

Helen Nazarian, MSW Adjunct Faculty

E-mail: hnazarian@apu.edu

Social Work Office (626) 857-2410

Appointments: You may arrange appointments with me through email.

SOCW 250-03: Introduction to Social Work Monday, Wednesday 7:45-9:10 AM

3 units Wynn 12

#### **Credit Hour Policy**

Following the APU Credit Hour policy, to meet the identified student learning outcomes of this course, the expectations are that this 3 unit course, delivered over a 15 week term will approximate:

hours/week classroom or direct faculty instruction
_hours/week laboratory work
_hours/week internship
_hours/week practical
_hours/week studio work
_hours/week online work
_hours/week research
_hours/week guided study
_hours/week study abroad
hours/week other academic work

In addition, out-of-class student work will approximate a minimum of 6 hours

**APU Statement of Mission and Purpose:** Azusa Pacific University is an evangelical Christian community of disciples and scholars who seek to advance the work of God in the world through academic excellence in liberal arts and professional programs of higher education that encourage students to develop a Christian perspective of truth and life.

**Proverbs 31:8** You should defend those who cannot help themselves. Speak up for the poor and needy and see that they get justice. (The Living Bible)

**BSW Program Mission Statement:** The undergraduate social work program at Azusa Pacific University seeks to develop competent generalist social work practitioners who can apply knowledge, values, and skills of social work, along with integrating a Christian perspective, in order to enhance the wellbeing of diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities, advancing social justice both locally and globally.

**APU Social Work Generalist Practice Statement:** 

Grounded in a person in environment perspective, utilizing a flexible theory base, generalist social work practitioners apply a broad base of knowledge and skills to effectively implement a problem solving process with client systems of all sizes, building from their unique strengths and available resources.

# **Course Description**

This course introduces the students to the social work profession, social welfare system and policies in the United States. The course examines the requirements for social work practice, articulates the identity of the profession and discovers the various settings of social work practice. Emphasis is on developing a beginning awareness of social work's ethical and value base and exploring an interest in pursuing social work as a lifelong vocation.

# **Course Prerequisites**

None

# **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon the completion of this course it is expected that the student will be able to:

Course Learning Outcome	Program Student Learning Outcome (SLO)/Competency	Practice Behavior	Assessment Methods
Describe generalist social work practice and the relationship of the BSW practitioner to other levels of professional social work practitioner to other levels of professional social work practice.	Identify with the profession of social work, and conduct oneself accordingly. SLO 1 (EPAS 2.1.1)	<ul> <li>a. Articulate the various roles, functions and purposes of social workers.</li> <li>e. Demonstrates ability to be selfevaluative and accountable for his/her own learning and professional development.</li> </ul>	Readings: Suppes & Cressy Wells – Ch. 1-4 NASW Code of Ethics  Topics: Planned change process Generalist social work practice knowledge, values and skills base. Roles and settings of generalist social work practitioners
			Assessment: Social Srvcs. Agency Report Personal Statement Mid-Term

Course Learning Outcome	Program Student Learning Outcome (SLO)/Competency	Practice Behavior	Assessment Methods
Discover and be introduced to a knowledge and understanding of social work values, philosophies and goals and how these integrate with the Christian faith and tradition.	Articulate how Christian beliefs and values can be ethically integrated in professional social work practice. (SLO 11)	aArticulate a Christian worldview as related to social work practice.	Readings: Hugen & Scales – Ch. 2 &4 Suppes & Cressy Wells – Ch. 1-4 NASW Code of Ethics  Topics: Intersection of faith, social work and social justice NASW Code of Ethics  Assessment: Personal Statement paper Medi-Cal application Social Srvcs. Agency
Explore, discuss and critically examine a range of social welfare issues.	Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments. SLO 3(EPAS 2.1.3)	b. Writes with clarity, organization and conciseness.  c. Articulate orally with clarity, organization and conciseness.	Readings: Suppes & Cressy Wells – Ch. 3-12  Topics: Documentaries of at-risk and/or oppressed population groups. Social justice theories and perspectives as they relate to oppressed populations.  Assessment: Mini-project paper/presentation

