

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA School of Social Work

Course Outline - SOWK 316 – Integrative Seminar in Social Work Theory, Policy & Practice 3 Credits

School Vision: Building upon a foundation of social justice and an ethic of care, we are a community of learners actively engaged in the development of critical, transformative knowledge for social work practice.

BSW Mission Statement: The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program addresses issues of power and issues of discrimination based on age, race, gender, sexual orientation, class and culture. The educational objective of the BSW curriculum is to provide students with the knowledge, values and skills necessary for an initial level of professional practice, focusing on the interface between personal problems and public issues. Critical thinking and structural analysis are central to the learning experience offered by the School and to the promotion of social justice and human well-being.

During this pandemic, the shift to online learning has greatly altered teaching and studying at UBC, including changes to health and safety considerations. Keep in mind that some UBC courses might cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by non-Canadian governments. This may include, but is not limited to, human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, gender or sexuality, and historical or current geopolitical controversies. If you are a student living abroad, you will be subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities might limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. UBC is strongly committed to academic freedom, but has no control over foreign authorities (please visit http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,33,86,0 for an articulation of the values of the University conveyed in the Senate Statement on Academic Freedom). Thus, we recognize that students will have legitimate reason to exercise caution in studying certain subjects. If you have concerns regarding your personal situation, consider postponing taking a course with manifest risks, until you are back on campus or reach out to your academic advisor to find substitute courses. For further information and support, please visit: http://academic.ubc.ca/support-resources/freedom-expression

Year/Term	2020 – 2021 Winter	
	September 16, 2020 – April 2, 2021	
Course Title	SOWK 316: Integrative Seminar in Social Work Theory, Policy & Practice (3 Credits)	
Course Schedule	Fridays 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. commencing Friday October 16, 2020	
Course Location	(001) Rhea Del Vecchio	
	(002) Erika Ono	
	(003) Hannah Kia	
	PLEASE NOTE: The course is currently being planned for exclusive online delivery.	

Instructor	ructor Office Location		e-mail address
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Office Hours	By Appointment		

PREREQUISITES AND/OR COREQUISITES

This is a required course and is open only to students accepted into the School of Social Work and is a co-requisite to SOWK 310, SOWK 305 and SOWK 315.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to facilitate the integration of students' learning from field, practice, and theory courses for the purposes of their professional development. It provides students the opportunity to critically reflect upon their practicum experience, monitor their practice development and make connections among the ethical, theoretical and skill elements of social work practice.

This is a required course and is open only to students accepted into the School of Social Work and is a co-requisite to SOWK 310, SOWK 305 and SOWK 315. This course complements and builds on the Interviewing Skills course (SOWK 310) and Field Education component (SOWK 315), providing the student the opportunity to integrate social work theory along with their practice skill development. Students who withdraw from SOWK 315 are also required to do so from SOWK 316.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Use constructive feedback and clinical supervision/consultation to critically assess social work practice experiences.
- Discuss professional issues, practice situations and ethical dilemmas in relation to professional development.
- Consistently consider and apply the Code of Ethics (British Columbia, 2003) in social work practice and in discussion.
- Consider the applications of theory in practice and the appropriateness and suitability of various practice methods.
- Implement strategies to communicate safely and effectively, while advocating for social work values and maintaining professional boundaries.
- Articulate an emerging approach to social work, drawing on theories, practice methods, knowledge, principles and ethics.
- Begin to develop one's social work identity in the context of practice experiences, self-reflection, and growing theoretical knowledge.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

"Regular attendance is expected of students in all their classes (including lectures, laboratories, tutorials, seminars, etc.). Students who neglect their academic work and assignments may be excluded from the final examinations. Students who are unavoidably absent because of illness or disability should report to their instructors on return to classes." (UBC Calendar)

Academic Dishonesty: Please review the UBC Calendar "Academic regulations" for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Also visit www.arts.ubc.ca and go to the students' section for useful information on avoiding plagiarism and on correct documentation.

Retaining Assignments: Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments (in case of loss) and should also retain all their marked assignments in case they wish to apply for a Review of Assigned Standing. Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.

UBC provides resources to support student learning ad to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious and cultural observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available here: https://senate.ubc.ca/policiesresources-support-student-success

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance

The attendance policy is in the student handbook on page 11: https://socialwork.ubc.ca/current-students/.

