SOW: Social Work Courses

Courses

SOW 2192 Understanding Relationships in the 21st Century
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Human relationships with a focus on the interrelatedness and effects of underlying theoretical principles as they relate to individual, family and group interactions. Meets General Education requirement in Social Sciences.

SOW 3103 Human Behavior in Social Environment
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: BSC 1005 OR BSC 1085 OR BSC 1086
Social personality and cognitive development, normal and abnormal, normative and non-normative crisis and gender issues with an emphasis on cultural diversity. Importance of social work intervention and treatment with individual, family, and community.

SOW 3113 Human Behavior in Organizations and Communities
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Introduces the future practitioner to the concept of change agent within organizations, institutions, and communities. Prepares the student with academic concepts on community organization as a prelude to the practice course. Emphasis is placed on the student's ethical responsibilities to the client, organizational structure of human service agencies and the elements common to them. Students will understand structural and organizational differences between profit and nonprofit agencies. Students will experience organizational obstacles to planned change. The dynamics of gender, class, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation are examined in relationship to how they are played out within the organizational context.

SOW 3203 Introduction to the Field of Social Work
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Survey of the social work profession from its roots to contemporary practice with a descriptive focus on its values, knowledge bases, skills, and fields of practice. Emphasis is on generalist social work and social policy structures which sustain society. Introduces the relationship of social problems to social policy and to social service delivery systems.

SOW 3313 Work With Individuals and Families
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
One of four practice courses designed to prepare the student for generalist social work practice. The student will acquire the knowledge base, values and skills necessary for working with groups at the beginning professional level. The focus will be on developing the knowledge base, values and practice skills needed to use the problem solving approach to work with diverse populations within various types of groups. Stages of groups and activities that can enhance the group process will be explored. Permission is required.

SOW 3350 Interviewing and Recording
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Practice in interviewing techniques and in precise, descriptive, and accurate writing techniques for practitioners in social work, psychology, and other helping professions. Students will learn interview techniques, how to record sessions accurately and in formats required for opening, transferring, updating and closing a social work client record. Students will learn American Psychological Association writing guidelines. Meets Gordon Rule Writing Requirement.

SOW 3503 Introduction to Generalist Practice
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 3203 AND SOW 3350
One of four practice courses designed to prepare the student for generalist social work. Through agency experience, classroom instruction, and introspective discussion, students develop self-awareness, beginning skills and knowledge, and a professional attitude. Students are introduced to a social agency setting, the varying needs and vulnerabilities of clients served, the problem solving process, and the development of basic knowledge and skills necessary in helping relationships with systems of various sizes. Restricted to social work majors. Permission is required.

SOW 3650 Introduction to Child Welfare
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prepares social workers and others to enter the field of child welfare with a better understanding of the history of this movement and the types of services and programs designed to assist children and families. Also introduces and provides information to any interested person regarding the social problems of children and the availability of services to children in need.

SOW 3783 Human Trafficking
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
The purpose of this course is to educate social work students on human trafficking and develop a framework for professional intervention. This course is designed to examine the human trafficking phenomenon of modern day slavery of men, women, and children. Course content will include the examination of domestic and international policy, the differences in labor and sexual trafficking, and the scope and prevalence of human trafficking as an international concern. The socio-political, cultural, and economic issues that contribute to the increased phenomenon of trafficking with women and children will be explored as well as the traumatic effects on victims, families, and the community. The social workers role in providing intervention and advocacy services will be explored.

SOW 3905 Directed Study
1-12 sh (may be repeated indefinitely for credit)
Introduction to effective intervention.

Examines the impact of domestic violence on the community and on the woman, children, and man involved; the identification of emotional, physical, and sexual aspects of abuse; safety planning and levels of lethality; an introduction to effective intervention.

SOW 4141   Social Aspects of Family Violence
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Introduces basic concepts, principles, and methods for understanding and identifying family violence. Topics include an historical overview; the impact of domestic violence on the community and on the woman, children, and man involved; the identification of emotional, physical, and sexual aspects of abuse; safety planning and levels of lethality; an introduction to effective intervention.

SOW 4111   Adolescents At Risk
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Exploring environmental and societal factors that contribute to risky behaviors of adolescents such as substance use, delinquency, sexual activity, and violent behavior, and others. Characteristics of high risk and low risk youth are discussed including the relationship of these characteristics to adolescent development. Prevention, intervention, and treatment approaches are discussed.

