

University
of Regina



COURSE OUTLINE

SW 437

SOCIAL WORK WITH FAMILIES

45 HOURS
3 CREDITS

PREPARED BY: Janice Wiens

DATE: July 24, 2016

APPROVED BY: Andrew Richardson

DATE: July 27, 2016

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: (date)

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: (July, 2016)



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SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH FAMILIES

INSTRUCTOR: Janice Wiens, BSW, MSW, RSW
OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday 4:00 – 5:00pm or by appointment
OFFICE LOCATION: A2511
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FAX: 668-8805, HE & HS Office

COURSE OFFERINGS

DAYS & TIMES: Wednesdays, September 7 – November 30
1:00 – 4:00pm
Room: A2605

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to understanding and working with families. Emphasis is on the family as a system progressing through the family life cycle. Several dimensions of family functioning will be discussed. Students will be exposed to various approaches to family practice.

ADDITIONAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

There will be a focus on Yukon experiences and realities.

REQUIRED TEXT

Collins, D., Jordan., & Coleman, H. (2012) *An Introduction to Family Social Work (4th ed)*. Thomson Brooks/Cole. Belmont, CA.

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXT – DON'T PURCHASE. ON RESERVE IN LIBRARY

Janzen, C., Harris, O., Jordan, C., and Franklin, C. (2006) *Family Treatment. Evidence-Based Practice with Populations at Risk (4th ed)*. Brooks/Cole: Belmont, CA.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course will help students to:

1. Increase awareness of how your own individual family history and culture influences your perception of and work with families.
2. Recognize the importance of the family's social context.
3. Identify family life cycle processes and when social workers are more likely to become involved.
4. Identify significant theories, principles and concepts relating to family social work interventions.
5. Identify concepts relating to family strength and resilience.
6. Identify common challenges that families in the Yukon face that can impair their ability to function well. Special attention will be given to Yukon social issues (poverty, violence, mental health, substance abuse, oppression).
7. Identify, select and apply evidence-based assessment and intervention strategies for supporting families.
8. Become familiar with a wide range of services, supports and resources for families.

DELIVERY METHODS/FORMAT

1. An adult education approach which focuses on learning rather than teaching.
2. The class will be structured to ensure content is covered but will allow students to share their knowledge through discussion, presentations, and other methods.
3. Students will have the opportunity to practice skills required in the field.
4. A variety of instructional techniques will be used - lectures, discussions, guest speakers, experiential exercises and individual assignments.

PREREQUISITES

Admission to the BSW Program.

Social Work 390 and Social Work 346 are strongly recommended.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR CHRONIC CONDITIONS:

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability or chronic condition. It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student has a disability or chronic condition and may need accommodation to fully participate in this class, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

Students who require additional academic assistance may find it useful to contact the Writing Centre located in the Library, Room C2211. Appointments can be booked via an online system.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION

1. Professional Conduct, Preparation, Participation and Attendance

Social workers are expected to behave in courteous, mature and respectful ways towards others. This is also the expectation of social work students. Appropriate behaviour is required between students in the classroom, with the instructor and at any time when students are approaching others in relation to projects originating from this class.

Part of professional conduct involves being punctual, prepared and self aware. Being present in class, prepared for class (by completing the readings and assignments on the dates due) and fully participating in class activities is expected.

Students missing more than two classes will lose 5% from their total mark for each additional class missed. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have signed the attendance sheet at the beginning of each class.

Note: This course deals with sensitive issues and personal matters relating to family of origin. It is expected that all members of the class will keep family stories in strict confidence. Please note that the instructor must follow the CASW Code of Ethics in matters relating to safety. We will discuss in depth the issue of boundaries, safety, sharing and limits in the first class.

2. Assignments

General Information:

Due dates: Assignments are to be submitted **in class to the instructor** on the due date. Work submitted in any other fashion must be signed and dated by Applied Arts or Health, Education and Human Services administrative staff.

