

# SOCIAL WORK (SW)

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## **SW 500 Justice-Based Social Work Practice (3)**

This course is designed to increase understanding, knowledge, and skills regarding social, racial, economic, and environmental justice. Designated social work practice theoretical frameworks regarding diversity are applied to explain the interaction in the social systems of the intersectionality of multiple factors including race, color, ethnicity, age, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, culture, disability, political ideology, religion, sex, and sexual orientation. The course also focuses on the relationship between diversity issues in these larger social systems. The aspects of communities and organizations will also be explored through a variety of applications, including systems theory and the ecological approach, with emphasis on such aspects of the community as community power, human ecology, and conflict. Social systems will be compared and contrasted with the ecological, power, and conflict positions. Systems theory will also be applied to the aspects of society with emphasis on diversity, racism, feminism, and populations-at-risk. ADEI engagement in social work practice is discussed throughout the course.

## **SW 501 The Social Work Profession: Agent of Change (3)**

This course teaches students about the types of social work careers, and the nature, purpose, function, and organizational content of the profession. The historical development of social work and social welfare institutions; the development of social welfare policies and their impact on social work practice, the values and ethics of the profession, and the role of the social work profession as a change agent from an ADEI perspective are addressed. Case examples of social work intervention are utilized. Prerequisites: SW 500; Co-requisites: SW 503, SW 505, and SW 507

## **SW 502 Crisis Intervention and Conflict Resolution (3)**

Crisis Intervention and Conflict Resolution addresses the critical events which lead to a crisis and addresses how social workers can identify, assess, and intervene. Critical events occur on micro, (e.g. illness, death of a loved one, loss of employment, end of a relationship), mezzo, (e.g. natural disasters, tornadoes, floods, community violence, school shootings) and macro (e.g. events on 9/11, wars, global warming) levels. Prerequisites: This course is required for the MSW. Prerequisites: SW 500, 501, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, and 509.

## **SW 503 Generalist Practice: Individuals, Families, & Groups (3)**

Provides the foundation for professional social work practice with individuals, families, and groups. Course content includes the functions, roles, skills, conceptual framework, values, and ethics involved in a generalist approach. Through practice lenses of engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation, the following areas are addressed: building rapport and developing professional relationships with diverse clients, defining problems, incorporating appropriate and best-known research evidence to date, using observation to monitor and evaluate progress, and assessing readiness for termination. A variety of practice approaches will be explored including ADEI and multi-systemic/socio-cultural understandings of individuals and social issues, inclusive strengths and empowerment strategies, human rights perspectives, behavioral and developmental approaches, and ethical and multicultural competencies. Prerequisites: SW 500. Co-requisites: SW 501; SW 505; SW 507

## **SW 504 Generalist Practice Communities & Organizations (3)**

The importance of culture, class, gender, sexual orientation, race, and ethnicity and their relationship to values and belief systems will be examined in light of the importance of culturally competent practice. The students will examine their own values in relationship to their capacity to engage in generalist social work practice with a wide variety of populations. Students are required in this course to demonstrate respect for and acceptance of the unique characteristics of diverse populations. This course is taught with a focus on ADEI. A variety of teaching-learning techniques and experiences will be utilized throughout the course in order to address the content and to assist students in meeting course objectives. Learning experiences include readings, lectures, class discussions, videos, chapter presentations, case presentations, exams, various written assignments, and assignments utilizing information technology. The course also relies on the experiences of students investigating current field placements for case examples from which relevant theoretical concepts and principles for practice with communities and organizations can be identified & enhanced. Prerequisites: SW 500, 501, 503, 505, 507.

