- Director of women's program
- Unit supervisor
- Director of office of child support service
- Vocational specialist
- Educational counselor
- Community worker
- Educational coordinator

### SPECIALIZATION OUTCOMES

- Apply a multidisciplinary approach to decision making for individual and community issues
- Apply ethical and professional behaviors and cultural understanding within the field of human services
- Apply knowledge, theory, and research to professional practice
- Communicate professionally to various stakeholders within public service fields
- Use technology and tools to gather information for decision making

*These are examples intended to serve as a general guide. Because many factors determine what position an individual may attain, Capella cannot guarantee that a graduate will secure any specific job title.
Curriculum

- 7 required courses
- 5 elective courses
- Total program credits: 48 quarter credits

REQUIRED COURSES

- PSL5002 Collaboration, Communication, and Case Analysis for Master’s Learners ........................................ 4 quarter credits
- PSL5007 Introduction to Research Methodology .................. 4 quarter credits
- HS5204 Human Services Theory and Application .................. 4 quarter credits
- HS5320 Professional Ethics in Human Services .................... 4 quarter credits
- HS5330* Introduction to Multidisciplinary Practice ................ 4 quarter credits
- HS5390* Skills for Human Services Professionals .................. 4 quarter credits
- HS5993* Human Services Integrative Project .......................... 4 quarter credits

FIVE ELECTIVE COURSES

Recommended elective courses:
- HS6001* Practicum 1: Short-Term Supervised Field Experience . . . 4 quarter credits
- HS6003* Practicum 2: Short-Term Supervised Field Experience . . . 4 quarter credits

OR

Choose any graduate course(s).

*Denotes courses that have prerequisite(s). Refer to the course descriptions for further details.

TRANSFER CREDIT

A maximum of 12 quarter credits from previous graduate coursework may be transferred and applied to your program’s requirements.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor’s degree from an institution accredited by a U.S. Department of Education-recognized accrediting agency or an internationally recognized institution

Grade point average of 2.3 or higher on a 4.0 scale

The courses in this program may require live web conferencing activities and/or learner audio/video recordings. Learners who require assistive technology or alternative communication methods to participate in these activities should contact Disability Services to request accommodations.
Required Course Descriptions

**PSL5002 Collaboration, Communication, and Case Analysis for Master's Learners**
4 QUARTER CREDITS

This course provides learners with foundational public service and leadership content that helps prepare them for coursework in their chosen Public Service Leadership specialization. Through case study analysis, learners identify the key foundational areas of the School of Public Service Leadership’s multidisciplinary programs and examine the connectivity and collaboration between individuals, organizations, and society to create public value in public services. **Must be taken during the learner’s first quarter. Learners may only earn credit for NHS5004 or PSL5002. Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.**

**PSL5007 Introduction to Research Methodology**
4 QUARTER CREDITS

In this course, learners are introduced to the component elements of research. Learners examine existing literature to help them formulate researchable questions and apply sound research methods. Learners also gain insight on becoming intelligent consumers of research and discerning critics and supporters of data within the workplace.

**HS5204 Human Services Theory and Application**
4 QUARTER CREDITS

In this course, learners examine human service theories and delivery models to gain a broad understanding of the human services profession. Learners also explore various contemporary social problems relevant to the human services field and practice applying professional expectations associated with ethics, culture, and diversity to address them.

**HS5320 Professional Ethics in Human Services**
4 QUARTER CREDITS

Learners in this course analyze the ethical standards and expectations required of human services professionals in research and practice. Learners apply an ethical problem-solving framework to solve a variety of ethical dilemmas and issues relevant to the human services field.

**HS5330 Introduction to Multidisciplinary Practice**
4 QUARTER CREDITS

Learners in this course explore a multidisciplinary approach to human services practice and the ways it can be used to address contemporary social problems. Learners consider their understanding of the people and settings associated with effective multidisciplinary teams and focus on developing the skills needed to collaborate with multiple stakeholders in a variety of settings to solve problems and make decisions. **Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.**

**HS5390 Skills for Human Services Professionals**
4 QUARTER CREDITS

In this course, learners focus on developing the fundamental professional communication, collaboration, and problem-solving skills necessary for working with individuals, communities, and agencies. Learners also explore techniques for gathering information about client needs, helping clients develop goals, and recommending strategies to assist clients in achieving those goals. **Prerequisite(s): HS5315 or HS5320. Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.**

**HS5993 Human Services Integrative Project**
4 QUARTER CREDITS

In this course, learners demonstrate proficiency in their specialization area by applying learning from required and elective courses to complete an analysis of a human services organization or system or to propose a new application in their professional field. **For MS in Human Services learners only. Prerequisite(s): All required and elective coursework. Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.**
Elective Course Descriptions

**HS6001 Practicum 1: Short-Term Supervised Field Experience**  
4 QUARTER CREDITS  
Learners in this course participate in a supervised, professional experience at a human services agency during which they focus on developing first-hand knowledge and skills in their discipline. *For PhD and MS learners in the School of Public Service Leadership only.*  
Prerequisite(s): HS5320 or HS5334 or HS5531 or HS8415 or HS8505 or HS8515 or NPL7104 or PSF5334 or PSF8606. Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.

