



COURSE OUTLINE: NSW102 - CAPACITY/COMMUNITIES

Prepared: Corinne Onovo MSW, RSW

Approved: Karen Hudson - Dean

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| Course Code: Title | NSW102: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COMMUNITIES |
| Program Number: Name | 1221: SSW INDIGENOUS SPECA |
| Department: | SOCIAL SERV. WKR. - INDIGENOUS |
| Academic Year: | 2025-2026 |
| Course Description: | The concept of community is intrinsically tied to the Indigenous cultural identity. Collective identity can be empowering or the target of oppression. Community organizers work to help communities build or regain the capacity to change and/or grow. Capacity involves attaining knowledge and skills to build and change. Mastering these skills creates a sense of empowerment. Belief in the ability to accomplish change is essential to capacity building. |
| Total Credits: | 4 |
| Hours/Week: | 4 |
| Total Hours: | 56 |
| Prerequisites: | There are no pre-requisites for this course. |
| Corequisites: | There are no co-requisites for this course. |
| Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course: | 1221 - SSW INDIGENOUS SPECA |
| 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 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 |



| | <p>provider strategies promote social and economic justice, and challenge patterns of oppression, discrimination and harassment, and sexual violence with clients, coworkers and communities.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>VLO 11 Integrate culturally appropriate strategies and Indigenous methods of healing practices to help empower individuals and communities to solution build within an aboriginal worldview and context.</p> | | | | | | |
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| Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course: | <p>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.</p> <p>EES 2 Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.</p> <p>EES 4 Apply a systematic approach to solve problems.</p> <p>EES 5 Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.</p> <p>EES 6 Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.</p> <p>EES 7 Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.</p> <p>EES 8 Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.</p> <p>EES 9 Interact with others in groups or teams that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.</p> <p>EES 10 Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.</p> <p>EES 11 Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.</p> | | | | | | |
| Course Evaluation: | <p>Passing Grade: 50%, D</p> <p>A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.</p> | | | | | | |
| Books and Required Resources: | <p>Recreating the World: A Practical Guide to Building Sustainable Communities by Bopp, J., & Bopp, M. Publisher: Four Worlds Press Edition: 3rd ISBN: 9780968823316</p> <p>The Sacred Tree: Reflections on Native American Spirituality by Bopp, J., Bopp, M., Lane, P. Publisher: Lotus Press Edition: 4th ISBN: 9780941524582</p> | | | | | | |
| Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives: | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Course Outcome 1</th> <th>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Distinguish between capacity building, community organizing and development.</td> <td>1.1 Differentiate between capacity building, community organization and development. 1.2 Identify skills, resources and strategies used in each to address inequities in determinants of health and well being.</td> </tr> <tr> <th>Course Outcome 2</th> <th>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2</th> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Course Outcome 1 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1 | 1. Distinguish between capacity building, community organizing and development. | 1.1 Differentiate between capacity building, community organization and development. 1.2 Identify skills, resources and strategies used in each to address inequities in determinants of health and well being. | Course Outcome 2 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2 |
| Course Outcome 1 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1 | | | | | | |
| 1. Distinguish between capacity building, community organizing and development. | 1.1 Differentiate between capacity building, community organization and development. 1.2 Identify skills, resources and strategies used in each to address inequities in determinants of health and well being. | | | | | | |
| Course Outcome 2 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2 | | | | | | |

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| 2. Identify several approaches to community organizing and capacity building. | 2.1 Demonstrate knowledge of influences and impacts of the federal, provincial, municipal and First Nation governing bodies. 2.2 Recognize the different areas where organizing occurs (individual/group/community). 2.3 Communicate the different approaches to community organizing. |
| Course Outcome 3 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3 |
| 3. Clarify the role of the community organizer, developer and capacity builder. | 3.1 Link the importance between human and community development. 3.2 Recognize the difficulties/barriers to organizing. 3.3 Convey familiarity with the role of leaders. 3.4 Assess the participation levels of community members. |
| Course Outcome 4 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4 |
| 4. Articulate the concepts and tools related to community empowerment. | 4.1 Describe the general principles of community development. 4.2 Explore the importance of identifying community assets, human capital and existing capacity. 4.3 Ascertain the process of determining community needs and inequities in determinants of health and well being that drive community development. |
| Course Outcome 5 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5 |
| 5. Define mobilization and the strategies involved in community development and capacity building. | 5.1 Understand the significance of motivation and participation of community members. 5.2 Connect the importance of leadership and mobilization to development and capacity building . 5.3 Apply the strategies involved in sustainability. |
| Course Outcome 6 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 6 |
| 6. Defend the role of research in community development. | 6.1 Define different types of community research. 6.2 Discover and empower community in relation to the past, present and future when completing consultations and assessments. |
| Course Outcome 7 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 7 |
| 7. Distinguish between needs assessment and program planning and design. | 7.1 Identify community needs to guide assessment and program planning. 7.2 Characterize the elements of project planning, project design. 7.3 Communicate the relevance of project management and evaluation. |
| Course Outcome 8 | Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 8 |
| 8. Adopt effective skills for community organizing and development. | 8.1 Participate in community building exercises. 8.2 Plan and facilitate community engagement. 8.3 Analyze an effective capacity building and/or community development proposal. |

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

| Evaluation Type | Evaluation Weight |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Community Needs Assessment | 10% |



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| | Community Research Ideas: Grounding Practice in Purpose | 5% |
| | Governing Bodies and Community Organizing: Understanding Influence and Action | 15% |
| | Listening to Story Reflections on the Readings | 20% |
| | Nurturing the Work- In class Learning and Growth | 25% |
| | Talking Circles and Reflections | 5% |
| | Walking Our Talk: Community Capacity-Building in Action | 20% |

Date: June 23, 2025

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