THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, Knoxville
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK
SW 512 – Intro to Macro Social Work Practice, Section 007
2 credit hours, Fall 2019

Instructor: Annie Farris, MSSW, CNP
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: available upon request
Email: afarris4@vols.utk.edu - email contact preferred and 24 hour response

Required Online Class Sessions: 8/22, 9/18, 10/15, 11/13 5:30-7:30 CST/ 6:30-8:30 EST. All other work and due dates are shown below.

Code of Conduct
It is the student’s responsibility to have read the College of Social Work Ethical Academic and Professional Conduct Code that is in the College of Social Work MSSW Handbook (www.csw.utk.edu). Students are also expected to sign and adhere to the Social Work Field Placement Code of Conduct.

The Honor Statement
An essential feature of The University of Tennessee is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the University, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity. (Hilltopics).

University Civility Statement
Civility is genuine respect and regard for others: politeness, consideration, tact, good manners, graciousness, cordiality, affability, amiability and courteousness. Civility enhances academic freedom and integrity, and is a prerequisite to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge in the learning community. Our community consists of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and campus visitors. Community members affect each other’s well-being and have a shared interest in creating and sustaining an environment where all community members and their points of view are valued and respected. Affirming the value of each member of the university community, the campus asks that all its members adhere to the principles of civility and community adopted by the campus: http://civility.utk.edu/
**Disability**
If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability or if you have emergency information to share, please contact The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Student Disability Services office at 100 Dunford Hall (865) 974-6087. This will ensure that you are properly registered for services.

**Dimensions of Diversity**
The College of Social Work and the University of Tennessee welcome and honor all people. In accordance with the U.S. National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the U.S. Council on Social Work Education (CSWE 2015 Educational Policy Statement), “the dimensions of diversity are understood as the intersectionality of multiple factors including” age, class, color, culture, mental or physical disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, gender identity, immigration status, marital status, national origin, political ideology, race, regionality, religion and spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status. The College values intellectual curiosity, pursuit of knowledge, and academic freedom and integrity. “A person's diverse life experiences may include oppression, poverty, marginalization, and alienation as well as privilege, power, and acclaim” (CSWE 2015 Educational Policy Statement). The College of Social Work promotes social justice and social change, and strives to end discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustice.

**Course Description**
This is a required foundation course. The profession's distinctive mission, history, values and ethical standards, and multiple roles with individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities are examined using local to international comparisons. Theories are examined in the context of critical thinking and evidence-based practice. Defines generalist practice philosophy, methods, and roles in relation to macro practice. Emphasizes skills (i.e., interpersonal communication, relationship building, power analyses, assertiveness, conflict management) that are essential to problem identification, assessment, intervention and evaluation with macro client systems with other professionals and decision-makers. Uses local to international examples to translate theory and evidence-based knowledge into practice that is competent, ethical, culturally affirming, and empowering. The commitment of the profession of social work to practice with culturally diverse, vulnerable, and at-risk populations and to promote human rights, economic, environmental and social justice is infused within the topical areas of this course. It is an introduction to indirect social work practice roles and models, with an emphasis on generalist practice within a strengths and ecological/systemic theoretical perspective. The course will socialize students to core components and similarities and differences in basic problem solving processes (engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation) with groups, organizations and communities.
**Course Rationale**

Problem-solving processes and planned change form the knowledge and practice skill base for professional functioning. This course serves a socialization function by assisting students with their integration of theory and social work practice knowledge with client/client system needs, problems, and assets. The course also assists students to understand both their personal and professional values, and how these values transcend into their work with client systems. This is a foundation course to prepare students to apply a generalist perspective to macro social work practice.

