Welcome to the on-line version of the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Services Program, an academic program developed to fill the needs of 21st century health care. The Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Services (BS-IHS) program was the first interdisciplinary undergraduate program established at WMU. It was developed in response to research identifying the need to train future health care workers in a wide range of skills necessary to think critically, work collaboratively, act ethically, and respond flexibly to change in health and human services.

If you want to finish a quality bachelor’s degree with the flexibility of an online program this program is for you. The competencies developed in this program are based on the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine (2002). Students in this program are trained to work in interdisciplinary teams in a variety of health settings.

The BS-IHS Program is designed to give students an opportunity to direct the program toward their interests and future career aspirations. For students who already work in an allied health field and desiring a Bachelor’s degree, the interdisciplinary focus in health services is a perfect focus to advance a career. Advisors review any previous education of certified or licensed allied health professionals for credit toward this program.

Students who are interested in the WMU College of Health and Human Services graduate programs will find the BS-IHS Program to be good preparation for their intended studies. Our advisors frequently help students custom build a program that will prepare the way for graduate work in the areas of blindness and low vision studies, social work, nursing, Master’s of Public Administration or Master’s of Business Administration. The physician assistant and occupational therapy programs have clearly defined preparatory paths within the Kalamazoo based BS-IHS Program, however elements of these tracks must be taken on the Kalamazoo campus.

We also prepare students for administrative and other positions at the Bachelor’s-degree level. These students select a complimentary minor or concentration that will lead to their intended position. A concentration of health administration courses is offered in the on-line version within the Interdisciplinary Health Services (HSV) course openings. Other online minors include holistic health services, specialty programs in alcohol and drug abuse (SPADA), and Family Sciences.

Take a look at our web pages to see what is possible with this flexible, innovative program. If you have questions e-mail me at doris.ravotas@wmich.edu.
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**Mission Statement**

The Interdisciplinary Health Services program prepares leaders in health services to excel at: working in interdisciplinary teams, providing patient and family centered services, building health literacy skills, developing quality improvements, and utilizing informatics for documentation, training, program development and evidence based practice.

**BS-IHS Design**

The BS-IHS degree has been designed for allied health professionals who hold an associates degree and wish to upgrade their knowledge and abilities

**BS-IHS prepares students for:**

- Entry- or mid-level careers in various settings, including rehabilitation, ambulatory and long-term care facilities; health maintenance organizations; hospitals; public health departments; health and human service agencies; industrial and managed health care; and employee assistance programs;

- Candidacy in graduate degree programs in:
  - Blindness and Low Vision Studies
  - Occupational Therapy
  - Physician Assistant
  - Social Work
  - Family and Consumer Services

- Graduate certificate programs in:
  - Family Studies - Child Development
  - Holistic Health Care
  - Alcohol and Drug Abuse
  - Health Care Administration
  - Leadership and Administration in Non-profit Organizations
## Curriculum Map

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Competency</th>
<th>Core Competencies</th>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Competency #1</td>
<td>Demonstrates knowledge of the structure and function of health delivery systems across the continuum of care: recognizing the basic structure of the system and disparities in access and services based on economic, political and social factors.</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #2</td>
<td>Provides patient and family centered care: Recognizes, listens to, and respects patients’ experiences of illness, their preferences, and expressed needs. Shares decision making with patients and their designated support systems.</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #3</td>
<td>Applies interdisciplinary team skills to decision making: Recognizes the unique contribution of many professional disciplines, presents his/her own perspective and uses communication skills to integrate input and make conjoint health services decisions</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #4</td>
<td>Uses research skills to develop evidence based plans: Formulates practice questions and uses search skills and quality recognition skills to develop an evidence-based plan.</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #5</td>
<td>Measures and plans improvement in health care quality: Examines the structure, process and outcomes of care, implementing safety design principles and quality assurance methods to improve health services</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #6</td>
<td>Uses clear and effective oral and written communication skills</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #7</td>
<td>Designs health literacy communications: Recognizes low health literacy, adjusts complex concepts to write and speak in plain language. Uses teach-back methods to assess communication</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #8</td>
<td>Uses critical thinking to solve problems and make decisions: Examines and weighs options for accuracy, quality, and perspective and allows this examination to inform decisions.</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #9</td>
<td>Makes ethical decisions, while acting in ethical ways: Uses ethical decision making processes, and a code of ethics to solve ethical dilemmas</td>
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<td>Learning Competency #10</td>
<td>Uses technological tools and informatics systems: Accesses, analyzes, documents, and interprets information using current technologies appropriate to the task.</td>
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Learning Competency #11
*Uses health policy and law in planning and practice*: critically reads, analyzes, and understands the effects of current U.S. policy in health and human services on practice and the community at large. Uses this knowledge to advocate for clientele and health service needs as appropriate.

