



COURSE OUTLINE: SSW217 - SSW WITH FAMILIES

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

Course Code: Title	SSW217: SOCIAL SERVICE WORK WITH FAMILIES
Program Number: Name	1203: SOCIAL SERV WORKER
Department:	SOCIAL SERVICES WORKER
Semesters/Terms:	18F
Course Description:	The social work/social service profession is instrumental in providing support and interventions to families. This course will provide students with the necessary basic knowledge and skills to assess, support, intervene and advocate on behalf of diverse families in the community. Specifically, the course will promote the student's ability to identify and foster family resilience through a variety of best practice and strength-based interventions.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	45
Prerequisites:	SSW203
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Substitutes:	NSW112
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 6 Develop and maintain positive working relationships with colleagues, supervisors, and community partners.
	VLO 7 Develop strategies and plans that lead to the promotion of self-care, improved job performance, and enhanced work relationships.
	VLO 8 Integrate social group work and group facilitation skills across a wide range of environments, supporting growth and development of individuals, families, and communities.
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.



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- 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

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.

Books and Required Resources:

Working with Families by Spindel, Patricia
 Publisher: Spindel and Associates Inc, Ajax, ON

Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:

Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1
1. Demonstrate understanding of the diversity of Canadian families	1.1 Identify the demographics of families in Canada/Ontario 1.2 Discuss the diverse nature and needs of contemporary Canadian families related to factors such as race, culture, ethnicity, social and economic class, gender and sexual orientation 1.3 Discuss how these factors may impact interactions within the family and between the family and community systems 1.4 Discuss the impact of oppression on families 1.5 Discuss the importance of culturally competent practice with families 1.5 Enhance understanding of own family and reflect upon values, biases, beliefs
Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
2. Demonstrate understanding of the role, ethics and scope of practice of the SSW in family work.	2.1 Explain the role of SSW and scope of practice in working with families 2.2 Describe the agency context for family practice 2.3 Demonstrate knowledge of assessment and intervention approaches within the context of social service work scope of practice 2.4 Engage in self-reflection of one`s own beliefs, values, biases, worldview about families to develop culturally safe practices with diverse families
Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
3. Demonstrate understanding of the developmental stages of family life	3.1 Discuss developmental stages and critical roles and tasks related to each stage 3.2 Discuss the strengths, resources and challenges within each family life cycle of individual family members and the family as a unit

		3.3 Identify cultural variations in family development stages
	Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
	4. Develop professional practice skills for working with families based on a strengths-based model rather than one of disorder and deficit.	4.1 Discuss and apply the risk and resilience research findings to social service work interventions/approaches with families 4.2 Demonstrate knowledge of community agencies and organizations that would benefit and support families and their referral processes 4.3 Demonstrate the ability to assess both strengths and vulnerabilities of families. 4.4 Utilize strengths-based interview questions, methods and interventions. 4.5 Develop assessment and intervention approaches that build on the families` formal and informal sources of support. 4.6 Demonstrate ability to establish clear and measurable goals developed collaboratively with families 4.7 Demonstrate ability to advocate for identified family needs
	Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
	5. Demonstrate understanding of the complex challenges that contribute to at-risk families, and formulate effective, culturally informed, strengths-based interventions that address these challenges	5.1 Demonstrate ability to deliver evidence and strengths-based interventions based on mutually determined family needs, protective factors and family-centered goals 5.2 Demonstrate ability to identify and advocate for access to services for families 5.3 Be familiar with unique challenges presenting families with experiences such as yet not limited to parenting, child & family violence/trauma, poverty, and/or caregiver/family stress related to various disabilities/illnesses 5.4 Utilize assessment tools, and techniques useful in effectively supporting families

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight	Course Outcome Assessed
Family Assessment & Goal Plan	20%	2,3,4
Knowledge/Theory/Text Assignments/Exams	40%	1,2,3,4,5
Self/Family Assessment/Reflection	20%	1,2,3,5
SSW Professional Family Work Assignment	20%	2,3,4,5

Date:

July 9, 2018

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

