

HUMAN SERVICES

Bachelor of Arts | Bachelor of Science

A human services degree for creating social change

The human services major, housed in the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, prepares you for a career in social change by providing the theoretical and skill-based background necessary for practice and research. In our Experiential Liberal Arts education model, you will take academically rigorous courses relevant to the field while honing your skills through our extensive experiential learning opportunities. Through courses, service-learning, co-ops and internships, and global travel, you will acquire academic knowledge and applied skills related to counseling, nonprofit management, political advocacy, and organizational and community development.

Fostering a dynamic academic community

Co-op Opportunities

Co-op is an educational program in which you alternate semesters of academic study with semesters of full-time employment in positions related to your academic or career interests. Co-op provides practical learning experience, along with preparation and reflection. Past co-op placements include:

- AIDS Action Committee
- Associated Grant Makers
- Autism Speaks

- Boston Area Rape Crisis Center
- Boston Rescue Mission
- Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders
- Massachusetts Citizens for Children

The Social Impact Lab

The Social Impact Lab empowers social change agents across the globe to navigate complexity, build collaborative relationships, problem solve creatively, harness all available resources, and deploy them responsibly to achieve greater impact in communities and around the world. Human Services is home to Northeastern Students for Giving (NS4G), an experiential philanthropy program within the Social Impact Lab that uses real-dollar grant making as a platform for exploring how social change happens.

Experiential Learning Through Service

Service-learning, a form of experiential learning, is embedded into our curriculum. Service-learning courses are partnerships with community-based organizations in which you apply course concepts through hands-on service roles and projects.

Research Opportunities

You can explore Human Services with greater depth by participating in research. Our faculty offer a range of expertise such as social justice, policy development, nonprofit management, and much more.

With this support, students are able to conduct in-depth research about topics such as poverty and service learning, social mobility and social movements, and more.



Featured Courses

- Social Change and Human Services
- Counseling in Human Services
- Mindfulness in Mental Health
- Race, Identity, Social Change, and Empowerment
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Expression
- Child Intervention and Treatment
- The Nonprofit Sector, Philanthropy, and Social Change
- Nonprofit Communications
- Social Policy

Learn about Human Services combined major degrees at cssh.northeastern.edu/combined-majors



It was on a Human Services Dialogue that I began to understand the connections between the nonprofit world and the world of healthcare and development policy, which has defined the rest of my academic and professional path.”

Hannah Flath '18 Human Services major



Akiera Gilbert '17

Human Services



During the Cape Town Dialogue of Civilization, Akiera participated in a micro-enterprise consulting program in partnership with TSiBA.



The University Scholars program gave Akiera a research grant to delve into the history of sex trafficking in the U.S.

Project HEAL

Currently, Akiera is the Chief Executive Officer of Project Heal, a resource for people struggling with disordered eating in the United States.

cssh.northeastern.edu/student/akiera-gilbert

N Northeastern University College of Social Sciences and Humanities

As a leader in the Experiential Liberal Arts, Northeastern's College of Social Sciences and Humanities combines experiential learning with the rigorous study of culture, society, policy, and ethics. To explore the past and shape policies for a better tomorrow, we practice humanics: the integration of traditional liberal arts capacities with quantitative tools and new digital proficiencies. In fields ranging from English and economics to philosophy, criminology and public policy, we focus on the key issues of today: how to shape public spheres, how to build resilient and sustainable communities, and how to engage with cultures past and present.

N Northeastern University

Founded in 1898, Northeastern is a global research university and the recognized leader in experience-powered lifelong learning. Our world-renowned experiential approach empowers our students, faculty, alumni, and partners to create impact far beyond the confines of discipline, degree, and campus.

Our locations—in Boston; the Massachusetts communities of Burlington and Nahant; Charlotte, North Carolina; the San Francisco Bay Area; Seattle; London; Toronto; and Vancouver—are nodes in our growing global university system. Through this network, we expand opportunities for flexible, student-centered learning and collaborative, solutions-focused research.

Northeastern's comprehensive array of undergraduate and graduate programs—in on-campus, online, and hybrid formats—lead to degrees through the doctorate in nine colleges and schools. Among these, we offer more than 140 multidisciplinary majors and degrees designed to prepare students for purposeful lives and careers.