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BS-IHS Curriculum

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Services
(Online Bachelor’s Completion)
(All courses are totally online)

Pre-requisites (can be adjusted based on experience and education through advisor):
- BIOS 2110: Human Anatomy
- BIOS 2400: Human Physiology
- HSV 2250: Growth, Development, and Aging
- MDSC 3424: Medical Terminology

Professional Core:
- HSV 4810: The Health System and Its Environment
- HSV 4850: Major Issues in Health and Human Services
- HOL 4700: Relationship-Centered Skills
- HSV 4100: Legal Issues in Health and Human Services
- HSV 4780: U.S. Policy in H&HS (Baccalaureate-Level Writing Course)
- HSV 4800: Health Services Practice Management
- PHIL 3340: Biomedical Ethics
- HSV 4200: Health and Human Services Research and Statistics
- HSV 4350: Special Topics in Health and Human Services
- HSV 4860: Health Literacy Practices

Concentration/Minor
- HSV Health Administration Concentration
- Holistic Health Care
- Specialty Programs in Alcohol and Drug Addiction (SPADA)
  Several other minors and concentrations are being developed in EUP formats. Discuss possibilities with your advisor.

Capstone Experience:
- HSV 4890: Independent Research or
- HSV 4900: Internship or
  Alternative Capstone Experience

HSV Online Electives:
- HSV 4120: Principles of Health Finance
- HSV 4140: Basic Principles and Organization of Health Planning
- HSV 4150: Administrative Functions in the Health Care Setting
- HSV 4350: Special Topics in Health and Human Services
- HSV 4500: Independent Studies in Health and Human Services
Advising Information
Once you are enrolled in the BS-IHS extended university program (EUP) either on line or in Metro-Detroit, you must make an appointment with one of the program’s advisors to review your transcripts for transfer credit. If you are a licensed or certified allied-health professional, you may qualify for specific academic credit for similar coursework from your Associate’s Degree. Call 269-387-7656 for a telephone appointment.

Technology

Computer Hardware
In order to participate in any WMU online course, you should have easy access to a computer less than 5-years old and a high-speed internet connection via cable modem or DSL. You will also need speakers.

You are expected to be proficient with installing and using basic computer applications and have the ability to send and receive email attachments.

Software
The following media software may be required to access the materials contained in your online course:

- Firefox (latest version; Macintosh or Windows) http://www.getfirefox.com
- Adobe's Adobe Reader
- QuickTime Player
- Flash Player
- Microsoft's Windows Media Player
- Real Network's RealPlayer

It is preferred that you use Microsoft Office products. All submitted documents must be Microsoft Office compatible. All versions are acceptable. Please contact me for special considerations or to confirm compatibility.

Always use the technology compatibility test located at the bottom of your online course home page before beginning the course. Always use this test as your first attempt to solve software and/or browser problems.

Course Support
If you have questions about the technology or support of this course, click the links found at the bottom of the course home page. Always use the technology compatibility wizard before elevating a technology concern to the help desk. The e-learning technical support link has answers to frequently asked questions and tutorials. The student services link has a wealth of non-technical student support information and services. If you are unable to find an answer to your question by following these links, contact the online education team.

Technical Support
online-education@wmich.edu
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. EST 269-387-2656
If you have issues that you cannot resolve through Online Education, please describe the problem in an email to the instructor.

Student Support Resources

- **Online Education Student Services**
  Online support is just a click away at [http://www.wmich.edu/online/studentsupport.php](http://www.wmich.edu/online/studentsupport.php).

- **Western Michigan University Libraries**

- **Academic Advising**
  The Online Academic Advising Manual may be accessed at [http://www.wmich.edu/registrar/advising/](http://www.wmich.edu/registrar/advising/).

- **Special Accommodations**
  Western Michigan University provides upon request appropriate academic adjustments for qualified students with disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to notify the professors of any modifications that are required within the first two weeks of the semester. Students must be registered with the office of disability services in order to request academic adjustments.

  **Disability Services for Students**
  If you are on campus please come see us at our facilities in Woodlawn Place located at 2210 Wilbur Avenue across from Rood Hall and behind Fetzer Center. Otherwise you can contact us at 269-387-2116 or visit our web site at [http://www.wmich.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.wmich.edu/disabilityservices/).