## **SW 505 Human Behavior in the Environment (3)**

This course will explore the dynamics of human behavior in the environment to prepare a foundation of knowledge on which to build clinical social work skills from an ADEI perspective. Special attention is given to developing an evidenced-based research understanding of individual and family behavior and development over the course of the life span as a function of reciprocal interactions with groups, communities, organizations, and society from a bio-psycho-social, cultural, and spiritual perspective. A variety of theories are utilized to assist in understanding the complexity of human behavior, including psychodynamic, psychosocial, family systems, cognitive, and neurobiological theories, among others. Course content is sensitive to human diversity, including race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical challenges, spirituality, and socioeconomic factors as they affect human behavior and lifespan development. Students will assess ADEI systemic issues that can impact strengths, challenges, risk, resilience and protective factors that affect clients' social functioning through the examination of human behavior in the environment with attention to structural factors (e.g., poverty, racism, gender issues, aging) that contribute to challenge and success in human development. The impact of trauma, loss, and environmental stressors on the individual and the family are also explored. Prerequisites: SW 500. Co-requisites: SW 501; SW 503; SW 507

## **SW 506 Social Policy (3)**

Social Welfare Policy and Services is a required course in the MSW generalist curriculum to prepare students for policy analysis and generalist Social Work practice. It is designed to educate the student about the historical development of selected social welfare programs as well as the current federal policies and social service delivery systems, to develop the student's policy analysis skills, including economic analysis, social analysis, and political analysis, and to acquaint the students with present moral and ethical issues in developing roles as policy researchers and applied policy practitioners. Prerequisites: SW 500, 501, 503, 505, 507.

**SW 507 Practicum & Integrative Seminar I (3)**

Practicum and Integrative Seminar I is the first of two required generalist practicum and seminar courses. The field practicum is an educationally directed experience under the supervision of an agency-based social work practicum instructor and a campus-based faculty practicum director. The integrative seminar component addresses the practicum experience and assists students in the integration and application of practice theory to their practicum placement learning activities. The second course of the two-semester sequence, Practicum and Integrative Seminar II (SW 508), is taught in the second semester of the generalist year. Students complete a minimum of 450 hours during SW 507 and SW 508. Prerequisites: SW 500. Co-requisites: SW 501, SW 503, and SW 505

**SW 508 Practicum and Integrative Seminar II (3)**

Field education is comprised of two interrelated components: 1) The field placement, and 2) the Integrative Seminar. Together, these elements are the means by which students become competent practitioners at the Clinical Social Work Specialization level (SW 603-SW 604). The Integrative Seminar provides students with regular opportunities for integration of course content and field experiences. The integrative seminar connects the theoretical and conceptual content of the classroom with Clinical Social Work practice in field settings. In the seminar, as we consult with one another and reflect on practice dilemmas, we examine practice problems in the context of ADEI practice, social work values, and how we professionally think and feel (cognitive and affective processes) incorporating each of the identified social work competencies. Prerequisites: SW 500, 501, 503, 505, 507.

**SW 509 Research Methods in Social Work (3)**

SW 509 Research Methods in Social Work is a generalist course in both research literacy and social research. Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methods, program evaluation, assessment, and statistics are considered significant components of practice knowledge and accountability; demonstrating practice and program effectiveness is imperative in social work practice settings. In addition, as consumers of scholarly research studies, social workers need to understand social work research methods in order to analyze the quality of studies and apply them to practice. Relatedly, social workers need to comprehend ethical aspects of research in terms of the values of the social work profession including, among other values, the protection of research participants. As a starting point for developing research competencies needed for social work practice, SW 509 provides the big picture philosophical and cultural contexts of social work research, and engages critical thinking about the nature of social work, its knowledge base, its means of developing knowledge, and its theories and practices. Prerequisites: SW 500, 501, 503, 505, 507.

**SW 600 Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Social Work (3)**

This course introduces students to human rights and social justice perspectives in order to examine the shifting landscape of diversity, oppression, power, and privilege, and how this affects social work ADEI practice from a human behavior in the environment perspective. The fundamental goal of the course is for students to develop critical consciousness in order to gain competencies to address diversity, privilege, racism, and oppression in social work practice. The importance of power and the dynamics of domination and subordination in multiple manifestations of oppression, particularly among historically oppressed groups, will be explored. An understanding of one's self within these systems is essential for social work practice.

