COURSE OUTLINE: SSW301 - SEMINAR FOR SSW

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Approved: Karen Hudson - Dean

Course Code: Title	SSW301: SEMINAR FOR SOCIAL SERVICE WORK
Program Number: Name	1203: SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Department:	SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER
Academic Year:	2025-2026
Course Description:	This course is designed as a co-requisite to Fieldwork and is intended to support student learning and professional growth within the placement setting. The course is designed to assist the student`s development of professional self and understanding of the role of SSW within the human services field. Examination of social work micro, mezzo and macro level skills are promoted through active participation and group discussion. Evidence of integration of social service knowledge, theory, and skills are expected. Active participation in discussions with faculty and peers is also expected.
Total Credits:	2
Hours/Week:	2
Total Hours:	28
Prerequisites:	SSW207
Corequisites:	SSW307
Substitutes:	SSW202
This course is a pre-requisite for:	SSW401, SSW402, SSW405
Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course: **Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.**	**1203 - SOCIAL SERV WORKER** 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 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%, D A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.	
Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:	Mandatory successful completion of SSW307 fieldwork course required to pass course (including successful submission of seminar/field Learning Contract Progress Report, Hour Logs, Journals Evaluations). Professor reserves the right to change final grade in the course based on criteria. Students are to review, understand and adhere with the SSW Course Addendum & Class Guide and the SSW Program Policies & Procedures Manual. Final grade assigned by professor also considers these guidelines. *Note: This course meets the following SSW Vocational Outcomes and Elements of Performance 1.a,b,c,d,e,f,g,h,i,j,k,l,m,n,o,2.a,c,d,3.a,c,e,4.a,b,d,5.a,b,c,d,e,6.b,c,7.a,e,f,h,8.a,b,c,d,e,f,9.b,f,10	

Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:	**Course Outcome 1**	**Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1**

1. Demonstrate effective SSW written, verbal, and electronic/technological communication skills.	1.1 Produce material that conforms to the conventions of the chosen format and the targeted audience 1.2 Incorporate various presentation formats including written, oral, visual, and computer-based 1.3 Evaluate communications and adjusts for any errors in content, structure, style and mechanics 1.4 Contribute to the team environment in a manner that reflects an attitude of cooperation and professionalism 1.5 Research, plan and deliver presentation and handout on fieldwork setting in a manner that is professional, informative and credible 1.6 Locate and select current, relevant, and credible information to complete course related tasks 1.7 Abide by SSW professional standards of documentation 1.8 Demonstrate effective and respectful verbal communication skills in seminar and fieldwork setting
Course Outcome 2	**Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2**
2. Demonstrate knowledge of community organizations and programs across diverse field practice settings that support individuals, families, groups and/or the community.	2.1 Identify, discuss and analyze issues arising in the field placement as they relate to social work roles, agency mission, service delivery and professional social service work practice 2.2 Develop an understanding of diverse programs and how these services address the needs of individuals, families, groups and/or the community 2.3 Consult and collaborate with others to gain an integrated understanding of fieldwork settings locally and the populations served 2.4 Begin to develop familiarity with community processes for planning, delivering, and funding services through peer consultations, research, and engagement in community collaborative efforts
Course Outcome 3	**Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3**
3. Demonstrate commitment to self and professional care which supports personal growth and a congruent professional SSW identity.	3.1 Seek and use support and feedback related to performance, strengths, and challenges from peers, faculty, supervisors and other professionals as required 3.2 Employ effective self-care techniques, and access and use natural or formal supports as needed 3.3 Complete a self-care plan and identify and use strategies to prevent and/or combat compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma, stress reactions and other occupational stressors associated with the social service worker practice 3.4 Implement strategies that foster self/emotional regulation and resiliency in practice 3.5 Assess professional skills, knowledge and personal well-being in an ongoing manner and reflect on the impact of these factors on one`s practice through journal reports, class discussions and supervision 3.6 Identify and consider how personal values, beliefs, opinions and one`s own social location and experiences may impact

		interactions with clients and colleagues 3.7 Use SSW skills such as, but not limited to: active listening, respect, cultural safety, validation, and empathy to establish and strengthen professional relationships 3.8 Use evidence-based research, professional development resources/trainings and supervision models to support professional growth and lifelong learning 3.9 Develop knowledge of effective supervision models and prepare and engage in scheduled meetings and seminar peer consultations
	Course Outcome 4	**Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4**
	4. Apply the theoretical and empirical knowledge of SSW practice from engagement, assessment and intervention in the fieldwork setting and seminar discussions.	4.1 Identify, define and discuss evidence-based best practices related to the population served/field work setting 4.2 Identify and use appropriate relationship building and helping skills collaboratively with others 4.3 Assess and discuss client needs and strengths using an anti-oppressive, trauma informed and strengths based approach 4.4 Observe/apply intervention strategies fitting to the fieldwork setting, client stated goals and within the SSW scope of practice 4.5 Identify and discuss complexity of case management and familiarize with methods of access, referral and care coordination related to population served/fieldwork setting 4.6 Begin to understand and apply the link between research, theory and practice to the field work setting 4.7 Explore social and economic justice issues impacting populations served through fieldwork supervision, peer consultations, seminar discussions

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Field Setting Organization Assignment	20%
Reflective Professional Practice Assignments	25%
Self Care & Professional Wellness Assignment	10%
Skill Acquisition & Professional Development	20%
SSW Learning Contract Report(s)	25%

Date: June 17, 2025

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