  Services offered:
  - Priority registration
  - Referral and advocacy activities with University departments
  - Campus accessibility
  - Adaptive computer equipment
  - Acting as a liaison for special classroom concerns

Accessibility Information. Access information for help with accessibility problems on campus at http://www.wmich.edu/disabilityservices/Accessibility.html. Here you will find accessibility details relative to campus buildings as well as contact information for making special requests.

- **Financial Aid**
  You can access information about financial aid at http://www.wmich.edu/finaid/.

- **Tuition Costs**
  To learn about tuition and fees, go to http://www.wmich.edu/online/tuition.php.

- **Registrar**
  To learn about important dates and deadlines, course withdrawal and other registration information, go to http://www.wmich.edu/registrar/index.html.

**Other Student Resources**
- Academic Resource Center: http://www.wmich.edu/asc/resources.html
- WMU Library: http://www.wmich.edu/library/
- Textbook resources - Buy or rent books or chapters from any of these sources:
  - Buster’s (WMU Bookstore): http://www.wmubookstore.com/
  - Barnes & Noble: http://www.barnesandnoble.com/ (free shipping with purchases of $25 or more; free shipping on all orders if you have a B&N membership)
  - Amazon.com: http://www.amazon.com/ (Students qualify for free Amazon Prime = free 2-day shipping)
  - Half.com: http://www.half.ebay.com/
  - Textbooks.com: http://www.textbooks.com/ (free shipping with purchases of $25 or more)
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Does this class ever meet face-to-face?
A: No. This course is a strictly on-line course, designed to fit into your busy schedule as it works best for you.

Q: Where can I find a list of the courses I need to take to complete my degree?
A: See the course plan earlier in this introduction to the program.

Q: Who can I contact if I have questions that are not answered in this course site?
A: See the course syllabus for your instructor’s contact information and guidelines.

Professional & Academic Associations

Healthcare Administration
• American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management: http://www.aaham.org/
• American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE): http://www.ache.org/
• Association for Healthcare Administrative Professionals: http://www.ahcap.org/
• Kalamazoo Human Resources Association (KHRMA): http://www.khrma.org/
• National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB): http://www.nabweb.org/
• Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM): http://www.shrm.org

Internship
The BS in Interdisciplinary Health Services requires a capstone experience which is usually an internship. If you are licensed or certified in your field, you may substitute a research project or suggested alternative capstone project. You may download the BS-IHS Internship Handbook from http://www.wmich.edu/hhs/hsv/internship.html for further details.

Independent Research Project Option

HSV 4890 – Health and Human Services Independent Research
This course requires the completion of a scientific research project related to a current issue in health and human services. The project must be approved and supervised by faculty. This course is only open to students who are registered, certified, or licensed health care providers who wish to substitute a research project and an elective course (3 credit hours) for the required HSV 4900 internship.
Career Pathways for BS-IHS Graduates

Career Path 1- Graduate Programs
If you are interested in continuing your education after graduation to pursue a master’s degree:

- Blindness and Low Vision Studies
- Occupational Therapy
- Physician Assistant
- Nursing (accelerated programs are for students who already have a B.S.)
- Family and Consumer Sciences (Family Studies)
- Master of Public Administration
- Master of Social Work
- Counseling Psychology

Career Path 2- Certification
If you are interested in taking a few graduate level classes to become certified in:

- Holistic Health Care
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Leadership and Administration in Non-profit Organizations
- Health Care Administration

If you are looking for undergraduate certifications:

- Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM)
- Long-term Care Administrator

Career Path 3- Entry-Mid Level Careers with BS
If you are looking to graduate and advance in your career, these are the types of jobs that our graduates work in now:

- Practice Manager
- Project Manager
- Patient Advocate
- Director of Marketing
- Health Educator
- Human Resources Specialist
- Home Health Supervisor
- Patient and Family-centered Care Coordinator
Contact Information

Student Advising:
Gwendolyn Thomas 269-387-2656
gwen.thomas@wmich.edu

Melinda Lockett 269-387-2656
melinda.lockett@wmich.edu

Jeanine Bartholomew 269-387-2656
jeanine.bartholomew@wmich.edu

Program Coordinator:
Doris Ravotas 269-387-8370
doris.ravotas@wmich.edu

Internship Coordinator:
Brad Gordon 269-387-7233
brad.gordon@wmich.edu