



## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Fall 2011**

August 22 to Dec 9, 2011

Lecture: MWF 10:30-11:20

Wood Hall 109

### **INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK**

**SWK 21103-01**

**School Of Social Sciences**

**Professor:** Dr. Barbara J. Boley  
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**Office Hours:** MWF 9:00-10:30 and 1-2:00pm. Other hours by appointment  
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** A survey course to orient the student to the field of social work. Introduces an understanding of people as individuals, as members of groups, and members of communities. Generic roles emphasizing change and responsibility are explored and identified. Major topics include: history of social work, professional value assumptions, nature of social work relationship, and social work settings.

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3 credit hours

**TEXTBOOK AND OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

**Kirst-Ashman, K.K., (2009). Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare, 3rd. ed, CA: Brooks/Cole. We will also use the companion student workbook for weekly assignments. (include ISBN numbers)**

**PROGRAM OUTCOMES:** The following outcomes have been adopted for the degree program for which this course is required:

**The BSW program educates students who will be able to:**

- 1. Apply critical thinking skills within the context of professional social work practice.**
- 2. Understand the value base of the profession and its ethical standards and principles, and practice accordingly.**
- 3. Practice without discrimination and with respect, knowledge and skills related to clients' age, class, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation.**

4. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and apply strategies of advocacy and social change that advance social and economic justice.
5. Understand and Interpret the history of the social work profession and its contemporary structures and issues.
6. Apply the knowledge and skills of generalist social work practice with systems of all sizes.
7. Use theoretical frameworks supported by empirical evidence to understand individual development and behavior across the life span and the interactions among individuals and between and families, groups, organizations and communities.
8. Analyze, formulate, and influence social policies.
9. Evaluate research studies, apply research findings to practice, and evaluate their own practice interventions.
10. Use communication skills differentially across populations, colleagues, and communities.
11. Use supervision and consultation appropriate to social work practice.
12. Function within the structure of organizations and service delivery systems and seek necessary organizational change.

**COURSE OUTCOMES:** The following outcomes have been adopted for this course. *All outcomes listed below have direct relevance to course material. Upon completion of this course students are expected to:*

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|-----------|--|
| <b>VE</b> | <b>1. develop an understanding of the basic social work theories, values and ethics, practice roles and functions, and the settings in which they take place</b>   |
| <b>DV</b> | <b>2. develop an understanding, affirmation, and respect for people from diverse backgrounds</b>   |
| <b>SW</b> | <b>3. become cognizant of the major events in the history and continuing development of our social work profession</b>   |
| <b>SW</b> | <b>4. begin to appreciate the efficacy of institutional social welfare</b>   |
| <b>SW</b> | <b>5. develop an understanding of the social welfare perspective on critical issues in social life, including homelessness, racism, sexism, poverty, homosexuality, disability (mental and physical), unemployment, and others</b> |
| <b>PR</b> | <b>6. develop beginning skills in the art of interviewing and counseling as a basis for Methods I, II, and III to build on and develop practice skills.</b>  |
| <b>PJ</b> | <b>7. develop an understanding of populations-at-risk and contributing factors</b>   |
| <b>PJ</b> | <b>8. develop a beginning understanding of social and economic justice</b>   |

## **GRADING POLICIES/TESTING/ASSIGNMENTS/ATTENDANCE/EXPECTATIONS**

## Grade calculation

<u>Learning Products</u>	<u>Ave. Points</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
1. Two quizzes	100 pts each	200pts
2. Interview paper	100 pts	100pts
3. Scholastic papers (2)	100pts	200pts
4. Exam I	100pts	100pts
5. Exam II	100pts	100pts
6. Out-of-class assignments	100pts	100pts
7. Profess., classroom etiq., part. rubric	100pts	<u>200pts</u>
	<b>TOTAL PTS.</b>	<b>1,000</b>

## Grading Scale

A= 900-1000

B= 800-899

C= 700-799

D= 600-699

F= 0- 599

- A. Two quizzes and two exams
- B. A 4-8 page paper based on a personal interview with a qualified social worker (i.e. Bachelor's or Master's of Social Work). See interview outline in this syllabus and use cover page outline included in this syllabus.
- C. Scholastic achievement (i.e. 2 assigned self-assessment papers). See guidelines in syllabus and use the cover page outline in this syllabus.
- D. Weekly out-of-class chapter assignments-See semester outline in this syllabus.  
Assignments need to be e mailed as an attachment by the next day after they are due if you are unable to attend class.
- E. Regular attendance and active class participation (Each student has much to offer to The learning environment.).
- F. Conformity with the University of Rio Grande policies on academic honesty.
- G. Late work will receive a points deduction at the discretion of the professor.

## INFORMATION ABOUT ASSIGNMENTS

### INTERVIEW WITH A SOCIAL WORKER OUTLINE

The interview must be with a social worker who has either a Bachelor's or Master's degree in social work. Use Title Page Format on page 7 of this syllabus.

Paper must be a minimum of four (4) pages but no more than eight (8) pages in length. The paper is to be typed double spaced with 1" margins on all sides. In addition to the minimum required 4-8 pages, a one (1) page opinion paper is to be attached. An opinion paper contains a critical analysis of the one-to-one interview process (e.g. your thoughts, perceptions, rejection or approval of the profession).

Select a social worker from a local agency, or one in your own community to conduct a personal interview with in the practice setting. She/he must have the job title of