Course Learning Outcome	Program Student Learning Outcome (SLO)/Competency	Practice Behavior	Assessment Methods
			Medi-Cal application process Homeless Connect Day
Gain insight into the advance of human rights and social justice.	Advance human rights and social and economic justice. SLO 5 (EPAS 2.1.5)	b. Be knowledgeable of local, regional, and global programs and services advocating for human rights.	Readings: Suppes & Cressy Wells – Ch. 3, 5-12  Topics:      Knowledge of various oppressed population groups.      Applied research of oppressed groups.      Social justice theories and perspectives as they relate to oppressed populations.  Assessment: Social Srvcs. Agency Report Mini-project paper/presentation Medi-Cal application process Homeless Connect
Exposure to the current methods of social work practice for helping individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations	Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment. SLO 7 (EPAS 2.1.7)	a. Utilize conceptual frameworks to guide process of assessment, intervention and evaluation.	Day  Readings: Suppes & Cressy Wells – Ch. 5-12  Topics: Planned change process Program services and

Course Learning Outcome	Program Student Learning Outcome (SLO)/Competency	Practice Behavior	Assessment Methods  delivery in social work practices Guest speakers
			Assessment: Social Services Agency Report Medi-Cal application process Mini-project paper
Identify a range of social welfare issues in America and internationally, and the current methods to address those problems.	Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services. SLO 8 (EPAS 2.1.8)	b. Articulate how policy impacts the delivery of social services and social work practice.	Readings: Suppes & Cressy Wells – Ch. 3 & 4  Topics: Applied research review related to oppressed groups Social justice theories and perspectives as they relate to oppressed populations. Program services and delivery in social work practices.  Assessment: Mini-project paper/presentation Medi-Cal application process Homeless Connect Day
Recognize the overall structure and quality of the nonprofit and/or social services sector.	Respond to contexts that shape practice. SLO 9 (EPAS 2.1.9)	c. Demonstrates an ability to identify and appraise existing services and resources.	Topics and readings: Various social work settings and arenas Assessment: Mini-project paper/presentation

Course Learning Outcome	Program Student Learning Outcome (SLO)/Competency	Practice Behavior	Assessment Methods
December for either with	Formanding with and	h Danamira and	Medi-Cal application process Homeless Connect Day
Become familiar with concepts such as social justice, power, oppression and privilege.	Engage diversity and difference in practice. SLO 4 (EPAS 2.1.4)	b. Recognizes one's own biases, values, and role as a learner, in work with diverse and different groups.	Readings: Suppes & Cressy Wells – Ch. 1-3: Chapters 1-3 Topics: Social justice exercises in class Class discussions Assessment: Mini-project paper/presentation Medi-Cal application process Homeless Connect Day

## **Required Course Texts:**

Suppes, M. A. & Cressy Wells, C. (2013). *The Social work experience: An Introduction to social work and social* welfare (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.

NASW Code of Ethics. (1996). National Association of Social Workers. Washington, DC: NASW

# **Recommended Text:**

American Psychiatric Association, (2009). American Psychiatric Association Manual. 6<sup>TH</sup> Ed. Hugen, B. & Scales, T. L. (Eds.). (2008). Christianity and social work: Readings on the Integration of christian faith and social work practice (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.). Botsford: NACSW.

## **Course Policies:**

All university and departmental policies affecting student work, appeals, and grievances, as outlined in the Undergraduate Catalog and/or Department Handbook will apply, unless otherwise indicated in this syllabus

## 1. Grading:

In general, I do accept challenges to grades. However, challenges must be **in writing** (not verbal); must be **specific**, and must be based on **substantive** arguments (or mathematical errors) not on nebulous references to "fairness." The instructor reserves the right to re-read, and re-grade, the work in its entirety in the case of a challenge. The grade may be adjusted up or down.

#### 2. Attendance:

**Consistent** attendance and class participation is expected. Attendance will be taken at each class. It is encouraged that students attend all classes or notify the <u>instructor in advance</u> if they are not able to attend class. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to obtain class notes, schedule changes, or other course business if there is a reason that a student should miss a class. More than **two absences** will result in the loss of 5 points for every class event missed. Students are also expected to be on time, excessive tardiness will result in the loss of 5 points.

