



COURSE OUTLINE: SSW306 - HMN BEHAV & SOC ENV

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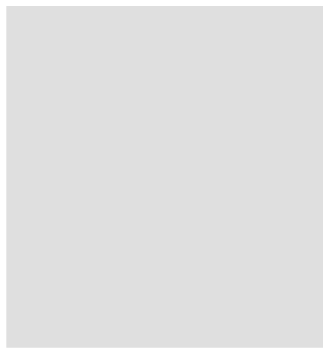
Approved: Martha Irwin, Chair, Community Services and Interdisciplinary Studies

Course Code: Title	SSW306: HUMAN BEHAVIOUR & SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT
Program Number: Name	1203: SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Department:	SOCIAL SERVICES WORKER
Semesters/Terms:	21F
Course Description:	This course is designed to provide knowledge and understanding of theory and practice issues related to human behaviour as a bio-psycho-social-spiritual phenomenon. Through an Anti-oppressive perspective, the promotion of social and economic justice are examined in relation to the interaction of societal, biological, political, economic, historical, cultural and psychosocial variables. Students will explore their understanding of the person in environment along with the impacts of racial, gender, orientation, age and socio-cultural influences with individuals, families and communities. Particular practice implications and skills with Indigenous populations, older adults, LGBTTQ-I community and individuals who are neuro-diverse or have disabilities are emphasized.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	45
Prerequisites:	SSW125
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Substitutes:	NSW111
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 respectful and collaborative professional and interpersonal relationships that adhere to professional, legal, and ethical standards aligned to social service work.
	VLO 2 Record information accurately and communicate effectively in written, digital, verbal and non-verbal ways, in adherence to privacy and freedom of information legislation, in accordance with professional and workplace standards.
	VLO 3 Integrate a practice framework within a service delivery continuum, addressing the needs of individuals, families and communities at micro, mezzo, macro and global levels, and work with them in achieving their goals.
	VLO 4 Plan and implement accessible and responsive programs and services, recognizing the diverse needs and experiences of individuals, groups, families and communities, and meeting these needs.
	VLO 5 Examine current social policy, relevant legislation, and political, social, historical, and/or economic systems and their impacts for individuals and communities when delivering services to the user/client.
	VLO 6 Develop strategies and approaches that support individual clients, groups, families and communities in building the capacity for self-advocacy, while affirming their

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- dignity and self-worth.
- VLO 7 Work from an anti-oppressive, strengths-based practice, recognizing the capacity for resilience and growth of individuals and communities when responding to the diverse needs of marginalized or vulnerable populations to act as allies and advocates.
- VLO 9 Work with individuals, groups, families and their communities to ensure that service provider strategies promote social and economic justice, and challenge patterns of oppression, discrimination and harassment, and sexual violence with clients, coworkers and communities.
- VLO 10 Develop the capacity to work with the Indigenous individual, families, groups and communities while respecting their inherent rights to self-determine, and to identify and address systemic barriers that produce ill-effects, developing appropriate responses using approaches such as trauma informed care practice.

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.
- 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%,
 A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.

Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:

Students review and understand the SSW Skill Acquisition, Professional Development & Participation Class Guidelines, Course Addendum and Student Rights and Responsibilities to promote success in course and meet course evaluation requirements.

Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:

Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1
1. Demonstrate knowledge of dominant and alternative theoretical perspectives and SSW practice frameworks that further understanding of human behaviour and social environment.	1.1 Define and describe the person-in-environment concept used in social work. 1.2 Describe human behavior and functioning from an ecological /systems theory perspective and explain its usefulness in social service work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, institutions, and communities. 1.3 Explain the unique perspective that social work has in viewing the relationship between the

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		<p>individual person and environment.</p> <p>1.4 Understand the person-in-environment concept and the interaction of biological, social, psychological, spiritual and cultural systems and the reciprocal impact on human behavior.</p> <p>1.5 Enhance understanding of the dynamics of the systems approach in social work and the historical, cultural, political and social context of social problems/presenting issues of diverse people.</p> <p>1.6 Recognize the role systems play in promoting or deterring individual, families, communities' health, well-being and risks and resiliencies.</p> <p>1.7 Recognize the complexity of social problems faced by individuals, families, groups and communities within the scope of SSW practice and within a larger social, political, historical, cultural and economic context.</p> <p>1.8 Link human behaviour theory to effective SSW engagement, assessment and intervention practices with diverse populations.</p> <p>1.9 Recognize the importance of risk and resiliency theories and post-modern approaches as applied with diverse populations</p>
	Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
	<p>2. Demonstrate respect and knowledge of human diversity in SSW practice</p>	<p>2.1 Apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels</p> <p>2.2 Apply information and theories related to human behavior and the social environment to life situations in a manner consistent with social service work values and the promotion of social and economic justice,</p> <p>2.3 Demonstrate an understanding of the social construction of ageism, racism, homophobia and ableism and ability to apply effective social work methods to confront and address stigma, oppression and social injustices</p> <p>2.4 Show understanding of human behavior and diversity in becoming effective change agents, advocates and allies within the micro, mezzo, and macro contexts</p> <p>2.5 Identify and use interventions that respect diversity and promote strengths, well-being and facilitate positive change in each population studied within SSW Scope of Practice</p> <p>2.6 Explain ways that ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, class, disability, and other factors contribute to human behaviour and their implications for</p>

