



COURSE OUTLINE: SSW307 - SSW FIELDWORK

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

Course Code: Title	SSW307: FIELDWORK FOR SOCIAL SERVICE WORK
Program Number: Name	1203: SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Department:	SOCIAL SERVICES WORKER
Semesters/Terms:	21F
Course Description:	This course is the practicum for the Social Service Worker Program. Students will be placed in a community setting where, under supervision, they will carry out social service work duties as defined by them, their supervisor and the program faculty. The goal of SSW fieldwork is to provide the students the opportunity to integrate and apply the knowledge, skills and values needed to carry out the role of Social Service Worker with supervision and mentoring. The fieldwork experience provides students opportunity to learn about the mandate, philosophy, services/programs, strengths and challenges experienced by community/social services organizations. In addition, students learn to become part of an interdisciplinary team and learn to meet the needs of individuals, families, communities and/or issues serviced by the organization.
Total Credits:	7
Hours/Week:	14
Total Hours:	190
Prerequisites:	SSW207
Corequisites:	SSW301
Substitutes:	SSW302
This course is a pre-requisite for:	SSW405
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,

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	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 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 8 Develop strategies and approaches to implement and maintain holistic self-care as a member of a human service profession.
	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:
Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:	SSW Fieldwork is guided by the SSW Learning Contract which outlines specific outcomes and learning activities to develop professional knowledge and skills. Students are expected to be able to be engaged in self-directed learning with initiative to establish clear and measurable learning goals. Evaluation of field includes learning contract progress reports, field supervisor and faculty evaluation tools, monthly reflection journals/reports and attendance records. Additionally, the SSW Program Fieldwork Manual contains relevant policies and procedures to guide students, field supervisors and fieldwork faculty.

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Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:

Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1
1. Demonstrate knowledge of the field work setting and the social/human service system and how programs are delivered to address the needs of people served.	<p>1.1 Engage in fieldwork orientation and/or research to familiarize with organization's mission/philosophy, mandate, programs/services, structure, funding and applicable legislative framework.</p> <p>1.2 Research, prepare and present Fieldwork Setting Report to demonstrate field agency knowledge.</p> <p>1.3 Identify and articulate the services offered and the population served representing the fieldwork setting in a professional and credible manner.</p> <p>1.4 Demonstrate ability to locate current, accurate and credible information on local resources, informal and formal helping systems and/or continuum of care/services related to client need and/or fieldwork setting.</p> <p>1.5. Identify relevant social policies, government directives/strategies and/or legislation that governs the organization and service delivery</p> <p>1.6 Familiarize with fieldwork setting engagement, assessment and intervention approaches</p> <p>1.7 Orient, adhere to and explain relevant fieldwork organization policies and procedures, related workplace laws</p> <p>1.8 Demonstrate compliance with, and integration of, agency policies, procedures, protocols and expectations in day-to-day practice with clients and staff.</p> <p>1.8 Identify key formal and informal community resources and be able to access, link and refer clients when deemed appropriate</p>
Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
2. Establish respectful and collaborative professional relationships that adhere to the SSW ethical and professional standards.	<p>2.1 Apply SSW interpersonal communication skills (i.e., empathy, active and reflective listening skills etc.) to build relationships with others in fieldwork setting</p> <p>2.1 Use effective observation skills to identify and respond effectively to client needs/strengths</p> <p>2.3 Learn about the professional roles and processes related to effective engagement/relationship building with clientele served.</p> <p>2.4 Use observation and/or assessment skills to understand and identify (individual, family, group, community) to understand the needs, strengths and goals of service recipients/clientele served</p> <p>2.5 Initiate respectful and responsive interactions with clients</p> <p>2.6 Adapt interpersonal communication skills to meet the developmental, cultural and unique needs of client</p> <p>2.7 Review and apply SSW Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice related to client relationships, self-determination, privacy, confidentiality, informed consent and professional</p>

