MASTER SYLLABUS
(Generic Outline)

Administrative Unit: Criminal Justice Administration and Social Work Department

Course Prefix and Number: SOWK 101

Course Title: Introduction to Social Work

DIGITAL DESCRIPTIONS

STUDENT DESCRIPTION:
# Cr Hrs - # Lec Hrs - # Lab Hrs
3 - 3 - 0

PAY-HOUR DESCRIPTION:
Total # = Lec Hrs + Lab Hrs
3 = 3 + 0 X 2/3

Catalog Description: History of social welfare and examination of social work in a variety of practice areas. Offered Fall and Spring.

Prerequisites/Corequisites: None

Text: Many suitable textbooks are available from various publishers and the following list is not comprehensive. Other textbooks may be judged by individual instructors to be more suitable.


Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

Knowledge Objectives:
1. Define social work as a profession.
2. An increased understanding of the various fields of practice.
3. Understand the definition, and concept, of generalist social work.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the history and mission of social work and social welfare.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the functions, roles, and responsibilities of the generalist social work practitioner.
6. Assess social work personally as an academic major and possible career.
7. Gain an understanding of international and global issues that impact client systems and human well-being.

Skill Objectives:
1. Identify and critically analyze social work responses to current social problems and issues.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of basic American Psychological Association (APA) writing.
3. Identify local social service systems, practitioners, programs, services, and issues.
4. Construct a personal vision, and definition, of social work.

Value Objectives:
1. Demonstrate knowledge of the values of the social work profession with an emphasis on respect for the positive value of diversity.
2. Form an appreciation of the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination as well as strategies that advance social and economic justice.
3. Develop a beginning understanding of the impact of personal values to practice in relationship to social problems, ethnic/cultural issues, and other controversial subjects.

Topical Outline:
- Introduction to the course
- Introduction to the Columbia College Social Work Program
- Social Work as a profession
- Social Welfare and Social Work defined
- Social Welfare and Social Work history
- Social Work as a Profession
- Generalist Social Work Practice
- Poverty and Social Welfare Services
- Social Work and Emotional/Behavioral Problems
- Mental Health and Social Work Practice
- Social Work and Child Welfare
- Services to Families
- Sexual Orientation and Diversity
- Social Work Practice and Substance Abuse
- Social Work in the Area of Crime, Juvenile Delinquency and Correctional Services
- Social Work in Education
- Racism, Ethnocentrism, and Strategies for Advancing Social and Economic Justice
- Sexism and Efforts for Achieving Equality
- Aging and Gerontological Services
- Health Problems and Medical Social Services
- Social Work with the Mentally and Physically Disabled
- Social Work and Environmental Problems
- Social Work and Global Issues
- The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 25
NOTE: The intention of this master course syllabus is to provide a general outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught, or where it is taught. This generic outline is not intended to restrict the way any individual faculty member teaches the course. The master syllabus, therefore, should be general enough to allow for a diversity of individual approaches to teaching the course, while at the same time it provides guidance on what the course should cover.