**HS6003 Practicum 2: Short-Term Supervised Field Experience**  
4 QUARTER CREDITS  
Learners in this course continue to participate in a supervised, professional experience at a human services agency during which they focus on developing first-hand knowledge and skills in their discipline. *For PhD and MS learners in the School of Public Service Leadership only.*  
Prerequisite(s): HS6001. Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.
Recommended Course Sequence

This recommended course sequence assumes learners take two courses per quarter. Some learners elect to take fewer or more based on workload and the amount of time available for graduate study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>COURSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>PSL5002 Collaboration, Communication, and Case Analysis for Master's Learners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>HS5204 Human Services Theory and Application</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HS5330 Introduction to Multidisciplinary Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>HS5320 Professional Ethics in Human Services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Elective course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>HS5390 Skills for Human Services Professionals</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PSL5007 Introduction to Research Methodology</td>
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<tr>
<th>YEAR 2</th>
<th>COURSES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Q5</td>
<td>Elective course</td>
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<td>Elective course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q6</td>
<td>Elective course</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q7</td>
<td>HS5993 Human Services Integrative Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Financial Aid

Capella University offers assistance to learners who qualify and would like to secure educational funding to help finance their academic program. A number of options are available, given the diverse needs and backgrounds of prospective learners. Options include:

- Federal Direct Stafford Loan Program
- Federal Direct PLUS Loan Program
- Non-federal loans through preferred lenders and financial institutions
- Capella scholarships
- External scholarships
- Veterans’ educational benefits and U.S. armed forces discounts
- Corporate and higher education alliances
- Employer tuition reimbursement

Regarding loan programs, interest rates for Stafford student loans are low compared to other types of consumer loans, and repayment can be deferred until after graduation. In compliance with federal and state laws, Capella University has established policies for all learners regarding satisfactory academic progress, which is necessary for financial aid eligibility.
Charlyn A. Hilliman, PhD
Interim Dean

Dr. Charlyn Hilliman serves as the interim dean of Capella University’s School of Public Service Leadership as well as faculty chair for the public administration specializations. Dr. Hilliman has worked for the university since 2006, having served on the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and as a scientific merit reviewer; a residency instructor; a subject matter expert in research, criminal justice, and public administration; and the comprehensive examination lead. Dr. Hilliman also spent her career in health care information technology leadership at Columbia University and Florida International University, and has worked as a director of community programs evaluations and policy initiatives for the New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Hilliman holds both a PhD and Master of Philosophy in Criminal Justice from the Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York (CUNY), as well as a Master’s in Public Administration from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY.

Dinah Manns, EdD
Faculty Chair

Dr. Dinah Manns serves as the faculty chair of Human Services at Capella University. Dr. Manns has held numerous executive positions in health care and community service agencies where she oversaw personnel, program, and fiscal management. Her executive positions include serving as the chief operating officer of the largest federally qualified health center in Oklahoma and as director of the Educational Opportunity Center at Rogers State University. Her teaching background spans over 20 years, and she has worked in online education since 2005. After completing a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from The College of William and Mary in Virginia, she relocated to Tulsa, Oklahoma for graduate studies. Dr. Mans received an MA in Counseling from Oral Roberts University and an EdD from Oklahoma State University. Dr. Manns is an avid researcher and completed a qualitative study for Susan G. Komen Tulsa Affiliate on health literacy in 2015. She is currently conducting research in the data collection phase of a research study on culturally competent communities in Ferguson, Missouri.

Academic Leadership
Move Forward with Capella University

WORKING SCHOLARS
Capella provides an online, flexible learning environment for working adults who are also determined scholars. That connection between academic and professional work infuses the entire Capella experience—from the faculty we recruit to the course projects you complete. The theories discussed in the courseroom are designed to develop working knowledge for everyday situations.

AN ACCREDITED UNIVERSITY
Our accreditation* is an assurance to students, employers, and the public that Capella University meets or exceeds established standards for quality of faculty, curriculum, and learner services. It is also an important factor in the ability to transfer credits among higher education institutions. Regional accreditation, the type held by Capella, is the most common type for major public, state, and private institutions in the United States.

VALUING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE
Adults bring a wealth of experience and learning to their education. Capella courses are designed to bring out your perspectives just as you gain from others’ ideas. Your knowledge can also be worth time and money: An enrollment counselor can help you estimate how much of your prior learning may apply toward your Capella degree program.

*ACCREDITATION
Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION
https://www.hlcommission.org
800.621.7440

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