Course Outline- SPRING 2011
Introduction to Human Service

Course Information
Course Number: SWK 110
Credits: 3, (3/1)
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Description
Introduction to human service and the helping professions. Involves lectures on foundations; as well as, laboratory and practical applications of generalist methodology. Includes contracted 45 hour practicum in a human service agency. Purposes include understanding social welfare, social work, and social justice; and, the scientific nature of the helping process.

Textbooks

Course Competencies:
The student will be able to:

1. Critically analyze the relative usefulness of categorical and generalist practice to society and service recipients.
2. Evaluate the history of social welfare in Western civilization emphasizing how social work developed in the United States.
3. Apply knowledge about methods, operations, centers, and agencies to the assessment of identified social and behavioral problems.
4. Demonstrate satisfactory proficiency in basic helping skills.
5. Recognize how asking questions about sustaining life and testing answers is the work of science.
6. Define and discuss the scientific characteristics of human services, its benefits, organizational models, and participation globally, and in the public sector.
7. Apply generalist values to understanding treatment options.
8. Understand the scientific nature of social problems and the helping process.
9. Complete a contracted and professionally supervised practicum (2 days per week) and portfolio.
10. Conceptualize becoming a competent, responsible human service professional.
Course-specific General Education Knowledge Goals and Core Skills

General Education Knowledge Goals

Goal 1. Communication. Students will be able to communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Goal 3. Science. Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.

Goal 5. Social Science. Students will be able to use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

Goal 8. Diversity. Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.


MCCC Core Skills

Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

Goal B. Critical Thinking and Problem-solving. Students will use critical thinking and problem-solving skills in analyzing information.

Goal C. Demonstrate Interpersonal Skills. Students will use skills required for effective performance in group situations.

Goal D. Information Literacy. Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Goal G. Demonstrate Intelligent Citizenship and Ecosystems Awareness. Students will show an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.

Grading Information

Students in this foundation lecture/laboratory/practicum course are expected to meet the core competencies listed in the curriculum. They should be able to apply generalist methodology to ecosystems at micro, mezzo and macro levels. The final grade for the course is calculated on a percentage basis from the objective grade, the laboratory/practicum grade, the portfolio evaluation; and, attendance and participation as follows:

- Objective Grade = 25
- Laboratory/Practicum Grade = 35
- Portfolio Evaluation = 25
- Attendance and Participation = 15

Students receive an objective grade based on:

1. Completion of chapter quizzes (9) and,
2. A final comprehensive exam (1).
Objective Grading Scale (%)
A         93-100
A-        90-92
B+        87-89
C+        83-86
C         80-82
D         60-69
F         0-59

Students receive a laboratory/practicum grade based on the accumulation of points from the 45 hours practicum + 15 hours lab = 60 hours of exercises, simulations, technological and practicum interfaces detailed in the accompanying RUBRIC.

Laboratory/ Practicum Grading Scale
A         250-275
A-        240-249
B+        230-239
C+        220-229
C         210-219
D         200-209
F         0-199

Portfolio Evaluation:
1. The name and location of the agency in which practicum took place. The name and rank of immediate practicum supervisor. (10 %)
2. A description of the agency's internal environment. (10)
3. The signed and executed learning contract with practicum supervisor. (10)
4. Immediate practicum supervisor’s written evaluation including ecosystem hours completed. (10)
5. Detailed description of activities completed from time of arrival until time of departure each day. (10)
6. An organizational chart along with an explanation of all agency policies with a brief explanation of why each is important. (10)
7. Advice you can give that would improve how students are prepared for this practicum. (10)
8. Interesting experiences encountered during practicum with respect to human service environmental stakeholders. (10)
9. A sample of each form used in your immediate environment with an explanation of their uses. (10)
10. Samples of all agency brochures, booklets, and other descriptive literature and analytic evaluation of each. (10)