SOW 3313 AND SOW 3322 AND SOW 3350 AND SOW 3503 AND SOW 4403
Prerequisite: SOW 3103 AND SOW 3113 AND SOW 3203 AND
SOW 4232 AND SOW 4403

SOW 4232   Introductory Analysis of Social Service Policy
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 4403
Examines social welfare policy as a central concern to social work. Addresses policy practice. Includes improvement of human services delivery systems through the application of problem solving, critical thinking and other necessary skills.

SOW 4233   Human Diversity and Social Justice
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 4232 AND SOW 4403
Examines the impact of social, economic, and political environments on diverse populations specifically race, gender, age, ethnicity, culture, class, sexual orientation, religion, and physical and mental ability. Integrates the key elements of the profession of social work through the filter/lens of social, political, and economic justice. Meets Multicultural Requirement.

SOW 4242   Families and Family Treatment
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Designed to define and understand contemporary family forms and family functions, both normative and in crisis, and introduces modalities for assisting troubled families. Addresses such issues as: the impact of the family life cycle, strategies and goals of family treatment, single parent families, gay and lesbian couples and families, and families with chronically and terminally ill members. Offered concurrently with SOW 5243; graduate students will be assigned additional work.

SOW 4403   Social Work Research Foundations
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 3350
Introduction to scientific strategies used to evaluate social work practice and theory. The different strategies covered range from participant and observational techniques, to controlled experimentation. Ethical/value dilemmas involved in social science research are also covered.

SOW 4510   Social Work Field Instruction
1-9 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 3103 AND SOW 3113 AND SOW 3203 AND SOW 3313 AND SOW 3322 AND SOW 3350 AND SOW 3503 AND SOW 4232 AND SOW 4403
Co-requisite: SOW 4522
Field education experience in social service agency with a qualified professional supervisor. A minimum of 400 hours is required. Restricted to social work majors. Graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis only. Eighteen semester hours of required social work courses, 2.5 GPA in major, and permission is required. Material and Supply Fee will be assessed.

SOW 4522   Senior Seminar
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 3103 AND SOW 3113 AND SOW 3203 AND SOW 3313 AND SOW 3322 AND SOW 3350 AND SOW 3503 AND SOW 4232 AND SOW 4403
Co-requisite: SOW 4510
Designed to integrate previously learned beginning generalist practice concepts, values, knowledge, attitudes and skills with practice. Eighteen semester hours of required social work courses, 2.5 GPA in major, and permission is required.

SOW 4674   Social Issues and Intervention Strategies in Social Work Practice with Older Adults
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Embraces an interdisciplinary approach to intervention strategies to eliminate or ameliorate problems/crises faced by aging clients. Demographics are addressed.

SOW 4679   Response to Disasters in the Community
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
The course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of disasters; man made and natural and their affect of the individual and community. Focus will be on preparation and response to disaster affected populations. Previous disaster responses will be critiqued in efforts to learn how to better prepare for future disasters. Basic human needs will be examined and how best a community can help to logistically provide for those needs. In addition, populations with special needs will be examined throughout all phases of the life cycle. Mental Health response will be addressed including cognitive/emotional stages people experience following a disaster.

SOW 4700   Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment: Special Issues
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Historical, legal, ethical, and social issues relating to drug abuse prevention and treatment. The family unit will serve as a basic focus for the area of prevention. Various treatment approaches will be covered from outpatient counseling to therapeutic communities. Offered concurrently with SOW 5710; graduate students will be assigned additional work.
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<td>SOW 4905</td>
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**SOW: Social Work Courses**
SOW 5309  Prevention and Intervention Strategies for Children Ages 0-5 and Their Families
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Generalist practice methods for children 0-5 and their families. An overview of developmental, psychological, sociological and legal issues. Strategies for prevention and intervention. Offered concurrently with SOW 4303; graduate students will be assigned additional work.

SOW 5324  Generalist Practice II
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 5305
This is the second course in the Generalist Practice sequence. This course continues to build the generalist skills of practice with individuals, families, and groups, with the addition of community practice concepts. In this course the skills and intervention roles relevant to the middle and end phases of interventions with individuals, families, and communities will be covered in more detail. Throughout the course emphasis will be placed on the practice and application of skills by using interactive exercises and role plays using case examples form client populations with whom students work.

SOW 5356  Play Therapy: Theory and Techniques
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Students will learn the theoretical underpinnings of play therapy and the techniques by which the theory is practiced. Permission is required.

