Carleton University
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
SOWK 5000 Foundations in Structural Social Work

Sept 1, 2015 9 am - 4:30 pm
Sept 2, 2015 9am - 4:30 pm
Sept 3, 2015 9 am - 4:30 pm
Sept 4, 2015 9 am - 4:30 pm

Course Project: Friday, Sept 11, 2015 noon- 5 pm

+ on-line assignments due in Oct and Nov.

Closing Class Dec. TBA

Instructor:
Professor Susan Braedley, MSW PhD
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Phone: 613 520 2600 (3662)
Office Hour: Wednesdays 1-2 pm

Welcome to Social Work! From the moment you start this course, you are a professional social worker in training. When at the School or in communication with those involved here at Carleton, it is expected that you will conduct yourself in accordance with the role, including professionalism in your deportment, personal presentation, manners, punctuality, reliability and interactions with others, whether face-to-face, in email or phone communications.

Description of the Course

This mandatory course prepares students for graduate studies in Social Work via an intensive immersion in the principles and practices of structural approaches to social work. The course orients students by facilitating critical engagement with the following key questions:

- What are structural approaches to social work?
- What are their strengths and limitations?
- How do these approaches contribute to social work practices, including case work, advocacy, community development, research and policy work?

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course student will:

- Develop a beginning sense of a professional identity as a social work practitioner. Understand at an introductory level the theory and practice of structural approaches to social work with individuals, groups, communities and policy.
- Have a basic understanding of ethics and values in professional practice, and the moral theory that guides structural approaches to social work
- Have introductory experience with reflective practice, including some key case work and community work practices for structural social work, such as reflective listening, non-judgment, mutuality and solidarity
- Have introductory experience with some key policy practices for structural social work, such as policy analysis, policy briefs and advocacy.
- Have introductory knowledge of how to promote human rights and social justice in social work practice
- Have introductory experience with key intra- and inter-personal skills for reflective social work practice, such as time management, self-reflection and peer support
- Have introductory experience in research practices for social work

**Grading:** All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation including Sept 11 project</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis (2)</td>
<td>2X5%= 10%</td>
<td>Sept. 1, Oct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (2)</td>
<td>2 x10%= 20%</td>
<td>October, November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice Exercises (2)</td>
<td>2X10%= 20%</td>
<td>Sept 5, and Nov. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus or Community Event Assignment</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Due Nov.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Pathways Map</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Due Dec.4</td>
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</tbody>
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**Attendance**

**Attendance is a requirement of this course.** Please organize your other responsibilities to allow you to attend all of the sessions and all hours of the course. This is non-negotiable, except for illness or extreme circumstances. If a session is missed and students provide the appropriate documentation (i.e. medical or legal) to support the unavoidable nature of the absence, the instructor will provide an alternative assignment for the student.

**Course Text and Readings**

The course text is Baines, Donna (ed) 2011 *Doing Anti-Oppressive Practice: Social Justice Social Work* Halifax: Fernwood Press. It is easily available on-line and at second hand book stores in Ottawa, as well as other outlets.

Other readings are available on the CULearn website. They are listed under the heading ARES (in the top right hand corner of the screen).

The text is on reserve in the MacOdrum Library. **You are expected to complete the readings PRIOR to attending class.**

**Participation**
The participation grade reflects an assessment of the following components:
1. Did the student demonstrate appropriate preparation for classes ie reading, notes, assignments, thoughtful participation?
2. Did the student engage in the course discussions by both speaking and careful listening?
3. Did the student show appropriate respect and appreciation for others in course-related interactions with the instructors and colleagues, demonstrating a beginning knowledge of professional and ethical social work?
4. Did the student demonstrate openness and reflection in response to feedback from others?
5. Did the student take a fair share and work well with others in class activities and events?

Students must attend classes and complete on-line components. Both kinds of participation are required in order to complete the course. At times with classes scheduled, be in class on time and stay for the duration of the class. At times with on-line exercises scheduled, view, read and complete the materials by the end of the month. Attendance will be taken in class and your on-line presence will be monitored. If you do not complete on-line class work during the assigned period, there is a penalty of 3% of your final grade if the work is completed late. If it remains incomplete, you risk failing the class.