



# Human Services - General Human Services Concentration

## About this Composite Major

The Human Services major prepares you to meet the growing demand for human service workers, whose occupations encompass a broad range of helping professions. The program combines courses from the disciplines of communications, sociology, and psychology to provide an overall understanding of the field. The curriculum is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of human behavior and to develop the skills necessary to function as a human services professional.

The general concentration in the Human Services major prepares graduates who strive to work with a wide range of client populations in a variety of settings. The curriculum provides flexibility through a broader range of multidisciplinary course options, including political science, communication, psychology, sociology, management, economics, and health and physical education.

## Meet a Student



*"VCSU's Human Services program has prepared me for the workforce with the many valuable classes and opportunities to grow my knowledge about the spheres that make up the Human Services field. What helps make the program so effective is the connection you are able to make with the professors and the connection shared between the university and the surrounding community. I know that wherever my future may take me, the connections made within the program have assisted*

*me with my professional growth and prepared me for what lays ahead."* - Jacob Frey, '18

*"I have been able to learn more about communicating with people of different backgrounds, and what we can do to better understand human behavior. I have gained skills that involve understanding people who have different ethnicities, disabilities, and other forms of diversity...The human services program is a great program with professors who understand and care about your education."* - Marilyn Quintero, '20

## Career Opportunities

**Recent graduates have found employment in varied careers including:**

- Case managers
- Directors of residential facilities
- Probation officers
- Parole officers
- Personnel specialists at local agencies

**Other career opportunities include:**

- Youth worker
- Social services liaison
- Director of residential facilities
- Family support worker
- Residential counselor
- Life skills instructor
- Client advocate
- Case manager
- Intake interviewer
- Community organizer
- Home health aide
- Social work (with completion of a master's degree in social work)



## Explore Human Services



- National Organization for Human Services (<https://www.nationalhumanservices.org/>)
- North Dakota Department of Human Services (<http://www.nd.gov/dhs/>)
- National Human Services Assembly (<https://www.nationalassembly.org/>)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics – Community and Social Service Occupations (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/home.htm>)

## Practical Experience

Completion of an internship is required. Majors who have a cumulative GPA of 2.50 are eligible to apply for semester-long internships, for which students earn 3-12 credit hours. The internship provides supervised training in various regional agencies and service organizations. Students have completed their internships in various places, including Head Start, K-12 public schools, Sheyenne Care Center and other long-term care facilities, and Barnes County Social Services.

## Contact Information

### Department Chair & Faculty Contact

Dr. Emily Fenster, [emily.fenster@vcsu.edu](mailto:emily.fenster@vcsu.edu), (701) 845-7313

### Department Location

McFarland Hall 315, (701) 845-7301

### Schedule your visit today!

<http://visit.vcsu.edu/>

(701) 845-7101 or (800) 532-8641, ext. 7101

## Plan of Study

### First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
English Composition (Gen Ed)	3	Art and Music (Gen Ed)	3
MATH 210 (Gen Ed)	3	English Composition (Gen Ed)	3
SOC 110	3	Lab Science (Gen Ed)	4
Speech Communication (Gen Ed)	3	PSYC 111 (Gen Ed)	3
Computer Science and Literacy (Gen Ed)	3	Wellness (Gen Ed)	2
UNIV 150	1		
	<b>16</b>		<b>15</b>

### Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Additional Electives	3	Additional Electives	3
Additional Humanities or Social Science (Gen Ed)	2	General Concentration Course	3
Lab Science (Gen Ed)	4	PSYC 250	3
Literacies (Gen Ed)	3	SOC 130	3
Social Science (Gen Ed)	3	SOC 220	3
	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

### Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Additional Electives	3	Additional Course (if only taking 3 credit internship)	3
Additional Electives	3	COMM 483	3
General Concentration Course	3	General Concentration Course	3
MGMT 330	3	SOC 340	3
SOC 330	3	SOC 497	3
	<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

### Fourth Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Additional Electives	3	General Concentration Course	3
COMM 311	3	General Concentration Course	3
General Concentration Course	3	General Education Course	3
PSYC 360	3	PSYC 310	3
SOC 422	3	PSYC 470	3
SOC 491	1		
	<b>16</b>		<b>15</b>

### Total Credits 122

Please note: This plan is intended for general information only. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with their academic advisor each semester before registration.