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**Course Descriptions for the Undergraduate Medical Social Assistance Program  
2022/2023**

**University Required Courses**

**ADM105 Introduction to Information Technology**

Topics include the Internet; computer hardware; operating systems and application software; multimedia; network communication; personal, social, and ethical issues. Systems and application software; multimedia; network communication; personal, social, and ethical issues.

**LIT105 Arabic Civilization**

This course introduces the overall concepts of civilization and the most important factors that contributed to the emergence of Islamic civilization. It also encompasses the main characteristics of the Islamic civilization with particular focus on the human dimension. Manifestations of Islamic civilization in policy, management, economy, society, and sciences are emphasized; topics discussed include: the Caliphate, the Ministry, the Emirate, tax calculations, the judiciary, the mandate of grievances, the police, government bureaus, the treasury, mail department, the army, the navy, women's rights and contributions, intellectual life, sciences, technological manifestations, and others. The impact of Islamic civilization in the European Renaissance and the reasons for the decline of civilization and ways to address them are also discussed.

**LIT110 Arabic Language I**

The primary aim of this course is to familiarize the students with correct writing styles, to avoid linguistic and spelling errors, to use proper punctuations, and to master various correspondence styles. The course also discusses the main principles of Arabic grammar through selected texts, spelling rules, writing paragraphs about subjects related to the selected texts, summary techniques, punctuations, rules of number spelling, common linguistic errors, titles, Curriculum Vitae editing techniques, methods of writing minutes of meetings, and administrative correspondences.

**LIT113 Research Methodology I**

This course aims at the development of a scientific orientation in the solution of educational problems. This course develops students' skills in identifying and developing research problems dealing with a variety of research designs. Basic statistical concepts are included.

**LIT114 Research Methodology II**

This course aims to cover what the activity of research is, how to proceed, how to measure progress, and what constitutes success. Students must understand the research process and the rules that guide it. It provides students an overview of qualitative and quantitative methods, data collection, recording and analysis and final output of a research proposal. It also provides students with tools to look at things objectively, develop critical and scientific attitude, as well as disciplined thinking to observe objectively and finally, skills of research particularly in the age of information. By the end of this module students should be in a position to prepare and carry out a small research proposal within a three month project.



### **LIT120 English Language I (or French Language I)**

This is a study skills course that aims at developing potential teacher's proficiency in the skills of test taking, studying, word attacking, paraphrasing, restating and handwriting.

### **LIT125 English Language II (or French Language II)**

This course aims at helping potential teachers extend their knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, as well as develop their oral/aural language proficiency through watching videos, conducting role-plays, simulations, and interviews, as well as presenting reading materials (of various sources: the internet, newspapers, magazines, and so on).

## **Faculty and Major Required Courses**

### **MSA100 Pathway to Public Health**

This course provides an overview of public health with an emphasis on the population perspective, the public health system, and the work in measuring health, disease and illness, and its endeavors to promote population health. It also provides an overview of the five core public health disciplines: epidemiology, health education and health promotion, environmental health, social and behavioral health, and health policy and management.

### **MSA101 Introduction to Medical and Social Work**

This course prepares students for medical social work practice in a diverse society. It focuses on the nature, causes, and extent of major social problems. It discusses the profession of medical social work and related roles in the medical and social welfare systems. It places an emphasis on the application and adoption of the method and philosophy of social work in the field of health and medical care. In addition, it explores the nature of medical social work such as prevention of disease, after care of the patients and social rehabilitation of patients, patient assessment, psychotherapy, supportive counseling, and social support.

### **MSA106 Social and Health Environment**

This course examines the broader aspects of the social and health environment by focusing on the health, political, and social dimensions of culture. It intends to provide students with knowledge on the prospective and various environmental health and social issues. It will also focus on the negative effects and risks that environmental health problems have on society.

### **MSA116 Social Transformation**

This course explores the concept of social change, including the nature, factors, conditions and agents of change. Emphasis is put on the explanations in historical and comparative perspective of social events, structures and processes, in particular, social upheavals and cultural formations.

### **MSA122 Psychiatry and Mental Health**

The course presents psychiatric principles that are fundamental to practice for health care providers. It will help the student apply these principles to specific clinical disorders and describe the modalities of psychiatric treatment in hospital and community based settings.



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**MSA207 Gerontology and Chronic Care**

This course focuses on caring for the elderly in a variety of settings. Students are expected to increase their related knowledge and skills to care for elderly who are living with chronic diseases. This course will also discuss chronic disease, self-care management support, behavioral goal setting, problem solving, social support, and challenges faced by the elderly and caregivers.