SOW 5386  Occupational Social Work
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
An overview of Occupational Social Work for graduate-level students including historical trends and emerging issues. The course will address the scope of Occupational Social Work practice, including strategies for macro- and micro-levels of intervention. The needs of specific populations and will be examined. The core technologies of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) practitioner and resources for professional development will be identified. Permission is required.

SOW 5404  MSW Research Foundations
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
An introduction to research methodology in the evaluation of social work practice and program evaluation.

SOW 5532  Foundation Year Field Instruction and Integrative Seminar
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 5305
This course is designed to integrate the foundation curriculum course content and field education experience utilizing a generalist approach. Agency based casework experiences and seminar discussions provide an opportunity to gain professional and peer feedback regarding acquisition of generalist practice skills. Focus will include critical thinking skills regarding the application of social work knowledge to the solution of client problems. Issues related to social work values and ethics, diversity, social and economic justice, populations-at-risk, HBSE, social welfare policy and services, practice, and research are examined within the context of the student’s field education experience.

SOW 5614  Domestic Violence and the Social Work Practice
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
An examination of the history and dynamics of intimate partner violence including a discussion of theories, various forms of domestic violence, its impact, consequences and factors that exacerbate violence. Prevention and intervention strategies will be discussed along with policies that influence this social problem. Throughout the course, the focus will be to learn effective strategies that empower each family member to recover and/or change positively. The consideration of social work values and ethics, as well as the concerns of disadvantaged groups will be stressed.

SOW 5629  MSW Human Diversity and Social Justice
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
This course examines the impact of social, economic, and political environments on diverse populations specifically race, gender, age, ethnicity, social class, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, and physical and mental ability. This course integrates the key elements of the social work profession through the lens of social, political, and economic justice. It includes the history, and philosophical foundations of social welfare, community organization, and social action strategies and tactics. Included are effects of cultural and group differences, the results of oppression, economic systems, and social policies on social work professional practice.

SOW 5710  Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment: Special Issues
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Historical, legal, ethical, and, social issues relating to substance abuse prevention and treatment. The family unit will serve as a basic focus for the area of prevention. Various treatment approaches will be covered from outpatient counseling to therapeutic communities. Offered concurrently with SOW 4700; graduate students will be assigned additional work.

SOW 5757  The History, Philosophy, and Theory of Social Work Practice
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
This course examines the current structure of social welfare programs in the United States, their historical evolution, and the role ideological, political, economic, and social forces have played in the development of the social welfare system and its present character focusing on social and economic injustice in the United States. Also discusses the impact of social welfare policies on clients, agencies, service delivery, and social work practice. Students are provided an overview of the historical development, philosophical orientation, basic values, principles and knowledge base, and practice of the profession. The course will examine critical social problems that impact societies with an emphasis on the quest for social justice at local, national and global levels. Various perspectives on social welfare, social work as a profession, and many of the core concepts of the profession will be introduced. Content will cover major concepts and perspectives to include issues in poverty, child welfare, criminal justice, health and mental health, values, ethics, and working with a diverse and vulnerable population of individuals and families, ethnicity, minorities, women, gays and lesbians, aging, and disabled people.

SOW 5905  Directed Study
1-12 sh (may be repeated indefinitely for credit)
SOW 5942 Immersive Experiences in Social Work
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
This course offers students an opportunity to immerse themselves in intensive experiential learning through study abroad or study away. The course examines historical, cultural, social, economic, and political aspects of the world, integrating key elements of the social work profession through the lens of social, political, and economic justice. A focus on the acquisition of 21st Century skills related to career development (e.g. global awareness, initiative and self-direction, flexibility and adaptability, social and cross-cultural skills, critical thinking and problem solving, etc.) will be emphasized. Offered concurrently with SOW 4941; graduate students will be assigned additional work.

SOW 6116 Evaluation and Treatment of Trauma-Related Conditions
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
In-depth examination into the impacts of trauma on individuals, couples, families, and communities. Specific attention is given to learning how to assess and treat individuals who have been exposed to recent or previous traumatic events. Using multiple case scenarios, participants will be introduced to empirically-supported interventions for the treatment of Acute Stress Disorder and Post-Trauma Stress Disorder. They will also learn about the impact of trauma on partner relationships and other family members. The course also outlines the ethical issues of conducting research with trauma survivors. Department Permission is required.

SOW 6125 Psychopathology for Social Work
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 5105 AND SOW 5106* AND SOW 5218 AND SOW 5324 AND SOW 5404 AND SOW 5532 AND SOW 5629* AND SOW 5757
This course addresses patterns of human behavior and psychosocial functioning commonly conceptualized as psychopathology. The course addresses such concepts as function, mental health, mental illness, normality and abnormality. Prevalent categories of psychiatric disorders are considered as to their labeling process, differentiating characteristics, explanatory theories and relevance for social work practice. This course is open to students admitted to the MSW program only.

