Administrative Unit: Criminal Justice Administration and Social Work Department

Course Prefix and Number: SOWK 300

Course Title: Generalist Social Work Practice

Digital Descriptions:

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<tr>
<th>STUDENT DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>PAY-HOUR DESCRIPTION</th>
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<td># Cr Hrs — # Lec Hrs — # Lab Hrs</td>
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Catalog Description: An overview of generalist social work practice including the knowledge, values and skills as applied to client systems of all sizes. Particular emphasis is on the values and ethics of the profession as well as the theoretical perspectives of the program.

Prerequisites/Corequisites: SOWK 101 or consent of the Social Work Program Director.

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:


CSWE Policy Statement: Social work practice is anchored in the purposes of the social work profession and focuses on strengths, capacities, and resources of client systems in relation to their broader environments. Students learn practice content that encompasses knowledge and skills to work with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. This content includes engaging the clients in an appropriate working relationship, identifying issues, problems, needs, resources, and assets; collecting and assessing information; and planning for service delivery. It includes using communication skills, supervision, and consultation. Practice content also includes identifying, analyzing, and implementing empirically based interventions designed to achieve client goals; applying empirical knowledge and technological advances; evaluating program outcomes and practice effectiveness; developing, analyzing, advocating, and providing leadership for policies and services; and promoting
Upon completion of this course, the student will:

**Knowledge Objectives**
1. Understand the concept and basic components of generalist social work practice.
2. Understand the mission, purpose, values, roles, and goals of social work practice.
3. Gain an understanding of systems theory, and the ecological and strengths perspectives as they apply to social work practice with systems of all sizes;
4. Understand the social work process of relationship building, data gathering, problem assessment, planning, intervention, evaluation, and termination.
5. Gain a basic understanding of concepts and methods used to evaluate practice.
6. Understand the purpose and process of case management.
7. Gain an understanding of the various populations-at-risk and factors that may influence assessment, planning, intervention, and research.
8. Recognize diverse populations affected by social and economic injustice due to race, gender, age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, culture, etc.
9. Use critical thinking skills to understand and compare theories of intervention.

**Skill Objectives:**
1. Define generalist social work practice.
2. Demonstrate understanding, appropriate values, and basic communication skills necessary to engage clients in positive working relationships.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and beginning skills in identifying client, issues, problems, needs, resources, and strengths.
4. Demonstrate beginning skills in collecting and assessing information.
5. Demonstrate ability to identify appropriate resources and plan for effective service delivery.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to appropriately apply empirically based intervention strategies to change unwanted behavior.
7. Demonstrate the ability to resolve an ethical dilemma, using empirically based research and the NASW Code of Ethics as a guide.

**Value Objectives:**
1. Understand and apply the preamble, purpose, ethical principles, and standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, with special emphasis on the ethical principles and responsibility as professionals (Standard 4);
2. Become aware of one's own value system and its potential
impact on the delivery of services;

3. Gain an understanding and appreciation of the importance of cultural competence in social work practice;

4. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and strategies of advocacy and social change that advance social and economic justice.

Topical Outline: Generalist Work Practice will cover the following:

A. Overview of Generalist Practice
   1. Foundations of Social Work Practice, knowledge, values, and skills
   2. Micro, mezzo, and macro practice
   3. Working within an organizational structure under supervision
   4. A wide range of roles
   5. Critical thinking
   6. Planned change process
   7. Empowerment
B. Goals of social work practice
C. Models for practice: systems theory, the ecological and strengths perspectives.
D. The change process:
   1. Engagement.
   2. Assessment.
   3. Planning for change.
   4. Implementation.
      a. Crisis intervention
      b. Case management- concepts and applications
      c. Other theories of intervention
   5. Evaluation.
   6. Termination and follow-up.
E. Ethical implications of practice, NASW Code of Ethics, values and the role of generalist practitioner.
   1. NASW Code of Ethics
   2. Personal values
   3. Client confidentiality vs. public trust.
   4. Ethical dilemmas
   5. Resolving ethical dilemmas
F. Sensitivity to diversity issues in Generalist Social Work Practice
   1. Barriers to effective practice.
   2. Developing cultural competence: knowledge, values, and skills.
      Native Americans, Hispanic, African & Asian Americans
G. Evaluating practice

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 15
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.