**Course Competencies**

By the completion of this course, the students are expected to be able to demonstrate:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and awareness of human rights, economic and environmental justice. Political factors that impact society, particularly those groups who are negatively impacted by such societal forces. 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 5.2 [Content: privilege; oppression; distributive justice; structural inequality; the influence of values of the dominant culture on choices and decisions made in social, economic, environmental, and political systems, and by the profession; the differential effect on client systems, communities, and organizations of tax systems and benefits]

2. Acquire and demonstrate the application of knowledge and evidence based theories that inform macro practice with communities and organizations. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 [Content: theories of empowerment, social construction, popular education, participatory change, and sustainable development; mezzo and macro practice levels and how groups attain power].

3. Demonstrate the following essential social work practice skills in macro practice focusing on strengths, capacities and resources of communities and organizations: engagement, assessment, intervention, evaluation and termination. 6.1, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 9.2, 9.3 [Content: problem definition; strategies for planning and organizing with communities and organizations; networking and coalition building; administration of social service agencies; program evaluation in the context of macro social work practice; application to integrated health care.]

4. Demonstrate cultural competencies in macro level practice and the promotion of social, economic, and environmental justice. 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.2 [Content: globalization; international social work; planning macro level interventions to combat economic and social justice inequities such as racism, sexism, and
homophobia and minimize the negative effects on clients]

5. Access and utilize technological advances for macro focused generalist social work practice. 1.4 [Content: technological development in macro social work practice; risk management in technological arenas of practice; social media; ethical issues related to such concerns as confidentiality, pooling of collective intelligence, social networking, virtual communities and smart community efforts].

6. Application of ethical principles in organizational and community settings. This includes dealing with ethical dilemmas and steps to ethical decision making. 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 [Content: social justice, practice informed by environmental, economic and social justice, ethical applications in management, leadership and community practice]

**Required Text:**

- Additional required readings will be made available on the Canvas course site.

**Online Education Format:** This course is designed to balance the maximum flexibility in scheduling with a high degree of academic rigor. To accomplish this, the course utilizes multiple technologies to ensure that you receive the most from your education. This format also requires a commitment by the learner to be responsible for attending the scheduled UT Online sessions and ensuring that all course readings are completed by the class for which they are assigned. It should also be noted here that due to the lack of actual in class time the reading requirements are often larger than a face-to-face class would have.

**Professionalism Electronic Classroom Policy.**

Students are required to attend and be fully present for both synchronous and asynchronous course sessions.

For synchronous course sessions, students are expected to participate in class sessions using a video link into the electronic classroom from a non-distracting location. Joining class via audio connection (e.g. phone) will be considered an absence unless the student notifies the professor in advance of the unavoidable exigency necessitating audio-only attendance. Such an event is an exception and not a permissible alternative to full attendance and participation through Zoom videoconferencing.
Respect the ideas and thinking of other class participants by listening to their comments and constructively questioning their thinking and reasoning if you need clarification or information. Work cooperatively with others and fully contribute to the workload of each group in which you may be a member.

**Assignment Due Dates and Late Assignment Policy:**
Late assignments will not be accepted without prior approval by the professor. Late work will be given a grade of zero. Issues related to technology or confusion about due dates being in CST vs. EST will not result in extensions. There are no make-up options for group assignments. If you have a serious illness or extenuating circumstances, the instructor may make accommodations with proper documentation PRIOR to the due date and time. If you have questions about any assignment, please reach out to the instructor for clarification prior to the due date. Reaching out early generally results in gaining the most support from the professor.

**Plagiarism Policy:**
Please note that plagiarism is not tolerated in this course. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure that all submitted work – including work in the discussion board – is free of plagiarism. Issues of plagiarism will be considered on a case-by-case basis and may result in failure of the course.

**Evaluation of Written Materials:**
All written work is to comply with the APA 6th edition writing and publication guidelines.

**Assignments & Grading**
Reflective Writing Assignments (3 at 10 each) 30
Online quizzes (2 at 15 each) 30
Workshop Facilitation 35
Online Class Participation (at 2.5 each) 10
Total: 105/100 points. Note: 5 points of extra credit have been added in the grading for the semester to account for life happening and the possibility of missing a Live Online class or blowing a quiz.

