

SWK 443 - GENERALIST PRACTICE II - 3 Semester Hours Credit

TEXTS:

Kirst-Ashman, K.K. and Hull, G.H. (2002). Understanding Generalist Practice (4th Edition). Brooks/Cole: Pacific Grove, CA. (**Required**).

Additional reading assignments and course bibliography will be distributed during the first day of class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A continuation of SWK 442, examining the methods and techniques of social work practice with an emphasis on families, groups and communities.

(Note Generalist Practice II (Social Work 343) is ordinarily taken by students in their senior year. Prerequisites include SWK 225, 333, 334, 341 and 442.

RATIONALE FOR COURSE:

In order to be of service to others as a social worker generalist practitioner, one must be able to engage clients in a helping relationship, gather data regarding problems of concern and pertinent bio-psychosocial history, make assessments for planning interventions, and evaluate interventions for future planning and or termination of services with groups, organizations, and communities.

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE SEQUENCE OBJECTIVES:

1. Acquire a knowledge and ability to use the general method of social work practice, which incorporates knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, social welfare policies, and research.
2. Acquire a foundational understanding, skill and ability to enter effective, purposeful, professional, problem-solving relationships consistent with a social work value base.
3. Appreciate that human diversity influences social workers and clients in the helping process.
4. Acquire skill in systematically evaluating one's own professional practice.
5. Acquire the ability to understand one's own values (personal and professional) and the values of others.
6. Develop an understanding of how social work knowledge, values and skills are integrated into professional practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities.
7. Acquire an understanding of professional ethics as they relate to practice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Cognitive

Increase the breadth and depth of social work knowledge building upon Social Work 342.

To understand the contribution of research to the development of a more effective practice.

To understand the stages of group formation

To know basic principles of cross cultural interviewing.

Skills

To apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment in the assessment process in working with groups, families and communities

- To demonstrate increasing self-awareness of both strengths and weaknesses as a helping professional.
- To demonstrate understanding of human diversity (e.g., age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, geography) and its impact on the assessment of psychosocial problems
- To make appropriate applications in problem solving.
- To develop interviewing skills in facilitating problem solving in group work and family settings, and in work with communities.
- To increase writing skills and documentation techniques utilized in professional social work practice.
- To be able to find, read, and apply current research.
- To apply basic social work ethics and values with groups, families, and communities.
- To apply research concepts and methods in evaluating one's own practice.

Affective

- To appreciate human diversity and its influence on social workers and clients in the helping process.
- To appreciate and continue to interject the NASW Code of Ethics, especially in social work practice with groups, families and communities.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The class will be conducted in seminar form utilizing total class discussion, small group discussion, role-play, student's own case material, written assignments, and tests. Class discussions and participation will be used as an expression of understanding. Regular attendance is essential for the achievement of course goals and constitutes a requirement for satisfactory completion of the course.