# 3. Class Participation:

Class attendance is an essential part of the learning process. Please note the bolded items in the following list. Let's work together to make this a good learning experience. Appropriate participation is defined as:

- a. Raising questions and comments (major portion of grade)
- **b.** Participating in dialogue with the instructor and other students (major portion of grade)
- c. Not exchanging personal notes during class
- d. Not having private conversations with fellow students during class
- e. Staying awake in class
- f. Facilitating discussion
- g. Staying until the end of class
- h. Helping us stay on track
- i. Not talking when your instructor is lecturing or another student is presenting
- j. Drawing classmates into the discussion
- k. Participating in practice exercises, field trips and in-class learning activities

# 4. Student performance and responsibility:

Students are expected to take responsibility for their learning. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they submit their assignments in a timely fashion. If students are confused about their grade during the semester they should seek me out to discuss their concerns or ways to improve their grade. The instructor may not remind students about an upcoming assignment as it is the students' responsibilities to review the syllabus and due dates for assignments.

#### 5. Personal notes:

The instructor requests that students do not pass or write personal notes to each other during class. This disturbs fellow students and the instructor. If students need to communicate with each other about a matter which does not relate to the class, please do this before or after class. If this becomes a consistent problem, I will speak with the students that have difficulty in abiding with this class policy.

# 6. Paper Formatting

All papers need to have one inch margins, 12 point, Times New Roman font, and be double spaced. Please follow the latest edition of APA Style for your papers.

# 7. Late Assignments:

Please consult the following example for the late assignment policy. Example:

An assignment is due on September 11, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. Assignment received after 5:10pm and 11:59 on September 11

2 point deducted

Assignment received on September 12

5 points deducted

For each day after September 12

5 points deducted per day

#### 8. Readings:

Each student is expected to complete all reading assignments prior to the date scheduled for discussion. Reading assignments are to be completed **prior to the day** they are scheduled for discussion. Your learning will be greatly enhanced if you come to class prepared to discuss the assigned topic. Articles assigned in the syllabus can be accessed online. Lectures are not always derived directly from the text; therefore, students are responsible for reading and integrating text readings with class discussions.

# 9. Positive learning expectation

The instructor and students in this class share the responsibility to develop and maintain a positive learning environment for everyone. During this course, the instructor and students will express differences in experiences, beliefs and perspectives. Such conversations are invited and are needed to develop a greater understanding of those perspectives, beliefs and experiences. Therefore, as a fellow learner, you are asked to respect the learning needs of your classmates and assist the instructor in achieving this goal.

## 10. Academic Integrity Policy:

The mission of Azusa Pacific University includes cultivating in each student not only the academic skills that are required for a university degree, but also the characteristics of academic integrity that are integral to a sound Christian education. It is therefore part of the mission of the university to nurture in each student a sense of moral responsibility consistent with the biblical teachings of honesty and accountability. Furthermore, a breach of academic integrity is viewed not merely as a private matter between the student and tan instructor, but rather as an act which is fundamentally inconsistent with the purpose and mission of the entire university. A complete copy of the Academic Integrity Policy is available in the Office of Student Life, the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs, and online.

Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):

- 1. Cheating-intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.
- 2. Fabrication-intentional falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- 3. Facilitating academic dishonesty-intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another commit an act of academic dishonesty.

4. Plagiarism-intentionally or knowingly representing the words ideas or work of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

# 11. Information Literacy and Use of Library

Information literacy is defined as "a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information" (American Library Association, 1989). In this course, teaching and learning processes will employ the following information literacy standards, as endorsed by the American Association for Higher Education (1999), the Association of College and Research Libraries (2000), and the Council of Independent Colleges (2004). The students in this course will:

- determine the nature and extent of the information needed.
- access needed information effectively and efficiently.
- evaluate information and its sources critically and incorporates selected information into his or her knowledge base and value system.
- individually or as a member of a group, use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.
- understand many of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and accesses and uses information ethically and legally.
- This course requires students to complete course assignments using resources available from the University Libraries. Use of online data bases available through the university library for searching research based journal articles to inform your literature review and research project is required. The HAPI data base available on the social work online data base site is available to you to assist you in finding social science based surveys for your project.

