Spring 1-2003

SW 100.02: Introduction to Social Welfare

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*University of Montana - Missoula*

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Introduction to Social Welfare presents an overview of Human Services. This course is designed to educate students about programs and problems in meeting social welfare needs. There will be an emphasis on the complexity of social services and their historical development. An introduction and analysis of the values, attitudes, economics and political factors that affect the provision of these services will be addressed, as well as potential solutions to social problems.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Upon successful completion of this class, students should be able to:
- Examine political perspectives and discuss how they affect social welfare issues
- Understand the concept of social welfare, and it’s function in society today
- Describe social work, it’s history, professional standards, ethics and values
- Demonstrate beginning knowledge about social work practice interventions, policy formulation and research
- Understand and discuss the principles and realities of social justice
- Discuss issues of diversity and discrimination within the social welfare system
- Discuss the major causes of poverty and understand how these causes affect society
- Describe existing services in child welfare, adult protection, health, youth and adult corrections, chemical dependency, aging, physical and mental disabilities
- Analyze social problems caused by welfare reform, immigration, managed care, prisons, and social security

III. REQUIRED BOOKS:

IV. DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION:
Students with disabilities who wish reasonable accommodations should notify
the instructor as soon as possible, as well as The University of Montana
Disability Services for Students. The University of Montana Disability Services
will make recommendations and arrangements for accommodations that are
necessary and reasonable. Disability Services for Students will authorize the
implementation of those accommodations.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Attendance and Participation
Attendance is required. Attendance will be taken at all class sessions. Failure
to attend classes shows lack of respect and lack of motivation. More than
three absences for any reason will lower your grade.
Participation is highly encouraged. A student should be prepared for each
class, by reading assignments, handouts, and reviewing lecture notes. A
student’s input is valuable as a learning tool. Class discussion is important for
gaining differing perspectives on social welfare issues.

Tests
Test One. February 21, 2003, Understanding Social Welfare and Social Work:
Key Concepts and Perspectives (Chapters 1-4), lectures, speakers, handouts
Test Two. March 7, 2003, Generalist Practice: Methods of Intervention
(Chapters 5-7), lectures, speakers, handouts
Test Three. April 11, 2003, Poverty and Homelessness, Mental Health,
Substance Abuse, Developmental Disabilities, Health Care, The Needs of
Children, Youth and Families (Chapters 8-12), lectures, speakers, handouts
Test Four. May 8, 2003, Older Adults, Criminal, Juvenile Justice, Social Work
in Rural Settings, Social Work in the Workplace, International Social Work,
Future of Social Work and Social Welfare (Chapters 13-18), lectures,
speakers, handouts

Papers
Counting Coup Paper: Due March 12, 2003
Write a three page paper about a relevant social problem found in your
reading of Counting Coup. Late papers will be penalized three points each
day they are late.
Social Issue Paper: Due April 23, 2003
Choose a very specific social issue that interests you and write a 3-5 page
paper about it. Use APA format. Late papers will be penalized three points
each day they are late.

Evaluation

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VI. CLASS SCHEDULE

Week One-Social Welfare
Readings: Chapter 1, Counting Coup, handouts
January 27 Course outline/expectations, brief overview
January 31 Conservative/Liberal perspective

Week Two-Social Work and other Helping Professions
Readings: Chapter 2, Counting Coup, handouts
February 3 Social Work
February 5 Ecological/Systems Perspective
February 7 Social Work ethics and mandate

Week Three-Systems/Ecological Perspective/Diversity/Social Equality
Readings: Chapter 3, 4, Counting Coup, handouts
February 10-Ecological Framework/Strengths Perspective
February 12-The “isms”
February 14-Counting Coup discussion on prejudice and discrimination

Week Four-Diversity and Social Equality
Readings: handouts, test review
February 17-President’s Day/no class
February 19-Lambda Alliance Speaker
February 21-TEST ONE, Chapters 1-4, lectures, handouts

Week Five- Generalist Practice: Methods of Intervention
Readings: Chapter 5, Handouts
February 24-Generalist practice and process
February 26-Relationship
February 28-Theories

Week Six-Groups and Community, Policy, Administration and Practice
Readings: Chapter 6, 7, handouts
March 3-Social Work with Groups/Communities
March 5-How to make policy
March 7 - TEST TWO, Chapters 5, 6, 7, handouts, lectures

Week Seven-The Needs of Children, Youth and Families
Readings: Chapter 11, handouts
March 10-Family Violence
March 12-The changing family
March 14-Kerrie Ghenie-Child Protective Speaker

Spring Break March 17-21

Week Eight-Poverty and Homelessness
Readings: Chapter 8, handouts
March 24-Speaker-Poverello Center
March 26-Who Are the Poor and why are they poor?
March 28-How you can help the homeless
Week Nine-Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Disabilities
Readings: Chapter 9, handouts
March 31-College Drinking
April 2-Community treatment for mental illness
April 4-CDC Speaker

Week Ten-Health Care
Readings: Chapter 10, handouts
April 7-Current issues in health care
April 9-Speaker, Ted Laine M.D.
April 11-TEST THREE, Chapters 8-11, lectures, speakers, handouts

Week Eleven-Aging
Readings: Chapter 13, handouts
April 14-Agism
April 16-Speaker Kevin Brown, Regional Director, Adult Protective
April 17-Death and dying

Week Twelve-Criminal and Juvenile Justice
Readings: Chapter 14, handouts
April 21-Bias in the Criminal and juvenile justice system
April 23 – SOCIAL ISSUE PAPER DUE, Speaker, Lande Collins Probation/Parole
April 25-School’s role in helping at risk children

Week Thirteen-Social Work in Rural Settings/Workplace
Readings: Chapter 15, 16, handouts
April 28-Social problems in rural areas/strengths/weaknesses
April 30-Professional boundaries in working in a rural setting
May 2-The changing role of social work in the work place

Week Fourteen-International Social Work/Future of Social Work
Readings: Chapter 17, 18, handouts
May 4-Global issues and social work roles
May 6-How you can make a difference
May 8-TEST FOUR, Chapters 13-18, lectures, speakers, handouts

Final Week