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		<p>social work practice</p> <p>2.7 Identify the impact of oppression, discrimination, and economic deprivation upon diverse populations particularly with older adults, LGBTTTQI community, Indigenous and neuro-diverse/disabled populations.</p> <p>2.8 Recognize the history, culture, traditions, norms, values and histories of oppression and intersectionality of individuals and communities.</p> <p>2.9 Affirm the unique stories of people and situations to direct the choice of theory used.</p> <p>2.10 Develop effective participation by community members in social change efforts in a manner that challenges existing power relationships.</p> <p>2.11 Promote justice, equality and access to culturally appropriate services that respect race, origin, language, gender, age, ability, sexual orientation,</p>
	<p>Course Outcome 3</p> <p>3. Demonstrate knowledge and skills in engagement, assessment and intervention approaches that appreciation of the importance of human diversity specifically with the populations studied.</p>	<p>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3</p> <p>3.1 Link human behaviour theory to culturally safe/relevant SSW engagement, assessment and intervention practices with diverse populations.</p> <p>3.2 Discuss and apply knowledge of the history of colonization and its impact on indigenous people and the effects of intergenerational trauma on human behaviour and development</p> <p>3.3 Appreciate how assumptions , social location and frameworks of understanding influence our SSW practice approaches with aging populations.</p> <p>3.4 Consider alternative paradigms/theories to understand and intervene with older adults facing a variety of social problems.</p> <p>3.5 Describe the complex social, economic and physical barriers to the inclusion of neurodiverse /disability field.</p> <p>3.6 Describe theoretical frameworks that inform disability-focused social work practice.</p> <p>3.7 Describe and understand the historical, social structural and political dimensions of sexual and gender identity and expression in Canada.</p> <p>3.8 Recognize the social exclusion, discrimination and social injustices experienced by two-spirited, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer community within the Canadian context.</p> <p>3.9 Understand the social construction of gender and gender roles.</p> <p>3.10 Identify how gender-based theories inform our knowledge of human behavior.</p> <p>3.11 Understand the psychological, social, and cultural dimensions of sexual orientation.</p> <p>3.12 Define individual and structural forms of heterosexism, homophobia, and transgender</p>

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		<p>discrimination</p> <p>3.13 Explore and define terms used to promote inclusion and respect of the TLGBTQ community.</p> <p>3.14 Recognize the history, culture, traditions, norms values a, histories of oppression and intersectionality of individuals and communities challenging normative values to promote the development of culturally aware, timely, responsive programs and services</p> <p>3.15 Recognize and explore the impact of isms (concepts of culture, power, control, privilege, stratification)</p> <p>3.16 Identify systemic issues, which oppress or negatively affect consumers.</p>
	<p>Course Outcome 4</p>	<p>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4</p>
	<p>4. Demonstrate enhanced communication, critical, analytical and research skills as applied to the study of human behaviour and social environment.</p>	<p>4.1 Use critical thinking skills to examine the extent to which mainstream theories of human behavior consider the influence of diversity on human behavior.</p> <p>4.2 Develop analytical skills to examine the cultural, historical, political and economic contexts that have shaped the meaning of social work and its practice</p> <p>4.3 Evaluate and use relevant research studies to understand human behavior and the social environment within Canadian multi-cultural context.</p> <p>4.4 Develop skills in obtaining, synthesizing, and integrating research and best practices in social service work practice with diverse populations of interest and complete academic literature review and assignment on a course-related topic of interest.</p> <p>4.5 Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments, assessments and intervention strategies.</p> <p>4.6 Apply SSW professional judgment in collecting, organizing and interpreting information from clients.</p> <p>4.7 Demonstrate effective oral and written communication in working with individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and colleagues</p> <p>4.8 Enhance academic and professional communication skills in accordance with required formats</p> <p>4.9 Demonstrate respectful, non-judgmental interpersonal communication in class and effective team work skills.</p> <p>4.10 Use critically thinking skills to reflect upon practice frameworks that address diverse needs, risks, strengths, protective factors of individuals, families, groups and communities.</p>

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	Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
	5. Demonstrate self and professional awareness applicable to understanding human behaviour and social environment as an emerging SSW professional.	5.1 Gain sufficient self awareness and reflective practice skills to address the influence of personal values and biases in working with diverse people 5.2 Apply basic social work purposes, ethics and values to the study and analysis of human behavior in the social environment. 5.3 Apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels, 5.4 Respect and affirm the uniqueness and context of individuals, families, groups and communities served. 5.4 Present themselves as learners and engage clients as experts of their own experiences. 5.5 Use self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients and constituencies. 5.6 Discuss the ethical importance of maintaining an awareness of one`s own worldview, values and beliefs and impacts on work with diverse populations. 5.7 Understand how personal values are reflected in sociocultural contexts, such as culture, race and ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, class, and religion, and how they can influence human behavior. 5.8 Enhance awareness of one`s own background, values, assumptions and potential biases related to diverse group memberships, and how these may affect one`s worldview and professional practice. 5.9 Examine their own uniqueness and pattern of personal growth and development from a bio-psychosocial spiritual perspective and how their own uniqueness and orientation influence their perceptions. 5.10 Show awareness of social work values and ethics in relation to assessment and intervention strategies with diverse populations, especially populations at risk. 5.11 Recognize how their personal experiences and affective reactions may affect their assessment and decision-making. 5.12 Apply culturally safe and sensitive models of SSW practice.

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Key Concept Notes/Quizzes/Tests	40%
Project Assignment	25%
Self Reflection Assignment	20%

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	SSW Skill Acquisition, Professional Development and Participation	15%
Date:	July 27, 2021	
Addendum:	Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.	

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