The School considers class attendance to be an essential component of integrated learning in professional social work education. Therefore, regular attendance is required in all social work courses. Instructors may count repeated late arrivals or early departures as an absence, and a meeting should be setup to discuss this with the student.

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with Access and Diversity. Students, who will require accommodation for attendance due to disability, are encouraged to inform the instructor, and if necessary, to contact Access and Diversity preferably not later than the first week of class. The School will also accommodate religious observance, according to University Policy 65, and students are expected to inform the instructor. Students who wish to be accommodated for unavoidable absences due to varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, must

notify their instructors in writing at least two weeks in advance, and preferably earlier. This reflects expectations for professional social workers in their place of employment.

If students miss three or more classes, they may be considered to have not met the requirements of the course. If students have valid reasons, they could be withdrawn from the course with the approval of the instructor – otherwise, they would fail the course.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments are due as noted in this course outline, unless otherwise informed by the instructor.

RETURN OF MARKED STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS:

All assignments are to be submitted via the UBC Canvas course site. Assignments will be marked with track changes and comments provided in the same manner.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

Generally, late assignments will not be accepted. In emergency situations, students must discuss any potential lateness with their instructor and be prepared to have a medical certificate available. Assignments submitted after the deadline with no documentation will be penalized by five-percentage point per day.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

SESSION 1:	October 16 th , 2020	
TOPIC:	Preparing for practicum and building learning objectives	
SESSION 2:	October 23 rd , 2020	
TOPIC	UBC Health Workshop: Collaborative Decision-Making (3-4PM)	
SESSION 3:	November 6 th , 2020	
TOPIC:	Social work identities and roles: Connecting practice with theory	
SESSION 4:	November 13 th , 2020	
TOPIC:	UBC Health Workshop: iEthics Q1 (2:15-3:45PM)	
SESSION 5:	November 27 th , 2020	

TOPIC:	Professionalism and social work: From ethics to practice		
SESSION 6:	January 8, 2021		
TOPIC:	UBC Health Workshop: iEthics Q2		
SESSION 7:	January 22, 2021		
TOPICS:	Midterm evaluations / Difficult conversations		
SESSION 8:	February 5, 2021		
TOPIC:	Ethical dilemmas		
Reading week (February 15 – 19, 2021)			
SESSION 9:	February 26, 2021		
TOPIC:	Power and privilege in social work		
SESSION 10:	March 5, 2021		
TOPIC:	Discussion and presentations		
SESSION 11:	March 19, 2021		
TOPIC:	Discussion and presentations		
SESSION 12:	2: April 2, 2021		
TOPIC:	Termination, reflection and celebration		

ASSIGNMENTS:

Field Journals – 50%

Field journals should contain reflections about your placement experiences over the course of the two weeks leading up to each submission date and should reflect attention to the themes specified below. Each journal should include three to four of the following sections:

- Situation/context;
- Analysis/integration of relevant theory and/or research;
- Social work practice; and/or
- Self-reflection.

Field journals are to be submitted via Canvas and contain about 500 words (+ or - 50 words).

Mandatory subjects:

- The first two field journals should contain reflections on the agency/organization in which you are placed. Such a reflection may include attention to the values, mission, goals, and/or history of the agency/organization; the structure of the agency/organization, along with a consideration of what the implications of practicing in this structural context might be; perspectives and approaches used in the agency/organization; social work roles within this agency/organization setting.
- Two field journals should contain case studies of clients (e.g., person, group, family, community), and/or practice situations.
- Two field journals should be reflections on professional growth.
- The remaining field journals could address any subject/theme/topic of your choice, as long as these are relevant to your practicum placement and social work practice.

Field Journal Due Dates		
October 25, 2020 – My Practicum Placement		
November 8, 2020 – My Practicum Placement		
November 22, 2020		
January 17, 2021		
January 31, 2021		
February 14, 2021		
February 28, 2021		
March 14, 2021		

Grading criteria: rubric will be available on Canvas

Assignment 2. Proposal (5%), Project (25%) and presentation (10%)

For this assignment, you are being asked to plan and lead a small project – which should in some way be relevant for social work practice – within your practicum placement. This project should align with learning objectives developed at the start of your placement, consist of an activity that represents your learning as a social work student, and reflect your contribution(s) to the agency/organization in which you are placed. Examples of projects students may plan and lead include (but are not limited to):

- Planning an event (for example, a bingo game, a dance, a community meeting);
- Organizing resources (for example, creating a directory of agencies/organizations to which staff normally refer clients);
- Facilitating professional learning/development (for example, presenting to staff at your practicum placement on a topic that is relevant to that setting); or
- Any other project that you and your field instructor believe might make a relevant/helpful contribution to the agency/organization in which you are placed.

