The staff of Disability Services recognizes and values the diversity of the members of James Madison University and of the people whom we serve. We affirm our commitment to creating and maintaining a community which supports and encourages respect for every individual.

Office/Department: Disability Services

Director: Valerie Schoolcraft

Mission Statement:
ODS collaborates with the JMU community providing programs and services that support the university in creating inclusive, equitable environments that value disability, diversity and accessibility.

Functional areas included in this office: Case Management, Consultations, Outreach, Programming, Accommodations, Marketing, Outreach, Training, Policy Recommendations, Assessment

1. Students who participate in this experience will gain understanding of student affairs as a profession and the influence student affairs has on contemporary higher education through a sampling of the following tasks and activities:
   - Participation in departmental and divisional meetings
   - Participation in departmental committees and projects
   - Exploration and participation in professional development activities
   - Registration and case management meetings with students
   - Cultivating community for students with disabilities
   - Developing resource materials
   - Conducting research that is aligned with Disability Services purpose and mission
   - Conducting outreach programs to broad constituencies
   - Participation in office planning and assessment
   - Training on legal issues related to disability and higher education
   - Reviewing recent literature on disability and higher education
   - Supporting and promoting an inclusive and accessible community at JMU

2. Students who participate in this experience will be exposed to the purposeful application of the following student development, career development, counseling and/or organizational theories:
   - Strengths-based theory
   - Universal Design Theory
   - Social Justice Theory (Rawl)
   - Ethical Decision Making Theory (Nash)
   - Disability and Activist Identity Development Theory
   - Medical, Rehabilitative, and Social Models of Disability (Hassler)
3. Students assigned to this site will be able to participate (as schedules permit) in the following assessment and/or evaluation projects:
   - Assist in the assessment, planning, implementation, evaluation, and reporting of selected programs and/or activites (Video Captioning, Alternative Text, Peer Mentoring, Notetaking)
   - Interdisciplinary Documentation Review Team

4. Students who participate in this experience will be evaluated and provided on-going feedback in the following ways:
   - Individual weekly meetings with supervisor, meetings with the Director
   - End of the semester oral and written evaluations
   - Reflective journal entries or other Universally Designed assessment measures designed in conjunction with the student

5. Specific expectations of students assigned to this site include:
   - Maintain confidentiality (adherence to Association of Disability and Higher Education-AHEAD Code of Ethics)
   - Ability to work within a team while being self-directed in independent projects
   - Complete 150 office hours by working 10-15 hours/week
   - Attend required meetings/workshops/etc.
   - Analyze the interrelatedness of Disability Services with the larger University community
   - Complete projects as assigned
   - Uphold professionalism of the department by abiding by departmental policies and procedures
   - Support and promote an inclusive and accessible environment at JMU for all members of our community, particularly those from traditionally under-represented populations

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