Administrative Unit:       Criminal Justice Administration and Social Work Department
Course Prefix and Number:  SOWK 495
Course Title:             Senior Practicum and Integrative Seminar II

Digital Descriptions:

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<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: Taken concurrently with SOWK 490, students will complete an additional 240 hours of supervised field experience targeted to behaviorally implementing the objectives of the social work program in a human service agency. A weekly seminar examines professional and developmental issues related to field experience and assists students in integrating the knowledge, values and skills of generalist social work practice. At the completion of this course, students are expected to write a comprehensive paper demonstrating ability to comprehend and apply social work program objectives to knowledge and experience gained throughout the student's educational experience. (Practicum experiences are most commonly arranged for agency daytime hours.) Offered Spring and Fall (2nd 8 weeks).

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Prerequisites: All core SOWK requirements with the exception of SOWK 490, senior standing, BSW candidate, and instructor’s permission. Co-requisite: SOWK 490 in the same semester.

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: Field education is an integral component of social work education anchored in the mission, goals, and educational level of the program. It occurs in settings that reinforce students' identification with the purposes, values, and ethics of the profession; fosters the integration of empirical and practice-based knowledge; and promotes the development of professional competence. Field education is systematically designed, supervised, coordinated, and evaluated on the basis of criteria by which students demonstrate the achievement of program objectives.
Course Objectives:
1. Apply critical thinking skills within the context of professional social work practice.
2. Understand the value base of the profession and its ethical standards and principles, and practice accordingly.
3. Practice without discrimination and with respect, knowledge, and skills related to clients' age, class, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation.
4. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and apply strategies of advocacy and social change that advance social and economic justice.
5. Understand and interpret the history of the social work profession and its contemporary structures and issues.
6. Apply the knowledge and skills of generalist social work practice with systems of all sizes.
7. Use theoretical frameworks supported by empirical evidence to understand individual development and behavior across the life span and the interactions among individuals and between individuals and families, groups, organizations, and communities.
8. Analyze, formulate, and influence social policies.
9. Evaluate research studies, apply research findings to practice, and evaluate their own practice interventions.
10. Use communication skills differentially across client populations, colleagues, and communities.
11. Use supervision and consultation appropriate to social work practice.
12. Function within the structure of organizations and service delivery systems and seek necessary organizational change.

Topical Outline: The senior practicum requires the student to be engaged in behaviorally implementing the program objectives in a human service agency. Social work supervision is provided. The agency provides opportunities such as those assigned to a beginning social work practitioner. The types of learning experiences will depend on opportunities such the agency has available in their setting. Each student will behaviorally implement and evaluate the program objectives in the agency setting.

(Seminar Topics)
- Case presentations
- Special Topics
- Termination Issues
- Planning for the future
- Research Project Presentations
- Evaluation of Practicum Experience

A primary purpose of the culminating experience is to assess learning outcomes in the major. It demonstrates the following set of characteristics:

- The experience occurs after the completion of appropriate foundational skills,
electives, and requirements.

- Assessment instruments used in the experience measure student achievement of the stated learning objectives for the major.

- Departmental faculty use the information given by assessment to improve teaching and learning in the major.

During this course the Academic Profile, short form, will be administered. This 40-minute standardized test measures learning in general education courses. The results of the tests are used by faculty to improve the general education curriculum at the College.

Recommended maximum class size for this course:  _15_

Prepared by: Lia Willis

Date: March 3, 2003

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.