**SW 601 Clinical Social Work I (3)**

This course is a clinical theory and practice course taught in the first semester of a two-semester sequence designed to prepare students to provide social work clinical practice services and to supervise delivery of those services to couples, families, and groups. It builds on the generalist practice year and advances knowledge by focusing upon the therapeutic relationship as the framework for developing interviewing, assessment, and intervention skills appropriate with diverse client situations and supported by empirical research. Assessment and treatment principles from various interpersonal, psychodynamic, group, and cognitive-behavioral theories and approaches are explored. The course focuses on advanced clinical social work, clinical and client advocacy skills, and techniques at each stage of the helping process, and with clinical practice situations as these apply to individuals, client groups, couples, and family systems with an emphasis on the assessment and diagnosis of clients across the lifespan, the development of a treatment plan, the therapeutic relationship, the treatment process, and clinical practice with clients from diverse backgrounds, including ethnic, racial, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds. An ADEI perspective is applied. Prerequisites: SW 600. Co-requisites: SW 603 and SW 605

**SW 602 Clinical Social Work II (3)**

This course is the second semester of a two-semester sequence designed to prepare students to provide social work clinical practice services and to supervise delivery of those services to couples, families, and groups. The advanced techniques of practice methods and skills taught in Clinical Social Work I are built upon in Clinical Social Work II. Emphasis in this course is on developing further competence in processes for helping prevent problems; enhancing, developing, and restoring social functioning; and strengthening learning in application and evaluation of practice theories. This course focuses on therapeutic work with couples, families and groups. Reinforcement of the connections among theory, evidence-based practice, interventions, and culturally appropriate and ADEI social work practice occurs. Addressed is the professional use of self to enhance clinical social work therapeutic outcomes. This course is required in the MSW Clinical Social Work Specialization. The prerequisite is completion of both Clinical Social Work I and one semester of advanced practice field along with a concurrent field placement in advanced practice in clinical social work. Advanced Standing and SW 600, 601, 603, 605 or the following courses in the Two-Year Program: SW 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 600.

**SW 603 Practicum & Integrative Seminar III - Clinical Practice (3)**

This clinical social work specialization course provides an integrative seminar and supervised advanced learning and practice of clinical social work services. Students are placed in practice-settings conducive to clinical social work practice under the supervision of an agency-based social work supervisor and a campus-based faculty practicum director. Special emphasis is placed on providing students with the basis for continued development of culturally competent ADEI clinical social work practice. The integrative seminar component addresses the practicum experience and assists students in the integration and application of practice theory and further refinement of social work skills, including assessment, interventions, and group practice, to their practicum placement learning activities. The second course of the two-semester sequence, Practicum and Integrative Seminar IV- Clinical Practice (SW 604), is taught in the second semester of the clinical social work specialization year. Students complete a minimum of 450 hours during the two-semester sequence, SW 603 and SW 604. Prerequisites: SW 600. Co-requisites: SW 601 and SW 605

**SW 604 Practicum & Integrative Seminar IV (3)**

This Clinical Social Work Specialization course provides an integrative seminar and supervised practice of clinical social work services, including assessment, diagnosis, treatment including psychotherapy and counseling, client-centered advocacy, consultation, and evaluation. Students are placed in community-based settings where the primary focus is to provide treatment to children, adolescents and adults who experience a wide range of DSM-V-recognized mental health problems. Special emphasis will be placed on providing students with the basis for continued development of culturally competent clinical social work practice. Our focus is clinical social work practice that is recovery-oriented, strengths-based and committed to providing culturally safe, effective services to clients who have traditionally been under or poorly served due to economic, social and political disenfranchisement. Students will be challenged to consider how to reduce barriers to mental health service delivery that may arise from intersecting oppressions linked to age, race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexual orientation, disability, and other marginalized statuses. Along with the content areas noted above, we will examine and apply values and principles of ethical practice and give particular attention to ethical dilemmas in which important values appear to collide. Prerequisites: Advanced Standing and SW 600, 601, 603, 605 or the following courses in the Two-Year Program: SW 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 600. Corequisites: SW 602, 606, 607

