



COURSE OUTLINE: SSW212 - SSW GROUP WORK SKILL

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Approved: Karen Hudson - Dean

Course Code: Title	SSW212: SSW GROUP PRACTICE SKILLS
Program Number: Name	1203: SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Department:	SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER
Academic Year:	2025-2026
Course Description:	Group work is an essential practice modality of social service work. Students will integrate and apply theoretical and practice models of group work required for professional practice. The course will emphasize experiential learning and skill development in group facilitation, leadership and ability to prepare, plan and implement appropriate group interventions that respect client needs, strengths and goals.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	42
Prerequisites:	SSW101
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Substitutes:	NSW200
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 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 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:	<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>				
Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:	<p>Students are to read and adhere with the SSW Skill Acquisition, Contribution/Participation and Professional Development Guidelines and the Sault College Addendum.</p> <p>Professor may adjust final grade and/or implement academic consequences based upon criteria outlined in the syllabus/learning plan.</p> <p>*Note: This course meets SSW Vocational Outcomes & Elements of Performance: 1.b,c,d,e,f,g,h,i,j,k,l,m,n,o,2.a,b,c,f,3.a,b,4.a,b,e,5.d,e,6.,a,b,c,f,g,7.a,b,g,8,a,b,c,d,e,f,g,h, 10.d,f</p>				
Books and Required Resources:	<p>Social Group Work A Strengths-Based Approach by Diana Coholic with Leigh MacEwan Publisher: NorthRose Educational Resources Edition: 1st ISBN: 9781989941249</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. Identify and describe theoretical and practice models of group work.</td> <td> 1.1 Describe theoretical orientation(s) and evidence-based group work. 1.2 Define and describe various types of groups. 1.3 Familiarize with group preparation, planning, proposal methods and evaluation strategies. 1.4 Integrate theoretical models of anti-oppressive and </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1	1. Identify and describe theoretical and practice models of group work.	1.1 Describe theoretical orientation(s) and evidence-based group work. 1.2 Define and describe various types of groups. 1.3 Familiarize with group preparation, planning, proposal methods and evaluation strategies. 1.4 Integrate theoretical models of anti-oppressive and
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	<p>strengths based practice in group practice.</p> <p>1.5 Apply SSW professional standards of practice in group work.</p> <p>1.6 Identify current and culturally relevant group resources/programs within our community that meet diverse needs of clientele.</p> <p>1.7 Describe Indigenous group approaches and the role of Elders and Knowledge Keepers.</p>
Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
2. Adapt group facilitation skills to the phase/process/stage of group.	<p>2.1 Accurately label and describe stages of group development and associated characteristics.</p> <p>2.2 Recognize and respond appropriately to the group developmental stages.</p> <p>2.3 Develop awareness of group dynamics and effective facilitation strategies to address needs of group participants.</p> <p>2.4 Understand, assess, and use group techniques and group processes occurring in a group.</p> <p>2.5 Adopt a strengths-orientation approach to group work to foster multi-culturally safe group practice skills.</p> <p>2.6 Identify unique skills for working with diverse groups.</p> <p>2.7 Monitor, assess and evaluate group process/stage of development.</p> <p>2.8 Use a variety of group-building strategies appropriate to the group stage and needs of group members.</p> <p>2.9 Accurately label and apply group techniques and strategies in an ethical manner.</p> <p>2.10 Identify culturally safe engagement practice with Indigenous groups and validate indigenous group sharing & healing approaches.</p>
Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
3. Demonstrate effective group leadership/facilitation skills.	<p>3.1 Engage in self reflection to complete self inventory of strengths and skills relevant to group facilitation.</p> <p>3.2 Seek and use support and feedback from professor and peers as related to group membership and group facilitation performance and adjust skills accordingly.</p> <p>3.3 Actively participate as a group member and a group facilitator and work toward personal/professional enhancement of SSW group work skills.</p> <p>3.4 Identify diverse styles of leadership/facilitation.</p> <p>3.5 Prepare, deliver and evaluate group session to develop group leadership/facilitation skills.</p> <p>3.6 Demonstrate facilitative skills in group such as but not limited to attending skills, use of questions, promoting group structure and ownership, establishing group goals.</p> <p>3.7 Monitor, facilitate and document group process and</p>

	strategies. 3.8 Use group facilitation strategies that empower participants for their own growth and development.
Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
4. Maintain effective and positive working relationships with others.	4.1 Demonstrate behavior reflective of social work values and ethics showing respect for diversity of group membership. 4.2 Use active/reflective listening/interpersonal communication skills effectively in interactions with classmates/professor. 4.3 Show ability to collaborate and share group facilitation role use co-facilitation skills learned. 4.4 Take responsibility for ones` own actions and decisions. 4.5 Understand and work with diversity in groups. 4.6 Interact with others in manner that contributes to achievement of goals. 4.7 Competently address challenges and needs groups may encounter. 4.8 Actively participate in group practice meetings within classroom. 4.9 Produce written work in accordance with course, academic and professional standards.

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Group Facilitation Assignment	30%
Group Reports	30%
Group Skill Acquisition & Professional Development	10%
Group/Team Work in Class	30%

Date: June 17, 2025

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