HOLLAND COLLEGE

Human Services

Welcome!

Thank you for choosing the Human Services program. You are entering into a very exciting field of study: one which will enable you to develop technical and professional skills in the field of disability, as well as provide you with opportunities for personal growth. We look forward to meeting you in September and assisting you in achieving your career goals!

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Class Start Date & Time: September 1, 2020 – First Day of Classes
September 2, 2020 – New Student Welcome

Christmas Break: Last day of class for Semester 1: December 11, 2020
Semester 2 Begins: January 6, 2021

February Break: February 22-26, 2021

Location of Classrooms: Charlottetown Centre, Prince of Wales Campus
Room 233E – Year 1
Room 229E – Year 2

Practicum Dates: 1st year students: March 15-April 23, 2021 (6 weeks)

Required Materials for the first day of classes: Required materials will be reviewed by the instructor on the first day of class**.**

Resources: Required resources will be reviewed by the instructor on the first day of class.

Program Highlights: The Human Services program offers extensive theoretical training as well as opportunities for Practicum Placements throughout the Maritimes.

Graduates of the Human Services program are well recognized for their high level of competence and are employed across the country.

For graduates wishing to further their education, this program has Articulation Agreements with Universities near and abroad, enabling interested individuals to receive both a diploma and a degree in a condensed timeframe.

Change in Delivery Format for Fall 2020

In response to the global pandemic, Holland College will be delivering programs primarily through a blended learning approach in the fall semester, with the intent to resume face-to-face program delivery in January 2021. Some programs will begin using distance delivery for the fall semester (September-December 2020), some will offer a blended delivery model for the fall semester, while others will be impacted by delayed start dates. Decisions have been made on a program-by-program basis.

In Human Services, a blended delivery format is being planned for fall semester. This means that any courses (or components of courses) that are theory-based will be offered through distance delivery (online), and only when necessary, will assessments or technical skills be delivered on site (at the Charlottetown Centre, Prince of Wales campus). You will be advised by your instructor at the beginning of each course, which assessments will be done through distance and which ones will take place on-site.

Appropriate safety measures such as: ensuring that the guidelines for physical distancing are adhered to, and that students and instructors are equipped with the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) will be in place for any on-site activities/assessments. As an added precaution, the college has implemented stringent cleaning and sanitizing processes.

Since, in the fall semester, most courses in the Human Services program are theory-based, content delivery and assessment of learning (projects, assignments, and quizzes) will be

conducted primarily online. Learning activities will involve a variety of formats, as decided by the instructor. These could include attendance at virtual classroom sessions, online discussion forums, video assignments, online tests, blogs, independent study, etc.

While the blended delivery model provides an opportunity for students to exercise more flexibility and freedom in planning/scheduling their learning activities, incoming students should be aware that learning online will involve a significant amount of independent study and research. Therefore, skills related to time-management, problem-solving, and effective communication will need to be demonstrated.

The following is a list of the minimum technological requirements for participation in the blended delivery model:

Student Hardware and Software Needs

Note: These are general requirements for students to participate in blended and distance courses. Some programs may have higher or different requirements and prospective students should consult their program information.

1. A desktop or laptop computer. Either a Windows-based PC with Windows 10 or a Mac with macOS Catalina 10.15 or higher. Processor: Intel i3 minimum with i5 or higher recommended. RAM: 4 Gb minimum with 8Gb or higher recommended. Storage: 10 Gb storage minimum with SSD disk recommended. Regarding storage – some programs may have higher storage requirements.

2. Speakers/headphones/earbuds with microphone for listening to audio or videos presented in courses. Note: your laptop may have a built-in microphone and speakers, but we recommend an external set for best quality of experience during synchronous activities.

3. A built-in or external webcam for interacting in course activities that require video feedback from students.

4. Google Chrome is the only browser that SAM (the College's LMS) completely supports.

5. Microsoft Office 365. Students have free access to install the suite on their computers, tablets or other mobile devices. A browser-based version is available.

6. Adobe Reader DC.

7. An Internet connection with a minimum download speed of 10Mb/s and an upload speed of 1Mb/s is recommended. A wired connection to your home router is typically preferable to a wireless connection as it provides better stability and performance.

8. Tablets, smart phones, and Chromebooks may allow you to access some course content but have limited functionality and are not recommended.

Internet Connectivity - To test your internet speed, go to https://www.speedtest.net/ and click the "go" button. A test will take place that measures the speed at which you can upload or download data from the internet from your current location. It is normal for the upload speed to be much lower than the download speed. If necessary, consider asking others in your household to limit their use of devices/internet when you are involved in a 'virtual' class session.

The router in your house might send out more than one signal. Many routers broadcast a 2.4Ghz and a 5Ghz signal simultaneously. Connecting to the 5Ghz band is best. If you have an ethernet cable and your computer is situated near your router or modem, you might be able to use a wired connection instead of Wi-Fi for the best connectivity. For more information or help with this, email sam@hollandcollege.com.

Congratulations on being accepted into the program! We look forward to working with you starting September 1, 2020. Details regarding program orientation will be made available as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please send an email to: student-inquiries@hollandcollege.com.

Sincerely,

Human Services Faculty
Prince of Wales Campus