- **Reflective Writing Assignments:** 30 points (CC 1, 2, 3, 4, 6; Dimensions: Knowledge, Value, Skill, Cognitive and Affective Processes)

Students will write a short (2-3 page) reflective paper related to concepts covered in the reading material or in the Grand Challenges Workshops. The purpose of this paper
will be to encourage further critical thinking and explore your perspective on the concepts based on your previous experience, education, readings, and your reactions. Students are expected to think beyond the information presented and write about further insights you believe are important. Focus of reflective papers may include, but are not limited to: Culture and values, biases and assumptions, ethical considerations, influence of the social environment, macro level factors, social justice, etc. Papers should be size 12 font, 1 inch margins, APA style and using Word. The Grading Anchors for these papers will be posted on Canvas.

1. Which of the Grand Challenges most resonates with you and why? Who are some populations who are most impacted by this challenge? Share data about the impact of this challenge in your local community (Nashville, etc). Due September 5, 2018 by 2pm Central in Canvas

2. What is the most important idea you learned from Unfaithful Angels? Share some ways you agreed and disagreed with the authors, and your knowledge base for these assertions. Discuss how you might apply these concepts in your career as a MSSW. Due October 3, 2018 by 2pm Central in Canvas

3. Social work has a long history of involvement in macro practice approaches to improve the lives of individuals and communities. How has the information presented in the readings, videos, and discussions impacted your perspective of engagement in macro level practice? Due October 31, 2018 by 2pm Central in Canvas

• **Quizzes: (30 points)** (CC 1,2,3,4,5,6; DI: knowledge, values, skills, cognitive and affective processes). Students will have 2 quizzes, each worth 15% of the final grade. The quizzes will cover reading materials from the Birkenmaier textbook and related course material. The quizzes are open book and open note, but you are not permitted to share answers or discuss the quiz with other students. Sharing answers or helping each other constitutes cheating and will result in disciplinary action. The quiz will be timed and you have 2 hours to complete the each quiz. Once you open a quiz, you must complete the quiz within the time limit. Do not open the quiz until you have reviewed the material for that module and you are ready to take the quiz. Please do not wait until the last minute to submit your answers for the quiz.
  - Quiz 1: Social Work Practice with Communities (Birkenmaier textbook Chapters 10, 11) Quiz opens 9.6.18 at 8am, due 11.7.18 at 10pm Central
  - Quiz 2: Social Work Practice with Organizations (Birkenmaier textbook Chapters: 12, 13); Quiz opens 9.12.18 at 8am, due 11.7.18 at 10pm Central
• **Grand Challenges Workshop: (35 points) (CC 1,2,3,4; DI: knowledge, values, skills, cognitive and affective processes).**
  Working in small groups (4-5 students/group) students will facilitate a 30- minute workshop on a Grand Challenge for Social Work ([http://aaswsw.org/grand-challenges-initiative/](http://aaswsw.org/grand-challenges-initiative/)) topic during the last 3 Live Online Zoom meetings.
  Students will be expected to facilitate the workshop in a way that demonstrates their mastery of the topic, while also deepening class understanding and analysis of the topic. The Grading Rubric for this assignment is posted on Canvas. The class will be divided into groups following the first zoom meeting and given their Zoom presentation dates then.

• **Online attendance/participation: (10 points)**
  It is imperative that student participate in the Live Online portion of the course. The first session will be dedicated to course aims and discussion of logistics of the course. The remaining Live Online Sessions will be devoted to participation in fellow student presentations/worshops and showing respect to colleagues is an important part of the social work Code of Ethics. Therefore, attendance at each is required and will be monitored as well as participation in student workshops.

**Grading Scale:**
B+ (90-94) Very Good: Student consistently meets and occasionally exceeds normal expectations for the course.
B (85-89) Good: Student consistently meets normal expectations for the course.
C+ (80-84) Average: There is unevenness in grasping course content. Student is inconsistent in meeting the normal expectations for the course.
C (70-79) Poor: There is a lack of understanding of course content. Student does not meet course expectations.
F (69-Below) Very Poor: There is a lack of attendance or incomplete assignments. Course expectations are not met.