### 12. Copyright Responsibilities:

Materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection. Students and faculty are both authors and users of copyrighted materials. As a student you must know the rights of both authors and users with respect to copyrighted works to ensure compliance. It is equally important to be knowledgeable about legally permitted uses of copyrighted materials. Information about copyright compliance, fair use and websites for downloading information legally can be found at http://apu.libguides.com/content.php?pid=241554&search\_terms=copyright

#### 13. Grades:

If a student's final grade is .8, I will round up to the next highest number.

Example: 93.8 = 94.0

### 14. Cell phones:

Cellular and smart phones, beepers, and pagers are to be turned off during class time.

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES BEFORE YOU WALK INTO CLASS. If you are

expecting an important call (e.g. pending job offer, family member in critical medical

condition), please discuss this situation with the instructor in advance to determine next

steps. Phones are generally disruptive to other students and to the instructor and they compromise the concentration needed for successful student learning.

### 15. Laptops:

Laptops are to be used for note taking purposes only. Any other use of the laptop during class time will result in deduction in participation points and also you will be asked to close your laptop for the rest of the class.

#### 16. Texting:

Please do not blind or openly text during class. I CAN SEE YOU. This distracts others and the instructor. Here is the process I utilize when students do not respect our learning environment in this manner:

- a. First time: I will speak with you individually when I see you texting in class.
- b. Second time: I will speak with you individually and will send you an e-mail.
- c. Third time: I will speak with you individually and will send you another e-mail warning you about this behavior. This e-mail will be placed in your permanent student file.

#### 17. APA Format:

The Social Work Department has adopted the APA style format for all papers and publications. The following websites also provide helpful information:

- <a href="http://apu.libguides.com/apacitations">http://apu.libguides.com/apacitations</a> APA citation guide by APU libraries.
- http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/ APA Style blog VERY HELPFUL.
- www.apastyle.org/elecref.html (APA style for materials in electronic formats).
- <a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/-">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/-</a>
   (general information about using APA style, 6<sup>th</sup> edition)

## 18. Writing support services:

Writing support is available to all students through the writing center located in Marshburn Library. Support services are also available in the Learning Enrichment Center for persons desiring additional assistance in the course. Students are encouraged to use these campus resources in completion of assignments and course activities.

### 19. Support Services

Students in this course who have a disability that might prevent them from fully demonstrating their abilities should contact an advisor in the Learning Enrichment Center (ext. 3849) as soon as possible to initiate disability verification and discuss accommodations that may be necessary to ensure full participation in the successful completion of course requirements.

### 20. Extra Credit:

The instructor will determine whether or not extra credit options will be offered to students throughout the semester. If you are aware of an opportunity that might be a suitable and aligns with the goals of the course, please feel free to discuss this opportunity with the instructor.

# What you can expect from your professor:

As your professor I will make sure to remain accessible for questions or concerns you may have all throughout the semester. The best and fastest way to communicate with me is by email. When you email me, you can expect a response back within 24 hours. Contacting me for any questions and clarifications is highly encouraged. Although I don't have set office hours, I am available to meet if you'd like. I would just ask to please give me one week notice of when you'd like to meet.

The statement within the field of social work is, "Don't work harder than the client." This I apply to the class as well. If any problems come up that could hinder your performance in this class, my hope is that you would approach me right away. Waiting too long could unnecessarily complicate things. I would rather hear from you ahead of time to work something out than to learn about a crisis at the last minute. I want to see you all succeed in this class and I am willing to assist you in any way that I can to help you succeed, but I will not work harder than you.

I am very passionate about social work and excited about this class. I look forward to getting to know each of you.

Assignments: when submitting assignments by e-mail, please name your file using the following file format: yourlastnameSOCW250.section number.assignment number (*Example: NazarianSOCW250.2.1, NazarianSOCW250.2.2., etc.*)

# **Assignment #1: Personal Statement Paper**

**Overview:** In this assignment you will articulate the various roles, functions of a social worker to help identify with the profession, and to explore how Christian beliefs and values are ethically integrated in professional practice. Moreover, demonstrate insight into personal dynamics, feelings and values.

