

Human Service Practice with Disabilities

Lower Level, Non-Liberal, 4 credits

Human Service Practice with Disabilities is considered to be lower level knowledge that is non-liberal. It represents foundational skills and concepts that an entry level human service worker has acquired. Human Service Practice with Disabilities is more often about how we do things (i.e., non-liberal) and not necessarily why we do things (i.e., liberal). At Empire State College and community colleges, the course in Human Service Practice with Disabilities is offered at the lower level.

The questions below can only be utilized for Human Service Practice with Disabilities at the lower level, not advanced level. If you are requesting advanced level credit for Human Service Practice with Disabilities, you need to demonstrate that your knowledge, skills, and application goes beyond what is described below. Remember you are being evaluated on your knowledge and skills, not about your years of experience.

Please use the questions below to structure your PLA submission on the topic of Human Service Practice with Disabilities. Copy each question and respond directly below it. If you utilize an outside source, such as a website or a book, make sure to reference this in your response. The responses to the questions should be submitted in a Word document and uploaded in PLA Planner. In PLA Planner, you would list the topic as Human Service Practice with Disabilities, asking for 4 credits, and designate this as Lower Level and Non-Liberal.

Please note – responding to these questions is not a guarantee of credit. You will still be expected to speak with an evaluator and answer any supplemental questions that they may have. The evaluator would then make a credit determination.

Questions for Students to respond to

We suggest you save this document with your name and the title of the PLA (e.g., Smith Practice with Disability PLA) and answer beneath each question below.

Name:

ID:

PLA Title: Human Service Practice with Disability

Number of Credits Requested: 4

Type: Lower Level, Non-Liberal

1. Please briefly summarize your experiences working with individuals with a disability.

2. Please describe each of the following types of disability and give an example for each one. Please feel free to use a resource for this, but make sure to cite/reference appropriately.

- Physical disabilities
- Psychiatric disabilities
- Cognitive disabilities
- Sensory disabilities
- Learning disabilities

3. Explain what an accommodation might be for an individual with a disability. Why would this be needed, who would provide it, who would pay for it, and how would it be utilized?

4. How might technology be utilized by an individual with a disability? Please feel free to give an example.

5. Case Study: You are a case worker at a human services agency. One of your clients is a 25 year old man with an intellectual disability who lives alone with his widowed mother. You originally met him when his mother tried to find him a job. He has fair communication abilities. He loves watching the Yankees on TV and the Price is Right. His mother has fallen and broken her hip and will be at the rehabilitation hospital for about 6 weeks. He cannot stay alone. He is not able to cook for himself and needs assistance with activities of daily living. He has a job at Goodwill Industries helping to sort items that may come in. County transportation takes him there every morning at 8:30 am and brings him home at 5:00 pm.

- What type of disability does the man have?
- What type of issues might he present with?
- What are safety issues in this case?
- What type of skills would you utilize in working with this man?
- What type of resources would you try to get for him?
- What type of services providers would you work with?

6. Please list any trainings or workshops that you have taken on this topic.