



Introduction to Social Work

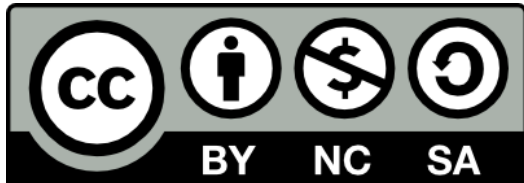
SW 200
Introduction to Social Work

3 Course Credits

PREPARED BY: Jordan Aslett, Instructor
DATE: October 21, 2020

APPROVED BY: Name, Title
DATE:

APPROVED BY SENATE:
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Introduction to Social Work

INSTRUCTOR: Jordan Aslett

OFFICE HOURS: Weds 12pm – 1pm or by Appointment

OFFICE LOCATION: A2208/Zoom

CLASSROOM: Online via Zoom

E-MAIL: jaslett@yukonu.ca

TIME: Weds 4pm – 6pm

TELEPHONE: 867.456.8575

DATES: Jan 6 – April 7

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the profession of social work, its theory and practice. Students examine the philosophy and practice of social work in Canada, both in First Nations and non-First Nations communities.

DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will be provided with an overview of the historical, ideological, and theoretical perspectives that have shaped and continue to inform the models and means of contemporary Canadian social work practice.

Specific values and principles are at the very core of what social workers do and why we do it; these are expressed through professional conduct that is guided by the Social Work Code of Ethics. Throughout this course students will be asked to critically reflect upon and to compare their own values and perspectives with those of the social work profession, within the context of enhancing social welfare for diverse populations. Students will also learn about the specific issues and challenges for social workers practicing in Yukon.

PREREQUISITES

None.

RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Access to a computer and stable internet connection required

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

AU Hsrv 201 (3)	CAMO Socw 211 (3)	SFU No credit
TRU Socw 2060 (3)	TRU-OL Socw 2061 (3)	UNBC Socw 200 (3)
UVIC Socw 200A (1.5)	VIU Socw 200A (3)	

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course students will have acquired the following knowledge and skills:

- Ability to discuss the major influences in the development of social work and the social welfare system in Canadian Society.
- Understanding of the values, knowledge, and skills that distinguish social work from other professions.
- Familiarity with the more common social work theories and models of practice, and an increased capacity to think critically about the current practice of social work.
- Cognizance of the broad scope of practice with diverse populations. Students will be able to recognize and discuss the three levels or “targets” of social work intervention: large-scale systems, including whole communities, nations (macro); neighborhoods, organizations, other small groups (mezzo); and, individuals and/or families (micro).
- Familiarity with Yukon First Nations’ initiatives through self-government to assume responsibility for the planning and delivery of social welfare programs and services.
- Greater awareness of their personal suitability and/or readiness for choosing social work as a profession.

COURSE FORMAT

This course will be conducted online for the Winter 2021 semester. Students will be given pre-recorded video content and other tasks to complete prior to the class meeting time. The class will also meet on Zoom every week for two hours. The first hour will be dedicated to discussing the weeks content, as well as dealing with administrative topics such as assignments and tests. The second half of the class will be dedicated to

small 'breakout' group learning through activities and small discussion.

ASSESSMENTS:

Assignments

Detailed description of the first assignment, requirement, and due date will be provided on the first day of class. Descriptions of subsequent assignments will be provided no later than 6 weeks prior to the due date. All written assignments must meet the standard for grammar and punctuation expected at a university level.

Assignment 1 – RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT – Annotated Bibliography (35%)

Due Week 4 – January 27th

Students will choose 5 academic, peer reviewed articles on the general topic of social work, that are of interest to them. After reading and reflecting students will produce a short summary of each of the articles in an annotated bibliography format.

Assignment 2 – PRACTICE PRESENTATION – Social Work in the Yukon (15%)

Due Week 8 – March 3rd

In small groups students will select an area of social work practice in the Yukon and produce a 15-20 minute video describing how those services are delivered, the policy frameworks governing those services, the social issues service users are impacted by, and the ethical issues related to that area of practice.

Assignment 3 – TERM PAPER - Diverse Perspectives on Social Issues (40%)

Due Week 12 – March 31st

Students will select a social issue relevant to the local context (Yukon). In the first part of the paper, students will use their own perspectives, the perspectives of community members and the academic literature to describe the causes and effects of the social issue. In the second part of the assignment, students will describe how social workers have responded to the social issue, and which practice approach they feel might be best suited to addressing it.

Participation

Contribution Assessment & Attendance (10%)

Students are asked to submit an assessment of their learning throughout the semester

and their contributions to the class.

EVALUATION:

Assignments	90%
Participation	10%
Total	100%

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIAL

Textbook

Ives, N., Denov, M., & Sussman, T. (2020). Introduction to social work in Canada: Histories contexts and practices (2nd edition). Oxford University Press.

Moodle

Alternative readings will be available on Moodle

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the University.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon University recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon University program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, they should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): lac@yukonu.ca.