- 1) Articulates how a Christian world view can be integrated in professional social work practice.
- 2) Demonstrate ability to be self-evaluative and accountable for your own learning and professional development.

**Instructions:** This 5-6 page paper will include statements on:

- **a.** When and how you became interested in the field of social work.
- **b.** What influenced you in the choice of social work as a profession
- **c.** Your career goals or beginning thoughts on your areas of interest.
- **d.** Discussion of what you see to be personal strengths that will help your development of professional skills and knowledge. If you have taken the strengths finder inventory as part of your Beginnings course, please note your strengths and how these strengths may contribute to the practice of social work.
- **e.** Personal attributes you would like to further develop as part of your participation in the social work program.
- **f.** Any life experiences you believe will contribute to or impede your progress in this program (BSW student hand book, 2013, p.8).

**g.** Discussion of your Christian faith and how you see it integrated into the profession of social work.

Due: October 14, 2013

\* Social Work majors- this assignment will be included in your application to the major Personal Statement Paper Rubric

Your research papers will be graded based on the following criteria:

	4	3	2	1
	Demonstrates	Demonstrates	Shows some	Shows minimal
	engagement in	engagement in	engagement in	engagement in the
	the choice and	the choice and	the choice and	choice and interest of
	interest of	interest of	interest of	social work process,
	social work	social work	social work	failing to recognize
	process	process	process	multiple
Choice and	recognizing	recognizing	without	dimensions/perspectives;
interest in the	multiple	multiple	elaboration	lacking even basic
social work	dimensions	dimensions	perspectives;	observations
profession	and/or	and/or	offers basic	
profession	perspectives	perspectives;	observations	
	with	offers some	but rarely	
	elaboration	insight	original insight	
	and depth;			
	offers			
	consideration			
	insight			
	Provides a	Usually	Rarely	Does not provide an
	broad	provides a	provides	overview of in career
	overview of in	broad	overview of in	goals– does not describe
	career goals-	overview of in	career goals-	how and why social work
	describes in	career goals-	superficially	is important to these
Career	detail how and	describes	describes how	goals and interests.
goals/interests	why social	sufficiently	and why social	
	work is	how and why	work is	
	important to	social work is	important to	
	these goals	important to	these goals	
	and interests.	these goals	and interests.	
		and interests.		2 1 11 / 11 1
	Consistently	Usually	Occasionally	Rarely provides (minimal)
Danish of	provides	provides	provides	connections among
Depth of	(strong)	(good)	(adequate)	personal characteristics
insight:	connections	connections	connections	and strengths <u>and</u> career
Strengths	among	among	among	in social work.
	personal	personal	personal	
	characteristics	characteristics	characteristics	

	4	3	2	1
	& strengths	& strengths	and strengths	
	and career in	and career in	and career in	
	social work.	social work	social work	
	Response	Response	Response	Response demonstrates
	demonstrates	demonstrates	demonstrates	a lack of reflection on,
	an in-depth	a general	a minimal	and personalization of
	reflection on,	reflection on,	reflection on,	attributes identified for
	and	and	and	growth.
	personalization	personalization	personalization	
Personal	of attributes	of attributes	of attributes	Viewpoints and
Attributes to	identified for	identified for	identified for	interpretations are
develop in	growth.	growth.	growth.	missing, inappropriate,
program				and/or unsupported.
	Viewpoints	Viewpoints	Viewpoints	
	and	and	and	
	interpretations	interpretations	interpretations	
	are insightful	are supported.	are	
	and well		unsupported.	
	supported.			
	Writing style is	Writing style	Writing style is	Writing style is
	clear,	shows some	vague, lacks	incomprehensible,
	organized, and	ambiguity, and	organization,	unorganized, and
Writing Style	free of	contains under	and contains	contains excessive
	grammatical	3 grammatical	multiple	grammatical or spelling
	and spelling	or spelling	grammatical or	errors.
	errors.	errors.	spelling errors.	
Christian Faith	Reactions	Reactions	Reactions	Reactions show minimal
	show an adept	show above	show	understanding of how
	understanding	average	moderate	the social work
	of how the	understanding	understanding	profession and
	social work	of how the	of how the	Christianity and/or
	profession and	social work	social work	worldview are
	Christianity	profession and	profession and	integrated.
	and/or	Christianity	Christianity	
	worldview are	and/or	and/or	
	integrated.	worldview are	worldview are	
		integrated.	integrated.	