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		<p>boundaries etc.</p> <p>2.8 Observe and assist fieldwork staff perform duties and services.</p> <p>2.9 Participate in team and collateral meetings.</p> <p>2.10 Observe/assist or develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals based on the assessment of strengths, needs, and challenges within clients</p> <p>2.11 Select appropriate intervention strategies based on the assessment, research knowledge, and values and preferences of client</p> <p>2.12 Determine culturally safe practice with Indigenous peoples served by the fieldwork setting</p>
	<p>Course Outcome 3</p>	<p>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3</p>
	<p>3. Displays expected SSW professional and workplace behaviours and skills.</p>	<p>3.1 Familiarize and maintain accountability with agency policies, procedures, protocols and expectations in day-to-day practice with clients and staff.</p> <p>3.2 Familiarize and demonstrate professional work habits such as consistent attendance, punctuality, personal appearance reflects norms/expectations of organization, appropriate use of technology.</p> <p>3.3 Demonstrate ability to initiate and sustain effective and respectful collegial working relationships by introducing self, attending team/staff/collateral meetings</p> <p>3.4 Establish and apply skills related to problem-solving, planning ahead, setting priorities, completing tasks, managing time effectively as a self-directed/active learner within the fieldwork setting.</p> <p>3.5 Use supervision constructively by scheduling regular meetings, agenda set, minute take and actively seeking feedback on performance, remaining receptive to feedback and adjusted performance accordingly.</p> <p>3.6 Orient to and gain competency in using fieldwork setting equipment, tools for communication including emails, agency computer systems for managing information, social media, searching for resources and research</p> <p>3.7 Seek feedback on professional/employability skills from staff/supervisor and integrate/adapt performance as required.</p> <p>3.8 Use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations and with staff</p> <p>3.9 Collaborate, consult and problem-solve as an effective member of an interdisciplinary team</p> <p>3.10 Use SSW interpersonal communication skills and professional documentation skills.</p> <p>3.11 Use effective professional research, information literacy and data collection skills pertinent</p>

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		<p>to SSW practice and the fieldwork setting.</p> <p>3.12 Accurately and professionally complete field related documents and agency documentation as required</p> <p>3.13 Recognize and understand the implications of one`s own attitude, values and actions in an organizational field setting and modify accordingly when needed</p> <p>3.14 Prepare for and document supervision and field site visits.</p> <p>3.15 Use and document supervision to focus on learning needs, problem-solve, integrate and generalize social service knowledge.</p> <p>3.16 Maintain professional boundaries in accordance with legal and ethical standards.</p> <p>3.17 Develop and document placement specific learning goals and learning activities on SSW learning contract and update progress as required.</p>
	Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
	<p>4. Identify social service work knowledge, principles, values and approaches applicable to the clientele served and the fieldwork setting.</p>	<p>4.1 Complete research to identify how theory and social work models are applied to practice that is relevant to the clientele served.</p> <p>4.2 Assess the applicability of anti-oppression, cultural safety, harm reduction and trauma-informed and strengths-based approaches within the fieldwork setting.</p> <p>4.3 Observe, label and practice social service work skills in accordance with the scope of practice</p> <p>4.4 Identify the presenting challenges of clientele served and the context of the larger structural or systemic issues that impact</p> <p>4.5 Familiarize and document the fieldwork setting practice approaches/models in engagement, assessment and intervention with clientele served through staff consultations, observations, participation, co-facilitation and research.</p> <p>4.6 Observe and routinely involve clients in identifying and assessing strengths, needs and capacities.</p> <p>4.7 Structure collaborative interactions with clients which support and promote clients empowerment and voice of their strengths, needs and goals.</p> <p>4.8 Identify effective advocacy, referral methods, care coordination and case management services that are relevant to population served.</p> <p>4.9 Observe, assist or develop SSW assessment and intervention methods that support clientele resiliency, protective factors and social functioning as deemed appropriate by faculty and field work setting.</p> <p>4.10 Recognize formal and informal support systems within community that promote client social functioning and facilitate positive change.</p>

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	<p>4.11 Apply AOP, trauma-informed, strengths-based strategies with individuals, families, groups or communities that respects diversity and empowerment</p> <p>4.12 Maintain a posture of interest and inquisitiveness in learning about the assessment and intervention/practice models and clientele served.</p> <p>4.13 Demonstrate SSW skills and knowledge through active, planned and deliberate participation in co- requisite seminar class, peer consultations and case studies</p>
Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
5. Demonstrate commitment to self-awareness, personal and professional growth.	<p>5.1 Present self as a mindful learner and engage with clients and staff as experts of their own experiences.</p> <p>5.2 Apply self-awareness and self-regulation skills to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients.</p> <p>5.3 Familiarize and use tools and processes for engaging in reflective practice to strengthen SSW practice</p> <p>5.4 Develop awareness of self in terms of values, beliefs and experiences and how this may influence the development of professional relationships</p> <p>5.5 Employ effective self care techniques/wellness plans and secure appropriate supports and resources when needed</p> <p>5.6 Engage in ethical practices that support client best interests and cultural dignity and safety.</p> <p>5.7 Seek and use support and feedback related to one`s own performance, strengths , limitations and challenges from fieldwork staff, supervisor, faculty and peers</p> <p>5.8 Complete self evaluations/reflections to assess strengths, progress, professional growth and areas of development. Document plan.</p> <p>5.9 Actively seek opportunities to challenge and develop profession skills and knowledge.</p> <p>5.10 Share and present professional learning experiences in various formats as required with peers/co-workers/staff/faculty as part of seminar class and in community</p>

Evaluation Process and Grading System:	Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
	SSW Fieldwork Documents	100%

Date: July 27, 2021

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

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