**Syllabus Note**
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor, for the purpose of enhancing student learning as needed during the course of the semester.
COURSE OUTLINE

Required Online Class Sessions: 8/22, 9/18, 10/15, 11/13 5:30-7:30 CST/ 6:30-8:30 EST. All other work and due dates are shown below.

Week 1 8/22
Live Online Session- 8/22 6:30-8:30 CST
Topics:
- Course Introduction
- The Grand Challenge of Social Work
- What do Macro Social Workers do?

Readings for this Class:
- Review Grand Challenges information: http://aaswsw.org/grand-challenges-initiative/

Week 2 8/29
Topics:
- History of macro social work
- Social Work's commitment to Macro Practice
- Have social workers abandoned their mission?
- Grand Challenges discussion

Readings for this class (to be done before class):
- Watch “The Women of Hull House” documentary, parts 1 & 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3 - 9/5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topics:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Promoting a Just Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Oppression &amp; Structural Inequality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Human rights, Economic &amp; Environmental Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cultural competency in macro practice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Readings for this class:**


**Assignments:**
Reflection paper #1 due, 2pm Central

Week 4- 9/12
Live Online Session on 9/18 - Student Workshops begin

Topics:
- Social Work Practice with Communities:
  - Engagement, Assessment & Planning
  - Intervention, Termination and Evaluation

Readings:
- Building communities from the inside out: A path toward finding and mobilizing community assets (pages 1-10). Chicago, IL: ACTA Publications

Assignments:
Quiz 1 on Birkemnmaier Chs 10 & 11 not due until 11/7, but is now open if you wish to take it

Week 5 9/19

Topics:
- Social Work Practice with Organizations:
  - Engagement, Assessment & Planning
  - Intervention Termination and Evaluation

Readings:
  - Chapter 12: Social Work Practice with Organizations: Engagement, Assessment, and Planning
  - Chapter 13: Social Work Practice with Organizations: Interventions, Termination, and Evaluation

**Assignments:**
Quiz 2 on Birkemmnmaier Chs 12 & 13 not due until 11/7, but is now open if you wish to take it

**Week 6-9/26**
Social Work Practice with Communities & Organizations: panel discussion

**Week 7-10/3**
Topics
- Review
- Workshop Preparation and Consultation
- Unfaithful Angels Discussion

**Assignments**
- Reflection paper #2 due, 2pm Central

**Week 8-10/10**
Live Online Session 10/15- Student Workshops continue

**Topics:**
- Framing your Message: FrameWorks Institute training, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

**Readings:**
- Review a few examples on the FrameWorks Institute “Hall of Frames”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 9 - Self Care Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 10 - 10/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close the Health Gap Readings:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce Extreme Economic Inequality Readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End Homelessness Readings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| Week 11 - 10/31 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achieve Equal Opportunity and Justice (Latino/a Immigrants) Readings:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Assignments:**  
Reflection Paper #3 due, 10am Central

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 12 11/7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| No new readings, quizzes due!  
11/13- Live Online- Final Student Workshops due.  
**Assignments:**  
Quiz 1 (covering Birkenmaier Chapters 10 & 11) due, 10pm Central  
Quiz 2 (covering Birkenmaier Chapters 12 & 13) due, 10pm Central |

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 13- 11/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Promote Smart Decarceration Readings:**  
- Review Smart Decarceration Initiative website:  
  https://csd.wustl.edu/OurWork/SocialJustice/Decarceration/Pages/default.aspx  
- “Guideposts for the Era of Smart Decarceration:”  
**Ensure Healthy Development for all Youth Readings:**  
- “Unleashing the Power of Prevention,”  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 14- 11/21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topics:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ethics in macro practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Socially just macro practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Research Informed Macro Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Grand Challenges Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wrap Up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Readings:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Hardina, D. (2004). Guidelines for Ethical Practice in Community Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Case studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>