# **Assignment #2: Social Service Agency Report**

**Overview:** This assignment is designed to increase knowledge of social welfare issues and systems. Gain exposure to populations at risk, differences in practice and how to value and respect diversity and demonstrate professional behavior.

• Each agency must be approved by the instructor **prior** to completing the visit.

- The report must reflect the time spent with a degreed social worker: BSW, MSW, DSW.
- The instructor has file folder in his office with a listing of potential opportunities
  for this project. The agencies in the folder do not need prior approval from the
  instructor. Agencies not in this folder need to be improved by the instructor in
  advance.
- An appointment needs to be scheduled with these professionals, and these
  individuals are busy, therefore be sure not to wait until the last minute to
  arrange your time to shadow. Social workers often like to meet with students,
  but need adequate time in which to schedule time at the agency.
- The reports should be no more than 4 pages. Each report should include the following information for full credit:
- Name, address, telephone number of the agency, date(s) of the visit(s) and name of
  the social worker. What services do they offer? What are the problems and
  concerns faced by their clients? Identify the culture, ethnic background, and
  economic class factors of the people served. How is the agency funded? Is it public
  or private
- 2. What kind of training does this social worker/or professional have (degree)? Does this person have a license to practice? Where did he/she go to college? Does the person have a specialty or was he/she trained as a generalist social worker?
- 3. What types of intervention methods are used in carrying out their duties: Case work, group work, community organization, research, family practice?
- 4. What are their frustrations/rewards about their work in this **setting**? What values or ethical dilemmas are faced in this area of social services?
- 5. What are your personal reactions to this agency? Discuss any conflict you may have, working in this agency, with your personal or religious values or beliefs? Would you want to do your internship there? Why or why not? This interview must be done in person, not over the phone.
- 6. Please provide a copy of the social worker's business card and submit it to the instructor in class on. Please have the person sign the back of the business card.
- 7. Please also bring a hard copy of the agency's brochure on October, 28.

**Due: October 28, 2013** 

# **Assignment #3: Medi-Cal Application Process**

This assignment is designed to give the student "hands-on" experience of being a "client" of a social welfare program. The requirement of using public transportation and obtaining an application form for Medical will encourage firsthand experience and reflection on their observations, feelings and recommendations. If you are currently receiving benefits through Medi-Cal, please talk with the instructor.

- Complete this assignment by going to a Department of Public Social Services and applying for Medi-Cal.
- With a partner (do not go alone) take public transportation to the office of your choice.
- Turn in the <u>application for Medi-Cal with a **3 page paper**</u> that reflects your experiences about this process.
- Your reflections will include:
  - o impressions of the office;
  - o treatment by the staff and other applicants;
  - o reflections about the public transportation and what did you learn about this social welfare system.
- Provide specific recommendations for improving the application process. Applications
  downloaded from the internet are not acceptable for this assignment.
- Keep your bus ticket stub or take a picture of yourself in the bus and turn it in with your paper.
- Please take a picture of yourself in front of the Department of Public Social Services and turn it in with your paper.

Due: November 13, 2013 hard copy submitted to instructor at the beginning of class

# **Assignment #4: Club Social Work**

**Overview:** This assignment is designed to give the student the opportunity to observe, assess and participate in the meetings and activities of the Club Social Work on the Azusa Pacific University campus. The hope is to instill commitment to the profession, develop peer support and networking, and participation and development of activities on campus that further the cause of and increases an awareness of the social work profession.

#### Instructions:

**CSW Attendance/Participation**- Each student will attend **two C.S.W. meeting(s) or events**. A statement of completion/attendance signed by an officer of CSW is required for verification.

**Due: December 14, 2013** 

# Assignment #5: Mini-project Paper and presentation

Develop a "mini-project" with your peers in this course, creating an activity which takes at least 10 hours of research and exploration. The project should be helpful for you to understand the themes of this course and/or shape your career or life. This mini-project will be done in groups. Groups will develop a research paper and conduct a professional presentation. While the paper will involve gaining information from academic research sources, feel free to use a variety of sources (documentaries, interviews, twitter and facebook) to learn more about the problem as well.

