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.

Disability Services

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statue 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 that 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. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203 #203. For more information please call 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.

GRADE APPEALS: As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

3. 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 and any other electronic equipment 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 November 28, 2016.

Assignments:

Aug 29 - Introduction to Course
Aug.31 - Social Work and the Other Helping Professions, Ch. 2, Heffernan
Sept 5 - Social Welfare, Past and Present, Ch. 1, Heffernan
Sept 7 - Social Welfare, Past and Present, Ch.1
Sept 12 - The Systems/Ecological Perspective, Ch. 3
Sept 14 - Social Work with Individuals & Families, Ch 5
Sept. 19 - Social Work with Individuals and Families, Ch.5
Sept 21 - EXAM I
Sept 26 - Needs of Children and Families, Ch. 10
Sept 28 - Needs of Children and Families, Ch. 10, Heffernan
Oct.3 - GUEST SPEAKER
Oct.5 - Services to Children and Families, Ch. 11
Oct. 10 - Services to Children and Families, Ch.11
Oct. 12 - Diversity and Social Justice, Ch. 4, Heffernan
Oct 17 - Diversity and Social Justice, Ch. 4 Heffernan
Oct. 19 - EXAM II
Oct. 24  -  Poverty and Income Assistance, Ch.7, Heffernan
Oct. 26  -  Mental Health, Ch. 9, Heffernan
Oct. 31  -  Mental Health, Ch. 9, Heffernan
Nov 2    -  Health Care, Ch. 8, Heffernan
Nov.7    -  Health Care, Ch. 8, Heffernan
Nov.9    -  Social Work in the Workplace, Ch. 15
Nov. 14  -  **EXAM III**
Nov. 16  -  Globalization of Social Work, Ch. 16
Nov 21   -  Criminal Justice, Ch. 13,
Nov. 28  -  Criminal Justice, Ch. 13 **PAPERS DUE**
Nov.30   -  Older Adults, Ch. 12
Dec. 5   -  Older Adults, Ch. 12
Dec 14   -  **FINAL EXAM**