



COURSE OUTLINE: SSW217 - SSW WITH FAMILIES

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Approved: Martha Irwin, Chair, Community Services and Interdisciplinary Studies

Course Code: Title	SSW217: SOCIAL SERVICE WORK WITH FAMILIES
Program Number: Name	1203: SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Department:	SOCIAL SERVICES WORKER
Semesters/Terms:	19F
Course Description:	The social work/social service profession is instrumental in providing support and interventions to families. This course will provide students with the necessary basic knowledge and skills to assess, support, intervene and advocate with diverse families in the community. Specifically, the course will promote the student's ability to identify and foster family resilience through a variety of evidence-based, holistic, culturally safe and strength-based interventions.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	45
Prerequisites:	SSW203
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Substitutes:	NSW112
Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course:	1203 - SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.	VLO 1 Develop and maintain professional relationships which adhere to professional, legal, and ethical standards aligned to social service work.
	VLO 2 Identify strengths, resources, and challenges of individuals, families, groups, and communities to assist them in achieving their goals.
	VLO 3 Recognize diverse needs and experiences of individuals, groups, families, and communities to promote accessible and responsive programs and services.
	VLO 4 Identify current social policy, relevant legislation, and political, social, and/or economic systems and their impacts on service delivery.
	VLO 5 Advocate for appropriate access to resources to assist individuals, families, groups, and communities.
	VLO 6 Develop and maintain positive working relationships with colleagues, supervisors, and community partners.
	VLO 7 Develop strategies and plans that lead to the promotion of self-care, improved job performance, and enhanced work relationships.
	VLO 8 Integrate social group work and group facilitation skills across a wide range of environments, supporting growth and development of individuals, families, and communities.
Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course:	EES 1 Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.
	EES 2 Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.



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- EES 4 Apply a systematic approach to solve problems.
- EES 5 Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.
- EES 6 Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.
- EES 7 Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.
- EES 8 Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.
- EES 9 Interact with others in groups or teams that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.
- EES 10 Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.
- EES 11 Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.

Course Evaluation:

Passing Grade: 50%, D

Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:

Students are expected to attend scheduled classes given the course outcomes will be met with in-class experiential application of skills through individual and team based work. Students who fall below 75% attendance without advanced, substantial and substantiated reasons will experience academic consequences detailed in the course syllabus/learning plan. Students are to read and adhere with the SSW Course Addendum & Class Guidelines and the SSW Program Policies & Procedures Manual posted on the LMS.

Books and Required Resources:

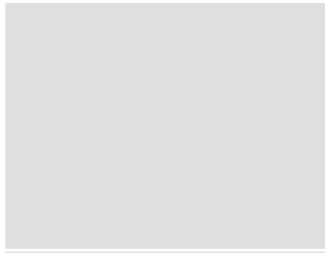
Working with Families by Spindel, Patricia
 Publisher: Spindel and Associates Inc, Ajax, ON

Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:

Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1
1. Demonstrate understanding of the diversity of Canadian families and the systemic complexities of family challenges.	1.1 Identify the demographics of families in Canada/Ontario 1.2 Discuss the diverse nature and needs of contemporary Canadian families related to factors such as race, culture, ethnicity, social and economic class, gender and sexual orientation 1.3 Identify how these factors may impact interactions within the family and between the family and community systems 1.4 Acknowledge the impact of trauma, oppression and colonization families and assist in development of holistic healing plans and/or goal plans 1.5 Apply culturally safe and competent practice with families 1.5 Enhance understanding of own family and reflect upon values, biases, beliefs to ensure family centred and ethical care
Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
2. Demonstrate understanding of the role, ethics and scope of practice of the SSW in family work.	2.1 Explain the role of SSW and scope of practice in working with families. 2.2 Describe the agency context for family practice. 2.3 Demonstrate knowledge and application of assessment and intervention approaches within the context of social service work scope of practice. 2.4 Develop skills in the completion of accurate, family centered SSW documentation 2.4 Engage in self-reflection of one`s own beliefs, values, biases, worldview about families to develop culturally safe practices with diverse families

Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
3. Demonstrate understanding of the developmental stages of family life.	3.1 Discuss and apply developmental stages and critical roles and tasks related to each stage. 3.2 Discuss and apply the strengths, resources and challenges within each family life cycle of individual family members and the family as a unit. 3.3 Identify cultural variations in family development stages.
Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
4. Develop professional practice skills for working with families based on a strengths-based model rather than one of disorder and deficit.	4.1 Discuss and apply the risk and resilience research findings to social service work interventions/approaches with families 4.2 Demonstrate knowledge of community agencies and organizations that would benefit and support families and their referral processes 4.3 Demonstrate the ability to assess and document both strengths and vulnerabilities of families. 4.4 Utilize anti-oppressive, trauma-informed and strengths-based interview questions, methods and interventions. 4.5 Develop and document assessment and intervention approaches that build on the families` formal and informal sources of support. 4.6 Demonstrate ability to establish and document clear and measurable goals developed collaboratively with families. 4.7 Demonstrate ability to advocate with families to address for identified family needs and barriers.
Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
5. Demonstrate understanding of the complex challenges that contribute to at-risk families, and formulate effective, culturally informed, strengths-based interventions that address these challenges.	5.1 Demonstrate ability to deliver evidence and strengths-based interventions based on mutually determined family needs, protective factors and family-centered goals. 5.2 Demonstrate ability to identify and advocate for access to services for families. 5.3 Promote and support family self advocacy and self determination that challenges patterns of oppression and discrimination. 5.3 Be familiar with unique challenges presenting families with experiences such as yet not limited to parenting, child & family violence/trauma, gender, sexual orientation, poverty, and/or caregiver/family stress related to various disabilities/illnesses across the family lifespan. 5.5 Identify the presenting challenges of families in the context of larger structural and systemic issues. 5.4 Utilize assessment tools, and techniques useful in effectively supporting families and their own resilience and self-determination.
Course Outcome 6	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 6
6. Record and communicate effectively in written, digital, verbal and non-verbal ways in accordance with professional SSW standards and essential employability	6.1 Complete objective, concise, clear documentation related to SSW family practice. 6.2 Apply and integrate effective counseling/SSW helping skills to engage and collaborate with families, inter-disciplinary teams/groups and Indigenous helpers, Elders or other relevant cultural helpers as appropriate.





skills.

6.3 Use and apply various forms of communication, technological tools, data collection and research skills in SSW work with families, inter-disciplinary teams

6.4 Demonstrate ability to employ essential SSW and employability skills within the classroom.

6.5 Use effective communication skills with classmates, professors, colleagues that enable accountability, self awareness, profession growth and competent individual, team and family practice skills.

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Knowledge/Theory Tests/Exams	30%
Self/Family Assessment/Reflection	20%
Skill Acquisition & Professional Participation/Development	10%
SSW Family Assessment & Intervention Documentation Portfolio	20%
SSW Professional Family Work Assignment	20%

Date:

July 14, 2019

Addendum:

Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.