**SW 605 Clinical Assessment & Diagnosis (3)**

This course explores major forms of clinical mental health issues and psychopathology in adults, children, and adolescents, including classification trends, issues, and models. The course provides an introduction to clinical syndromes in terms of diagnostic methodology, research and social concerns and their implications for at-risk groups and familiarizes social work students with the major mental disorders and psychopathologies acquainted with the language, taxonomy, conceptualizations, and dynamics and developments in the study of clinical mental health assessment and differential diagnoses. Discussed are the bio-psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual variables influencing behavior in the environment so that students will gain a theoretical foundation for understanding and assessing mental health and mental health diagnoses. The impact of diversity, social justice, racism, and social determinants of health on behavioral and mental health will be explored. Particular emphasis will be given to the complexity of mental health, and to the use and practical limitations of diagnostic systems, including the DSM-5-TR. Prerequisites: SW 600. Co-requisites: SW 601 and SW 603

**SW 606 Research Methods in Clinical Social Work (3)**

This course provides knowledge of the issues involved in clinical/mental health research methodology regarding policies and services. This course is designed to allow social workers to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions and outcomes in a clinical practice setting and provides a study of the issues involved in clinical research methodology. Anti-oppressive social work research and engagement in ADEI practice is a major focus of this course. Designing the research agenda, and conceptualizing and implementing the process of research with a focus on evidence-based outcomes is taught. Multiple research methodologies are studied from quantitative and qualitative traditions. Students are introduced to the tools for documenting the effects of clinical practice interventions for individuals, couples, families and groups (including qualitative and quantitative methodologies: single-case design, standardized measurement, self-report data, self-monitoring, case study, and grounded theory, among others). This course is required in the MSW Clinical Social Work Specialization and is taught simultaneously with SW 602 Clinical Social Work II and SW 607 Clinical Policies & Services. This course is also taught along with a concurrent field placement addressing the Clinical Social Work specialization. Prerequisites: Advanced Standing and SW 600, 601, 603, 605 or the following courses in the Two-Year Program: SW 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 600. Corequisites: SW 602, 604, 607

**SW 607 Clinical Policies and Services (3)**

Contemporary policy issues related to clinical social work and mental health including social determinants of mental health, treatment and access to care, rights and privacy, system interaction, and disparities in care are focused upon in this course. The role of social workers in policy advocacy, the history and evolution of mental health policy, and recent mental health policy proposals are examined. Students learn to analyze mental health policy and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, racial, economic, and environmental justice. Throughout the course, issues are examined through the ADEI lens. Advanced Standing and SW 600, 601, 603, 605 or the following courses in the Two-Year Program: SW 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 600.

**SW 609 Clinical Practice with Adults (3)**

This course explores evidence-based cognitive and behavioral interventions used by social workers in the treatment of adults experiencing mental health issues. Practice from an ADEI perspective is emphasized.

**SW 615 Palliative and End-of-Life Care in Social Work Practice (3)**

This course explores palliative care and end-of-life care from the perspective of social work practice with children, adolescents, adults, and older adults with terminal illness and serious chronic illness, as well as their care partners. We will learn what palliative care is and how it differs from curative forms of medical treatment, how to communicate empathically with patients and their care partners about options, screen for distress, and provide biopsychosocial spiritual support. As a relatively new specialty in social work practice, palliative and end-of-life care emphasizes goals of care, advance care planning, interdisciplinary team approaches, and cultural competency. Readings, class discussion, and topics include medical, psychosocial spiritual, legal, and ethical perspectives. Prerequisites: SW 502