Penalties: Five (5) % of the assignment's value will be deducted for every day late, up to a maximum of five days, after which it will not be accepted.

Writing Competence: Competence in writing is expected. Wherever possible, instructors are expected to conduct their courses in such a way as to obtain evidence of student writing skills, in term papers, essays, reports, or other written work, and to demand competence in writing for a passing grade. (U.Regina policy)

Style: Assignments must be typed and written using appropriate language. Carefully proof your work. Use APA format.

Rewrites: The instructor is under no obligation to provide you opportunities to re-do your work after it has been submitted for marking. If you *are* given an opportunity to re-submit an assignment for marking, the highest grade that will be provided is 70%.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism (academic dishonesty) is a serious offense and will result in your receiving a mark of zero on the assignment or, on the class, a note on your file, and filing of information with the University Discipline Committee. Plagiarism can also result in suspension or dismissal from the University.

Plagiarism includes the following practices:

- Not acknowledging an author or other source for one or more phrases, sentences, thoughts, code, formulae, or arguments incorporated in written work, software, or other assignments (substantial plagiarism);
- Presenting the whole or substantial portions of another person's paper, report, piece of software, etc. as an assignment for credit, even if that paper or other work is cited as a source in the accompanying bibliography or list of references (complete plagiarism). This includes essays found on the Internet
- The re-submission of a piece of work for which you have already received credit also constitutes plagiarism. Your assignments should be written in your own words, with the sources of ideas and quotations cited according to a standard procedure.

Do not jeopardize your academic future with plagiarism. It is dishonest, unprofessional and has serious consequences.

Please refer to the University of Regina calendar for other forms of academic misconduct. Students are bound by University academic integrity policies. Please review online calendar for further information. http://www.uregina.ca/gencal/ugcal/attendanceEvaluation/ugcal_77.shtml.

Grading Criteria: University of Regina grading criteria will be followed. Please note that all final grades must be approved by University of Regina (your YC instructor submits term achieved grades, but final approval rests with UR).

GRADING DESCRIPTIONS (University of Regina Calendar)

90-99 An outstanding performance with very strong evidence of:

- an insightful and comprehensive grasp of the subject matter;
- a clear ability to make sound and original critical evaluation of the material given;
- outstanding capacity for original creative and/or logical thought;
- an excellent ability to organize, to analyze, to synthesize, to integrate ideas, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

80-89 Very good performance with strong evidence of:

- a comprehensive grasp of the subject matter;
- an ability to make sound critical evaluation of the material given;
- a good capacity for original, creative, and/or logical thinking;
- a very good ability to organize, to analyze, to synthesize, to integrate ideas, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

70-79 Above average performance with evidence of:

- a substantial knowledge of the subject matter;
- a good understanding of the relevant issues and a good familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- some capacity for original, creative, and/or logical thinking;
- an above-average ability to organize, to analyze and to examine the subject material in a critical and constructive manner, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

60-69 A generally satisfactory and intellectually adequate performance with evidence of:

- an acceptable basic grasp of the subject material;
- a fair understanding of the relevant issues;
- a general familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- an ability to develop solutions to moderately difficult problems related to the subject material;
- a moderate ability to examine the material in a critical and analytical manner, and to express thoughts in writing.

50-59 A barely acceptable performance with evidence of:

- a familiarity with the subject material;
- some evidence that analytical skills have been developed;
- some understanding of relevant issues;
- some familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- partially successful attempts to solve moderately difficult problems related to the subject material and to examine the material in a critical and analytical manner;
- basic competence in writing.

0-49 An unacceptable performance.

Required Assignments:

The following are required assignments for this course:

Assignment 1	Services, resources and supports for families (paper, resource document, presentation)	25%
Assignment 2	Family systems theory: Family of origin (paper and genogram)	35%
Assignment 3	Family Assessment and Intervention (paper and video)	30%
Assignment 4	Exam	10%

Note: A detailed syllabus and assignment descriptions will be provided in the first class.