SYLLABUS

An introduction to the field of social work and social welfare. The course is designed to acquaint the student with the purposes and functions of social work as a profession and social welfare as an institution.

Course Objectives

Upon completing this course you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the profession of social work, including historical development, knowledge base, skills and values needed for social work practice.

2. Recognize the variety of roles which social workers perform.

3. Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of human diversity in social work practice, including issues of racism, sexism and ageism.

4. Recognize various practice settings and populations with which social workers are involved.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completing this course you should be able to:

1. Identify the various practice settings and populations with which social workers are involved.

2. Identify the differences between the social worker and the caseworker in service delivery.

3. Demonstrate an understanding of generalist practice in social work and the generalist practitioner.

Notice to Students with Disabilities

Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

Policies

1. ACADEMIC ADVISING: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic
Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203 E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

2. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY is representing another person’s ideas as your own. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. It is expected that ideas and information used in your paper, which are not part of your personal experiences, will be appropriately referenced. Violations of academic integrity will result in automatic failure of this course, and referral to the proper university officials. Academic dishonesty includes: handing in another’s work or part of another’s work as your own, turning in the same or similar papers for two different classes, presenting a group project as your work solely, purchasing or otherwise obtaining research or papers written by another and turning that work in as your own. Using unauthorized notes, tests, or other study aids or copying another’s answers for an examination also constitutes academic dishonesty.

3. GRADE APPEAL PROCESS: Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

Classroom Policies

1. Attendance: All students are expected to attend and participate in class. Roll will be taken. If you miss a class, you will still be responsible for any notes, handouts, announcements, etc. that may have taken place during the missed class.

2. Classroom Etiquette: Please turn your cell phones to silent or vibrate and turn off all Ipods before class begins. Laptops are permitted but are to be used for class purposes only.

Required Texts


Grades

Four exams 80%
Written report on social problem and field of practice 20%
Extra credit for perfect attendance 10 pts.
Exams will cover both readings and class material.

Written Assignment

Each student will report on a social problem or field of practice, such as youth violence, homelessness, immigration, mental health, child welfare, poverty, etc. Choose an issue that is of
interest to you. The research paper should be typewritten and be between 6-8 pages in
length. Your paper needs to have references from articles and publications. You must have at
least five references. Your paper should follow APA writing style. Your paper will be due on
December 2, 2014.

Assignments:

Aug 28  -  Introduction to Course
Sept 2   -  Social Work and the Other Helping Professions, Ch. 2, Heffernan
Sept 4   -  Social Welfare, Past and Present, Ch. 1, Heffernan
Sept 9   -  Social Welfare, Past and Present, Ch.1
Sept 11  -  The Systems/Ecological Perspective, Ch. 3
Sept 16  -  Social Work with Individuals & Families, Ch 5
Sept 18  -  Social Work with Individuals and Families, Ch.5
Sept 23  -  EXAM I
Sept 25  -  Needs of Children and Families, Ch. 10
Sept 30  -  Needs of Children and Families, Ch. 10, Heffernan
Oct 2    -  GUEST SPEAKER
Oct 7    -  Services to Children and Families, Ch. 11
Oct 9    -  Services to Children and Families, Ch.11
Oct 14   -  Diversity and Social Justice, Ch. 4, Heffernan
Oct 16   -  Diversity and Social Justice, Ch. 4 Heffernan
Oct 21   -  EXAM II
Oct 23   -  Poverty and Income Assistance, Ch.7, Heffernan
Oct 28   -  Mental Health, Ch. 8, Heffernan
Oct 30   -  Mental Health, Ch. 8, Heffernan
Nov 4    -  Health Care, Ch.9, Heffernan
Nov 6    -  Health Care, Ch.9, Heffernan
Nov.11   -  Social Work in the Workplace, Ch. 15
Nov. 13  -  EXAM III
Nov. 18  -  Globalization of Social Work, Ch. 16
Nov 20   -  Criminal Justice, Ch. 13,
Nov. 25  -  Older Adults, Ch. 12 PAPERS DUE
Dec 2    -  Older Adults, Ch. 12,
Dec 4    -  FINAL EXAM