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**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.
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.

4. **Classroom/professional behavior.** TAMUCC, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either(a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to the disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. This includes no texting or talking on cell phones.

5. **Attendance:** All students are expected to attend and participate in class. Roll will be taken.

6. **Classroom Etiquette:** Please turn off your cellphones, silence and turn off all I pods before class begins, no texting while in class. Laptops are permitted but are to be used for class purposes only.
**Required Texts**


**Grades**

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<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Four exams</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written report on social problem and field of practice</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Extra credit for perfect attendance</td>
<td>10 pts.</td>
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Exams will cover both readings and class material.

**Written Assignment**

Each student will report on a social problem or a field of practice in social work, i.e. youth violence, homelessness, immigration, mental health, child welfare, high cost of health care, poverty, criminal justice and older adulthood. The research paper should be typewritten and be between 6-8 pages in length. Papers turned in late will receive a maximum grade of 80. Your paper should follow APA writing style and have references from journals, monograms, and other scholarly publications.

**Assignments:**

- June 1 - Introduction to Course, Social Work, Ch. 2 Heffernan
- June 2 - Social Welfare, Past and Present, Ch. 1 Heffernan
- June 3 - The Ecological Perspective, Ch. 3 Heffernan
- June 4 - EXAM I
- June 8 - Social Work with Individuals and Families, Ch. 5
- June 9 - Needs of Children and Families, Ch 10 Heffernan
- June 10 - Services to Children and Families, Ch 11 Heffernan
- June 11 - Guest Speaker
- June 15 - EXAM II
- June 16 - Poverty and Income Assistance, Ch 7 Heffernan
- June 17 - Mental Health, Ch. 8 Heffernan
- June 18 - Mental Health, Ch 8, Heffernan
- June 22 - Health Care, Ch 9, Heffernan
- June 23 - EXAM III
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>June 24</td>
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<td>June 25</td>
<td>Older Adults, Ch 12 Heffernan</td>
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<td>June 29</td>
<td>Older Adults, Ch 12 Heffernan <strong>PAPERS DUE</strong></td>
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<td>July 1</td>
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<td>July 2</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM</strong></td>
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