SOW 6326 Social Work Intervention with Groups
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
The advanced social work practitioner is required to demonstrate group skills in a wide variety of practice situations. The focus of this course is on the design and implementation of group treatment services for at risk populations of varying ages, social situations and composition. Students will be afforded the opportunity to develop a clear sense of the scope, uses and skills of group work in the social work profession. Department Permission is required.

SOW 6345 Social Work Leadership, Management and Supervision
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Introduction to the values, principles and functions that provide the foundation for effective leadership and management practice in the field of social work. Students will receive an overview of styles and skills used in social work leadership, management and supervision which are appropriate to both clinical and community social work practice settings. This course will provide students with values, principles and strategies for leading teams, problem-solving, and supporting multicultural and diverse staffing in social work agencies. Department Permission is required.

SOW 6366 Advanced Play Therapy Methods
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 5356
This course will focus on the goals of group and filial play therapy. In group play therapy, topics include the role of the play therapist, selection of group members, planning/structuring of sessions, and developmentally responsive play and expressive arts activities. In filial play therapy, also known as Child Parent Relationship Therapy (CPRT), the focus is on intervention skills designed to improve parent-child relationships using a group parent-training format. Students will be expected to use play therapy kit created during SOW 5356. Department Permission is required.

SOW 6432 Evaluation of Social Work Practice
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 5105 AND SOW 5106 AND SOW 5218 AND SOW 5324 AND SOW 5404 AND SOW 5532 AND SOW 5629 AND SOW 5757
The second of two required courses in the social work practice in research sequence. This advanced curriculum course builds on the knowledge and skills acquired in the foundation research course. The focus of this course is on the advanced skills necessary to effectively evaluate practice. The course utilizes single subject design and program evaluation techniques that are grounded in the social sciences and social work literature. Particular attention will be paid to the ethical issues of conducting research with oppressed and vulnerable populations. This course is open to students admitted to the MSW program only.

SOW 6535 Advanced Year Field Instruction and Integrative Seminar I
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 6125
Integrates theoretical models and concepts with practical experience gained in concurrent field education. Integrates skills and knowledge acquired through the entire social work curriculum. Material and Supply Fee will be assessed.

SOW 6536 Advanced Year Field Instruction and Integrative Seminar II
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 6535
Co-requisite: SOW 6548
This is the second of two advanced master's level field internship and integrative seminars. Assists social work graduate students in integrating theoretical models and concepts with practical experience gained in concurrent field education. Integrates skills and knowledge acquired through the entire social work curriculum. Material and Supply Fee will be assessed.
SOW 6548  Capstone in Advanced Clinical Practice
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Co-requisite: SOW 6536
Capstone course in clinical-community social work practice. Student analysis of practice with individuals, families, and group through a written and oral presentation of case material. Focus is on refinement of intervention skills relying on field practicum experience for integration of learning. Integration of knowledge from the Clinical Practice courses and Field Instruction. Students will prepare and present a case from their internship for oral presentation and demonstrate ability to organize and select appropriate treatment strategies for a specific client, family, or group. A broad range of field placements will provide diverse clients and a range of clinical issues. Students are expected to show evidence of critical thinking and self-awareness in written and oral presentations.

SOW 6609  Chronic Illness and Social Work
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Exploration of chronic illness, including death, dying, life, and living, whether with respect to their own feelings, or that of clients with whom they might work, utilizing the systems perspective. We will focus on illness, care giving, the dying process, and grief and bereavement across the life span. In addition, we will consider the impact of gender, culture, religion, etc., on the topics. Furthermore, we will explore characteristics, special emphasis on resiliency, that allow us to survive, and, in fact, often thrive in the face of life?s traumas and tragic events, especially when provided with support and education. We will fulfill the goals and objectives of the course through the use of literature, videos, class discussion, presentations, guest speakers, assignments, and experiential activities. Department Permission is required.