**MSA212 Social Marketing**

This course is designed to examine the nature of social marketing, and how marketing concepts, frameworks and techniques developed for the purpose of solving social and public health problems. It provides information, tools, and skills to help students learn how to apply social marketing to effect social change or address community's health related problems and issues. It places an emphasis on consumer behavior, social marketing planning, situational and stakeholder analysis, targeting, research, and evaluation.

**MSA221 Creative Thinking and Problem Solving**

Groups, and individuals need creativity skills to solve problems, identify opportunities, implement initiatives and manage change. This very enjoyable Creative Thinking & Problem Solving course aims to provide students with an opportunity to understand creativity and explore techniques which can be used both individually and on group level. Moreover, it intends to help students develop both a creative and structured approach to problem solving, placing an emphasis on some of the real problems faced by groups and individuals, and guard them with a range of techniques they can use to run 'creative thinking & problem solving sessions.

**MSA226 Abnormal Psychology**

This course presents the central concepts and methods of clinical psychology. While this course is intended to provide an overview of the process of psychological assessment, intervention, and the current scope of clinical practice, it also focuses on theories of psychopathology; etiology, dynamics, symptomatology, diagnosis, and treatment.

**MSA230 Behavior Modifications**

The goal of this course is to teach students behavior modification and other concepts and terminology in the field. Moreover, the course aims to provide students with an introduction to techniques of behavior modification and to tackle theory and application of behavioral techniques.

**MSA 234 Intervention 1 (Individual)**

This course is one of four courses in the medical social work practice and methods sequence. It provides students with knowledge, skills, and values for medical social work practice with individuals. This course places an emphasis on the problem-solving process and medical social work values and ethics.

**MSA236 Practicum I (Individual)**

This course provides supervised experience and places an emphasis on the student's development of knowledge, perspectives, and skills needed for practice with individuals.



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**MSA237 Intervention 2 (Families)**

This course is one of four courses in the medical social work practice and methods sequence. It provides students with knowledge, skills, and values for medical social work practice with families with an emphasis on analyses of processes and interactions. This course also focuses on the problem-solving process and medical social work values and ethics.

**MSA238 Practicum II (Families)**

This course provides supervised experience and places an emphasis on the student's development of knowledge, perspectives, and skills needed for practice with families.

**MSA241 Professional Ethics**

This course intends to examine certain problems that arise when people try to make moral judgments: problems such as cultural relativism (“What’s right for us is not necessarily right for them”), subjectivism (“What’s right for me is not necessarily right for you”), and the role of religion in morality (e.g., “What’s right is just what God says is right”). It also intends to improve students’ thinking about the considerations that may count as reasons for and against the moral judgments they are tempted to make.

**MSA300 Persuasive Communication**

This course aims to provide students with information on persuasive theory including methods of attention, suggestions, motivation, and adaptation employed to influence feelings, attitudes, change and action. Moreover, it tackles the current theoretical and conceptual underpinnings of the process of persuasive communication in contexts ranging from public communication to interpersonal.

**MSA317 Law of Syndicates and Labor Law Legislation**

This is an introduction to the fundamentals of Syndicate law including all primary and secondary functions, roles and responsibilities. In this specific course, students will learn about syndicate strategy, structure, policies, and the way to regulate, control and manage professional performance. In addition, students will acquire new information about the syndicate law principles and themes in order to better assimilate the value of professionals as a major asset in today’s competitive environment. Throughout this course, students will better assimilate the importance of the presence of syndicate law and how to improve professionals’ skills and competencies that are required in their profession in order to develop, grow, and thrive to ensure quality service in today’s competitive environment taking into consideration the internal and external challenges.

**MSA321 Human Rights**

This course aims to provide students with a critical knowledge of central aspects of human rights law, and an ability to contextualise and problematise them. Moreover, it introduces students to the main United Nations and regional systems for human rights protection and promotion and, in so doing, provides a tool for analyzing conflict and various forms of interventions attempting to promote peace and justice.



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### **MSA331 Global Social and Health Organizations**

This course aims to examine major health & health-related challenges of developing, resource-limited and emerging nations. Students will study and analyze a variety of health priorities among various populations and cultural settings in relation to global health organizations goals and partnerships. Moreover, this course will tackle the important role that global health organizations play in promoting health, and disease prevention and control.

### **MSA336 Seminar – Current Issues in MSA**

This course is designed to provide a framework for students to integrate a variety of public health topics, issues, and skills into a culminating experience for the MSA program. Students are expected to enroll in this course in their final year, but they are expected to work on elements of the course throughout the MSA program.