Proposal (5%)

Prepare a brief (~150-300 word) proposal describing what you intend to do for your practicum project. This proposal is due by **January 8.** After your instructor approves your project, you should plan to have your project completed by **February 26** at the latest.

Project (25%) and presentation (10%)

On either **March 5** or **March 19**, you will present your project to the class. Should COVID-19 contact restrictions remain in effect until this time, you will be expected to present your project online through a platform such as Collaborate Ultra, and your instructor will provide you with the support needed to complete this requirement. This presentation should be 10-15 minutes in total, and include:

- A brief (<1 minute) description of your agency/organization, and your role within this setting;
- A summary of your project, including any theory that was used to inform the planning/execution of the project;
- A brief reflection on the relevance of your project to social work;
- A brief reflection on the contributions your project may have made to the agency/organization in which you were placed; and
- A brief reflection on the specific learning gained from your work on this project and, drawing on theory, how this learning has informed your emerging approach to social work.

It is expected that students integrate theory, in the planning and execution of the project, and that students describe their integration of theory during their presentation.

Engagement - 10%

This seminar is highly experiential in nature; therefore, students' attendance, participation, and engagement are essential to individual learning and to the overall success of the course. As the seminar is student driven, each student is expected to attend, to be actively involved, to be reflective and to share practicum experiences with the class. Students will be expected to be critically reflective and to be engaged in the collaborative learning process. Students are also required to support the learning of classmates by encouraging their participation, hearing their perspectives and giving feedback, while respecting the confidentiality of the shared material. Prior to each class, it is expected that students reflect on the topic/theme to be discussed, and to prepare examples from their placement that they may be able to share in relation to that topic/theme.

As, for the time being, the seminar is being planned for exclusive online delivery, students will be highly encouraged to participate synchronously during each live scheduled session. Students who are unable to join synchronously, on any given week, will be required to make a short (100-150 word) written contribution in the online discussion forum on that week to provide an update of their experience in placement. These written contributions will be due at 11:59PM on the day of each session (e.g., a written contribution for session 1 of the course will be due at 11:59PM on October 16, 2020).

LEARNING ANALYTICS

Learning Analytics Learning analytics includes the collection and analysis of data about learners to improve teaching and learning. This course will be using Canvas. This tool captures data about your

activity and provides information that can be used to improve the quality of teaching and learning. In this course, I plan to use analytics data to:

- View overall class progress
- Track overall participation in discussion forums

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UBC GRADING CRITERIA:

UBC GRADING CRITERIA					
Letter	Percent	Mid-			
Grade	Range	Point			
			Represents work of exceptional quality. Content, organization and style are all		
A+	90-100	95	at a high level. Student demonstrates excellent research and reference to		
А	85-89	87	literature where appropriate. Also, student uses sound critical thinking, has		
A-	80-84	82	innovative ideas on the subject and shows personal engagement with the topic.		
B+ B B-	76-79 72-75 68-71	77.5 83.5 69.5	Represents work of good quality with no major weaknesses. Writing is clear and explicit and topic coverage and comprehension is more than adequate. Shows some degree of critical thinking and personal involvement in the work. Good use of existing knowledge on the subject.		
C+ C C-	64-67 60-63 55-59	65.5 62.5 57	Adequate and average work. Shows fair comprehension of the subject, but has some weaknesses in content, style and/or organization of the paper. Minimal critical awareness or personal involvement in the work. Adequate use of literature.		
D	50-54	52	Minimally adequate work, barely at a passing level. Serious flaws in content, organization and/or style. Poor comprehension of the subject, and minimal involvement in the paper. Poor use of research and existing literature.		
F	0-49		Failing work. Inadequate for successful completion of the course or submitted beyond final date of acceptance for paper.		