

METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE OF DENVER
Office of Academic Affairs

REGULAR COURSE SYLLABUS

School of : Letters Arts and Sciences

Department: Social Work

CIP Code: 44.0701

Semester(s) Offered: Fall/Spring/Summer

Prefix & Course Number: SWK 1010 Crosslisted With*: _____

Course Title: Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Work

Check All That Apply: Required for Major: x Required for Minor: x Specified Elective: Required

for Concentration: Elective: Service Course:

Credit Hours: 3 (3+0)

Contact Hours: Lecture 45 Lab 0 Internship 0 Practicum 0

Schedule Type(s): L and J Grading Mode(s): L

Repeat* (Variable topics): _____

*(Pertinent only if the course can be repeated; enter maximum number of hours that can be earned by taking this course.)

Restrictions (Variable Topics Course): NA

Prerequisite(s): Satisfaction of General Studies - Level 1 requirements

Corequisite(s): None

Prerequisite(s) or Corequisite(s):

Banner Enforced:

Prerequisite(s):

Corequisite(s):

Prerequisite(s) or Corequisite(s):

Catalog Course Description:

This course presents historical and philosophical perspectives of social work generalist practice and social welfare programs in response to human need and societal problems. An overview is provided of the social worker's role in the fields of health, mental health, family and child welfare, corrections, and on behalf of special groups such as ethnic minorities, the aged, the developmentally delayed, women and children, and gays and lesbians. (General APPROVED:

Department Chair/Institute Director

Date

Dean

Date

Associate VP, Academic Affairs

Date

*If crosslisted, attach completed Course Crosslisting Agreement Form

Prefix and Course Number: SWK1010
Studies Course – Level II, Social Sciences)

Required Reading and Other Materials will be equivalent to (Title, Author, Publisher, Copyright Date):

The Social Work Experience. Suppes, M.A. and Wells, C.C. , Hightstown, N.J.: McGraw-Hill, (1996 or current Edition).

Specific (Measurable) Student Behavioral Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Provide a historical overview of the Social Welfare Institutions and the development of social work as a profession.
2. Examine the sources of clients' needs and problems, emphasizing social work's "person-in-the-environment" perspective with particular sensitivity to ethnic minorities and other diverse groups such as women/children , the aging, the developmentally delayed and gays/lesbians/bisexuals/transgenders.
3. Demonstrate how core social work knowledge such as policy, human behavior and research are integral components of daily practice.
4. Examine the role of professional social work in the fields of health, mental health, family and child welfare, corrections, on behalf of special groups such as the aging, developmentally delayed, women and children, gays and lesbians, oppressed ethnic and other minority groups.
5. Discuss the meaning of culture and diversity for individuals, groups and organizations delivering and receiving services.
6. Illustrate generalist practice in both direct and indirect practice settings, emphasizing the person-in-environment in all areas of practice.
7. Describe the interrelationship between social work and other helping professionals.
8. Describe skills and knowledge for advanced study of social work practice, policy and research.
9. Challenge values and increase awareness of underlying attitudes toward the poor and needy and demonstrate how these historic and current attitudes are reflected in policy and practice settings.
10. Explore various social work career options and make a knowledge-based decision about the appropriateness of professional social work as a career.
11. Demonstrate an awareness of responsible citizenship with regard to contributing to public and voluntary social service programs in the society, Colorado and the local community.

Detailed Outline of Course Content (Major Topics and Subtopics) or Outline of Field Experience/Internship (experience, responsibilities and supervision):

- I. Social Work and Related Professions: Similarities and Differences, Nature of the Professions, Significance of Multidisciplinary Teams in Many Settings, Information and Referral Services in Complex Social Systems.
 - A. Legal – Attorneys, Judges
 - B. Corrections – Police, Probation, Parole and Prison Officials
 - C. Health – Nurses, Physicians, Developmental Specialists
 - D. Mental Health – Psychologists, Psychiatrists
 - E. Social and Cultural – Sociologists and Anthropologists
 - F. Education – Teachers, School Officials, Counselors

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- II. The Social Work Profession – The Art and Science
 - A. Knowledge Base – “Person- in-the-Environment” Theoretical Perspectives
 - B. Values and ethics
 - C. Ethnic-Sensitive Practice
 - D. Generalist Perspective/Roles
 - E. Problem-Solving Strategies
 - F. Relationship Skills
 - G. Professional Associations

- III. Historical Perspective – Origins of the Social Work Profession
 - A. History of Poor Relief
 - B. Colonial Responses to Social Problems
 - C. Charity Organization and Settlement Houses
 - D. Twentieth Century – Philosophical/Political/Economic Shifts: The Great Depression, The War on Poverty, Great Society Years, Reagan and Bush Years, Clinton’s Social Agenda.

- IV. Social Welfare Systems – Goals, Purposes of Social Welfare
 - A. Economic and Political Factors
 - B. Public Services
 - C. Private Services
 - D. Proprietary Services
 - E. The Functions, Goals, Purposes of Professional Social Work

- V. Linking Resource Systems of Social Work
 - A. Direct Practice – Social Policy, Human Behavior and the Social Environment
 - B. Direct Practice – Social Work Research
 - C. Indirect Practice – Social Policy, Social Research

- VI. Biopsychosocial Knowledge Base of Practice
 - A. Biologically Based Needs/ Sources of Human Behavior
 - B. Psychologically Based Needs of Human Behavior
 - C. Socially Based Needs/Sources of Human Behavior
 - D. Culturally Based Needs/Sources of Human Behavior

- VII. Selected Public and Voluntary Social Service Fields of Practice, Settings and Programs
 - A. Health Care
 - B. Mental Health
 - C. Family and Child Welfare
 - D. Criminal Justice
 - E. Special Populations – Developmentally Delayed
 - F. Special Populations – Aging
 - G. Special Populations – Oppressed Ethnic and Other (gays/lesbians/bisexual/transgenders) Minority Groups
 - H. Special Populations – Women and Children

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- I. Other – Public Welfare, Employee Assistance Programs, School Social Work, Community Work, International Social Work

VIII. Social Work Career Opportunities

Evaluation of Student Performance:

Mid-term Examination
Term Paper (8-10 pages)
Final Examination
Participation in Discussions and Activities