Here are some ideas for the mini-project:

- Affirmative Action
- Sexual identity issues
- Childhood Obesity in low income communities

- Elder Abuse
- Self-mutilation among youth
- Eating disorders among college students

The assignment has three components:

- One page summary of the group's proposed group mini-project idea
- A research paper on the project
- In-class professional presentation on the mini-project

## The Paper:

- Begins with a presentation of the breadth and depth of the social issue (demographics, causes, history)
- Discusses the proposed and current solutions to the issue based on: 1)current research and 2)current programs
- Analyze and describe the policy action (which include laws, regulations, etc.) that have taken place on a local, national and/or international scale which seek to formulate policies to counteract and/or prevent this problem
- Briefly describe the involvement of social workers with this problem
- Briefly describe as a group how this mini-project experience enhanced your learning in this course and your understanding of the social work profession (do not use the first person)

The paper should be at least 10 pages in length and groups should *substantially* reference at least 7 scholarly journal articles and/or books. As a reminder, the paper needs to follow 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of APA Style guidelines.

# The presentation:

- A **15 minute** presentation of the project where you share your learning with the class. Your groups will make a presentation to the class which is both a summary of the project and the analysis that arose from your research. The instructor encourages creative presentations which brings the information of your paper to life. Each member of the group must participate in the presentation. **Profession dress** is required and will be factored in the points awarded. Further instructions will be given during the semester.
- Due to the size of the course, the class will complete the presentations on two different days. See course schedule at the end of this document.

One to two paragraph description of group mini project due: September 25

hard copy at the beginning of class

Presentations Due: December 2 and 4 during class

Final Paper Due: December 2, 7:45 am

# Assignment #6 Homeless Connect Day: Tuesday, October 15

This is a special day when you will be out in the field doing community service. Homeless Connect Day is the collaboration of service providers in the Pasadena area to provide one-stop location for services for those who are homeless. Students assist as volunteers during the day, an event which over 200 people receive a variety of services. More information will be given in the near future. Please note that attendance at this event is MANDATORY and you must provide your own transportation. Sign in and sign out sheets will be taken at the beginning and end of the day of work. If a student leaves before the work is done, you will receive a 0 for this assignment. This day off campus will be considered a university excused absence and lunch will be provided.

# Assignment #7 Examinations: Midterm and Oral Final

There will be midterm for this course. The midterm will consist of fill-in-the-blanks, multiple choice, long and short essay questions..

Due: TBA

There will be an oral comprehensive final for this course. The instructor will give you four questions to study for the oral comprehensive final. Participants will provide a response to one or two questions. You will come to class during your time slot and respond to the question(s). No textbooks, notes, etc. are allowed.

Due: Date and time will be given later in the semester.

# **Grading:**

Assignment	Weight
2 Exams	25%
Group Mini project	30%
Agency Report	10%
Personal Statement Paper	10%
Medi-Cal Application Process/Homeless Connect Day	10%
Class Participation	8%
Club Social Work Events	5%
Participation at Mandatory Meeting	2%
Total	100%

#### **Grading Scale:**

A = 94-100%	A- = 90-93%
B+ = 87-89%	B = 84-86 %
B- = 80-83%	C+= 77-79%

# \*Social work students must receive a "C" or better to pass all social work courses. Grading criteria:

- A Superior knowledge regarding details, assumptions, implications, history; superior thinking with information relevant to application, critique, and relationship to other information.
- B More than adequate knowledge regarding technical terms, distinctions, and possesses an ability to use information.
- C Basic knowledge needed to function and carry on learning regarding major principles, central terms, major figures, also possesses an awareness of field or discipline.
- D Serious gaps in knowledge, confusion of concepts and categories, inability to recall basic information.
- F Not acceptable, either because the student did not complete the assignment as directed, or on time, or because the level of performance is below an acceptable level for college work.

# \*\*Tentative Assignment Schedule

\*\*This schedule is tentative and the instructor may amend this schedule during the course.