### **MSA339 Intervention 3A (Group)**

This course is one of four courses in the medical social work practice and methods sequence. It provides students with knowledge, skills, and values for medical social work practice with groups. This course places an emphasis on the process of group dynamic and interactions, and group therapy. It also focuses on the problem-solving process and medical social work values and ethics.

### **MSA342 Intervention 3B (Community)**

This course provides frame of reference and skills for community-based social work practice. It places an emphasis on the theories of social change, assessment information, and selection of appropriate interventions. It also provides information on medical social work values and ethics.

### **MSA343 Practicum III (Groups and Community)**

This course provides supervised experience and places an emphasis on the student's development of knowledge, perspectives, and skills needed for practice with groups and community.

### **MSA344 Individual and Group Counseling**

This course examines the dynamics and major approaches to individual and group counseling, with a focus on starting a counseling group, group dynamics, knowledge and skills of individual and group counseling, leading groups effectively, crisis intervention, and evaluation of results. It focuses on ethical issues pertaining to individual and group counseling. Students are also expected to arrange and facilitate field visits to institutions that provide individual and/or group counseling sessions.

### **MSA346 Genetic Counseling**

Introduction to the genetic counseling career. Inheritance patterns, taking genetic history, risk assessment, availability of genetic testing, the family's need and perspective, normal and abnormal development, teratology, cancer risk analysis, metabolic conditions, and ethnocultural issues.

### **MSA351 Addictive Behaviors**

This course will explore the build-up, meaning, and cultural and psychological impact of addiction. It will also focus on the addictive personality and the process of addictive disorders. Importance will also be given to various models of addiction including several disorders involving chemical and substance addictions (alcohol, drugs, and others) as well as behavioral addictions (internet, sex, and others). The course will also examine various treatment approaches including effective intervention strategies.



#### **PHA276 Basic Nutrition**

This course introduces the nutritional concepts encountered in nursing practice. It describes the science of nutrition and its use for a healthy lifestyle in all life stages. It also discusses the nutritional needs and concerns in different disease states and, accordingly, the optimal nutritional care that should be provided.

#### **PHA441 First AID**

This course presents the methods of First Aid and CPR. Emergency first aid/emergency care, adult and infant basic life support, CPR, airway obstruction (choking).

#### **PHE162 Essential Symptomatology**

This course is considered an introduction to medical terminology, designed to increase familiarity with medical terms such as basic anatomy and physiology terms and symptoms of various abnormalities. It will help the student to learn root words, and to learn how to analyze unknown words.

#### **PHE190 Introduction to Genetics**

Basic principles of classical genetics. Meiosis and chromosomal basis of Mendelian inheritance. Linkage, crossing-over and gene mapping. Sex and heredity. The genetic material. Mutations and chromosome aberrations. Pattern of inheritance. Cytoplasmic inheritance. Population genetics.

#### **PHE217 Immune System and Infectious Disorders**

The Infectious Disease Course is designed to give an understanding of the basic biology of microbial pathogens and the mechanisms by which they cause disease. It introduces the basic methods for infectious disease epidemiology and case studies of important disease syndromes and entities. The course will also give students knowledge of the signs and symptoms of major infectious diseases and practice in developing differential diagnoses and fundamentals of treatment and prevention for these diseases.

#### **STAT156 Principles of Biostatistics**

This course aims at giving an introductory overview of statistics with applications in public health, biomedicine, and the biological sciences. Design of public health surveys and biomedical experiments and drawing appropriate conclusions from statistical analyses are emphasized. Topics of discussion include: exploratory data analysis, elements of probability, one sample test, nonparametric methods, contingency table analysis, and simple linear regression. All statistical concepts and procedures will be illustrated using public health and biomedical data.

### **Major Elective Courses**

#### **BIO100 Introduction to Biology**

This course is designed to introduce freshman students to key biological concepts that is fundamental to animal biology. The topics include: biological history; structure and function of cells; cell division; reproduction; respiration; nervous system; immune system; genetics and heredity of population; protein synthesis and evolution.



**Jinan University of Lebanon**

**Faculty of Public Health**



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**MLT224 Principles of Epidemiology**

Epidemiology is the study of diseases from a population-based perspective; it involves the factors affecting disease rates and the distribution of disease and disabilities in populations. As a fundamental science of preventive medicine and public health, epidemiologic research has traditionally focused on questions of disease causation through population studies for both infectious and chronic diseases. The range of topics now addressed by epidemiologic methods includes health promotion, disease prevention, and assessing the quality of health care.