SOW 6618  Clinical Practice with Individuals
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 5105 AND SOW 5106 AND SOW 5218 AND SOW 5324 AND SOW 5404 AND SOW 5532 AND SOW 5629 AND SOW 5757
This course builds on the knowledge base of generalist social work practice and expands and deepens that base. The course emphasizes advanced assessment of clients across the life span, trauma assessment, and beginning evaluation of practice skills. Treatment planning with individuals is stressed. Building on the generalist practice base for analyzing and interpreting biopsychosocio-spiritual content, interpreting and implementing professional values and ethics and utilizing the professional helping relationship, this course expands and deepens that base by introducing an advanced clinical practice base of clinical-community social work. Major contemporary theories of psychotherapy will be introduced, including cognitive-behavioral, experiential, interpersonal, and integrative therapies. We will investigate clinical processes as they are informed by psychopathology and developmental issues across the life cycle, as well as institutionalized oppression, poverty, racism, sexism, heterosexism and other inequities. This course is open to students admitted to the MSW program only.

SOW 6619  Clinical Practice with Families
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 5105 AND SOW 5106 AND SOW 5218 AND SOW 5324 AND SOW 5404 AND SOW 5532 AND SOW 5629 AND SOW 5757
Clinical decision-making and advanced clinical interventions by building on a generalist approach to social work practice. Utilizes the clinical community concentration prerequisites to examine normal development and psychopathology as a foundation for advanced practice. Examines specific theories and models of intervention with individuals, families, and groups that can be tailored to client needs. Addresses work with clients across the life cycle with diverse issues. The impact of poverty, racism, sexism, and manifestations of institutionalized oppression upon clients and workers are addressed at an advanced level. Methods of enhancing adaptive functioning and resiliency are emphasized. Students will be expected to demonstrate clinical expertise, an understanding of social work ethics and values, incorporate client preferences, utilize critical thinking skills, and apply empirical evidence to practice decisions. This course is open to students admitted to the MSW program only.

SOW 6656  Child and Adolescent Treatment
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Familiarization with a range of child and adolescent psychological disorders typically seen in social work clinical practice. Emphasis will be placed on development, diagnostic issues, theoretical formulations, causes, treatment, and research findings related to each of these conditions. The course will utilize lecture, guest speakers, videos and classroom activities. Permission is required.

SOW 6678  Grief, Loss, and Life
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Introduction to the current and historical perspectives of death, dying and bereavement. This course will address experiences and responses to a variety of deaths including perinatal death, death of a child, death following a terminal illness, suicide, homicide, and military related death. The Hospice movement's history and goals will be part of the curriculum, as well as the experience of dying well. Special attention will be given to how other cultures and religions view death and ethical dilemmas related to death. Loss is a central and inescapable dimension of the human experience. How an individual learns to deal with loss from an early age shapes the adjustment that s/he is able to make to adverse life events throughout the life cycle and indeed determines to a large extent how satisfying and creative a life that person is able to live. This course will help the social work clinician explore and understand major theories of grief and loss, as well as treat clients of all ages who are dealing with a variety of losses. It will also assist the generalist practitioner in determining those situations in which an unresolved past experience of loss is contributing to poor adjustment in the present, as well as providing guidelines for helping the client grieve in a way that allows him or her to re-establish a sense of meaning, adapt to what is gone, and move on to live with increased vitality and joy.

SOW 6714  Addictions Treatment
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Discussion of the major models and approaches to treatment of addictions used today, including Harm reduction model, Bio-psycho-social-spiritual model and other evidenced based treatment approaches. Specific treatment interventions from models will be discussed throughout. Department Permission is required.
SOW 6846   Clinical Practice with Groups
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)
Prerequisite: SOW 5105 AND SOW 5106 AND SOW 5218 AND
SOW 5324 AND SOW 5404 AND SOW 5532 AND SOW 5629 AND
SOW 5757

The advanced social work practitioner is required to demonstrate
group skills in a wide variety of practice situations. The focus of
this course is on the design and implementation of group treatment
services for at risk populations of varying ages, social situations and
composition. Students will be afforded the opportunity to develop a
clear sense of the scope, uses and skills of group work in the social
work profession. This course is open to students admitted to the MSW
program only.

SOW 6905   Directed Study
1-12 sh (may be repeated indefinitely for credit)

SOW 6916   Mind/Body Practice and Positive Psychology
3 sh (may not be repeated for credit)

A focus on research from the last 25 years that has revolutionized
our knowledge of brain function, its relation to overall coping, and
specific practices that promote resilience and well-being. It will be an
important contribution to the social work curriculum at the master?
s level because it revolves around a strengths perspective that
social work has always embraced, as well as teaching the advanced
practitioner specific skills that s/he can use to help clients in the
process of improving their lives. The course will be richly multicultural
and will also include ancient wisdom from the humanities that supports
this new evidence-based field of mind-body interaction. Department
Permission is required.

* This course may be taken prior to or during the same term.