Day	Class	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments
				Assignment due	Due
W	1	9/4	Introduction to the class and overview of syllabi		
M	2	9/9	Social Work and Other Helping Professions NASW Code of Ethics	Suppes & Wells Chapter 1 Code of Ethics	
W	3	9/11	Theoretical Perspectives for Social Work The Systems/Ecological & P.I.E. perspectives	Suppes & Wells Chapter 2	
M	4	9/16	History of Social Work/ Film: The Women of Hull House		
W	5	9/18	U.S. Social Welfare System	Suppes & Wells Chapter 4	
M	6	9/23	Social Welfare Policy	Suppes & Wells Chapter 4	

W	7	9/25	Poverty and Social Justice Populations at risk	Suppes & Wells Chapter 3	Assignment 5 Part 1 Due
М	8	9/30	Midterm Exam		
W	9	10/2	Library Resource Day		
M	10	10/7	Family and Children's Services	Suppes & Wells Chapter 5	
W	11	10/9	No Class- Mandatory Major Meeting	Suppes & Wells Chapter 6	
M	12	10/14	Families and Children's Services	Suppes & Wells Chapter 5	Assignment 1 Due
T		10/15	Homeless Connect Day		
W	13	10/16	No class		
M	14	10/21	Social Welfare and Mental Health	Suppes & Wells Chapter 6	
W	15	10/23	International Social Work		
M	16	10/28	Social Work in the Health Care System	Suppes & Wells Chapter 7	Assignment 2 Due
W	17	10/30	Senior Services Agency Tour		
M	18	11/4	Social Work with Older Adults	Suppes & Wells Chapter 10	
W	19	11/6	Disabilities and Social Work	Suppes & Wells Chapter 12	
М	20	11/11	Special Topic		
W	21	11/13	Social Work and Criminal Justice	Suppes & Wells Chapter 11	Assignment 3 Due
M	22	11/18	Social Work and Criminal Justice		
W	22	11/20	Social Work and Substance Abuse	Suppes & Wells Chapter 9	

М	23	11/25	Social Work and Substance Abuse	Suppes & Wells Chapter 9	
W	24	11/27	Life Calling/Rule for Life		
М	25	12/2	Group Presentations		Assignment 5 Due
w	26	12/4	Group Presentations		Assignment 4 Due

# Bibliography SOCW 250

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#### The Premier on Plagiarism

#### **Sources Not Cited**

### 1. "The Ghost Writer"

The writer turns in another's work, word-for-word, as his or her own.

### 2. "The Photocopy"

The writer copies significant portions of text straight from a single source, without alteration.

#### 3. "The Potluck Paper"

The writer tries to disguise plagiarism by copying from several different sources, tweaking the sentences to make them fit together while retaining most of the original phrasing.

# 4. "The Poor Disguise"

Although the writer has retained the essential content of the source, he or she has altered the paper's appearance slightly by changing key words and phrases.

#### 5. "The Labor of Laziness"

The writer takes the time to paraphrase most of the paper from other sources and make it all fit together, instead of spending the same effort on original work.

#### 6. "The Self-Stealer"

The writer "borrows" generously from his or her previous work, violating policies concerning the expectation of originality adopted by most academic institutions.

## Sources Cited (But Still Plagiarized)

### 1. "The Forgotten Footnote"

The writer mentions an author's name for a source, but neglects to include specific information on the location of the material referenced. This often masks other forms of plagiarism by obscuring source locations.

### 2. "The Misinformer"

The writer provides inaccurate information regarding the sources, making it impossible to find them.

# 3. "The Too-Perfect Paraphrase"

The writer properly cites a source, but neglects to put in quotation marks text that has been copied word-for-word, or close to it. Although attributing the basic ideas to the source, the writer is falsely claiming original presentation and interpretation of the information.

### 4. "The Resourceful Citer"

The writer properly cites all sources, paraphrasing and using quotations appropriately. The catch? The paper contains almost no original work! It is sometimes difficult to spot this form of plagiarism because it looks like any other well-researched document.

# 5. "The Perfect Crime"

Well, we all know it doesn't exist. In this case, the writer properly quotes and cites sources in some places, but goes on to paraphrase other arguments from those sources without citation. This way, the writer tries to pass off the paraphrased material as his or her own analysis of the cited material