



COURSE OUTLINE: SSW209 - SPECIAL POPULATIONS

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

Course Code: Title	SSW209: SSW PRACTICE WITH SPECIALIZED POPULATION
Program Number: Name	1203: SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Department:	SOCIAL SERVICES WORKER
Semesters/Terms:	20W
Course Description:	This course offers theoretical, research-based and applied information regarding diverse populations in Ontario. Students will gain basic understanding of the needs, barriers and strengths of the populations studied. Students will learn entry level engagement skills and how to adapt assessment, intervention and referral strategies to address client needs. Emphasis will be on older adults, persons with disabilities, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Transsexual, Two-Spirit, Intersex and Questioning (LGBTTTIQ) individuals. This course provides a basis for further skill and knowledge development in the SSW 400: SSW Advocacy in a Multicultural Society course. Anti-oppressive and strengths-based theory will be applied to understanding the barriers experienced by identified populations and factors related to resiliency will be discussed and applied.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	45
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:	1203 - SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.	VLO 1 Develop and maintain professional relationships which adhere to professional, legal, and ethical standards aligned to social service work.
	VLO 2 Identify strengths, resources, and challenges of individuals, families, groups, and communities to assist them in achieving their goals.
	VLO 3 Recognize diverse needs and experiences of individuals, groups, families, and communities to promote accessible and responsive programs and services.
	VLO 4 Identify current social policy, relevant legislation, and political, social, and/or economic systems and their impacts on service delivery.
	VLO 5 Advocate for appropriate access to resources to assist individuals, families, groups, and communities.
	VLO 9 Work in communities to advocate for change strategies that promote social and economic justice and challenge patterns of oppression and discrimination.
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.



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- 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 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

Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:

Students are to review, understand and adhere with the SSW Course Addendum & Class Guidelines and the SSW Program Policies & Procedures Manual. Professor may adjust final grade based upon these documents/criteria.

Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:

Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1
1. Identify social work values, ethics and standards of practice universal to social service work practice with all individuals, families, groups and communities.	1.1 Demonstrate the incorporation of social work values and standards of practice into applied practice 1.2 Demonstrate ability to apply social work concepts and principles to understanding strengths and challenges of diverse populations 1.3 Demonstrate an understanding of and ability to apply anti-oppressive practice principles 1.4 Demonstrate an understanding of the social construction of ageism, homophobia and ableism and ability to apply effective social work methods to confront and address stigma
Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
2. Identify and utilize interventions that respect diversity and promote strengths, well-being and facilitate positive change in each population studied within SSW Scope of Practice	2.1 Assess, in collaboration with populations served, the social/emotional needs of individuals and groups 2.2 Demonstrate knowledge of community agencies and programs designed to meet the needs of the identified populations 2.3 Plan selected strategies to foster therapeutic relationships 2.4 Identify community resources, services offered and referral methods 2.5 Identify appropriate assessment tools within scope of practice of social service work 2.6 Conduct an interview using interviewing skills and knowledge of the population
Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
3. Understand the strengths and challenges for each population studied utilizing an ecological framework	3.1 Utilize a biopsychosocial-spiritual and multi-level (micro, mezzo and macro) approach to assess and plan supports and interventions 3.2 Demonstrate ability to understand risk and protective factors relevant to each population 3.3 Identify and articulate strengths and challenges, risk and protective factors relevant to social service practice and



	support of individuals, families and communities 3.4 Identify and understand the social determinants of health that impact each population
Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
4. Understand and discuss strategies that promote client advocacy and community education to enhance the resilience, strengths and abilities of each population studied	4.1 Demonstrate ability to use professional literature and research to locate credible data on populations served 4.2 Demonstrate ability to identify and address areas of strengths and risk within each population 4.3 Identify existing community resources available to each population
Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
5. Perform ongoing self-assessment to enhance professional competence	5.1 Develop working awareness of personal values and beliefs in relation to populations served 5.2 Integrate self-assessment into regular practice by expressing in verbal or written form personal thoughts and reactions to course materials in a professional, respectful manner 5.3 Develop a personal plan to address potential biases that may negatively impact on professional practice or that are incongruent with social work ethics and values

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Assignments/in class application	30%
Interview assignment	30%
Tests	40%

Date:

July 14, 2019

Addendum:

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

