Instructor: Christy Hickman, LCSW
Email: chickma1@utk.edu
Time: Tues & Thurs 8:10-9:25am
Location: 103 Strong Hall

Corequisite(s): 481 or 483. Social work majors only.

**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 BSSW Handbook (http://www.csw.utk.edu/docs/BSSWHandbook.pdf). Students are also expected to sign and adhere to the Social Work Field Placement Code of Conduct.

**CSW Standards of Professional Conduct**

There are certain cognitive, emotional, and character requirements that students must possess that provide the College of Social Work (CSW) with reasonable assurance that students can complete the entire course of study and participate fully in all aspects of social work education and the professional practice of social work. Students in the CSW are expected to possess the following abilities and attributes at a level appropriate to their year in the program. They are expected to meet these standards in the classroom as well as in their practicum.


- **Interpersonal Skills.** The social work student communicates and interacts with other students, faculty, staff, clients, and professionals in a professional manner, and demonstrates respect for and consideration of other students, faculty, staff, clients, and professionals in spoken, written, and electronic form. The social work student expresses her/his ideas and feelings clearly and demonstrates a willingness and ability to listen to others.

- **Self-awareness.** The social work student is willing to examine and change his/her behavior when it interferes with her/his working with clients and other professionals, and is able to work effectively with others in subordinate positions as well as with those in
authority.

- **Professional Commitment.** The social work student has a strong commitment to the essential values of social work (the dignity and worth of every individual and her/his right to a just share of the society’s resources). The social work student is knowledgeable about and adheres to the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics and the Rules of the Tennessee Board of Social Worker Certification.

- **Self-care.** The social work student recognizes the signs of stress, develops appropriate means of self-care, and seeks supportive resources if necessary.

- **Valuing Diversity.** The social work student appreciates the value of human diversity. Social work students do not impose their own personal, religious, sexual, and/or cultural values on other students, faculty, staff, clients or professionals. Social work students are willing to serve in an appropriate manner all persons in need of assistance, regardless of the person’s age, class, race, religious affiliation (or lack of), gender, disability, sexual orientation, and/or value system.

Except for alleged academic dishonesty, which shall be addressed through the procedures set forth in *Hilltopics*, code of conduct violations will be addressed through the CSW Professional Standards Committee.

### Academic Standards of Conduct

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<th>Academic Standards of Conduct</th>
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<td>All social work majors are expected to abide by the University <strong>Honor Statement.</strong> In social work classes, violations of the honor statement include cheating, plagiarism, collaborating on a graded assignment without the instructor’s approval, providing or receiving unauthorized information during an examination or possession and/or use of unauthorized materials during an examination, submitting the same assignment for credit in more than one course, forging the signature of another or allowing forgery by another on a class attendance sheet, or other infractions listed in “<em>Hilltopics</em>”. These violations are serious offenses, subject to disciplinary action that may include failure in a course and/or dismissal from the University. The instructor has full authority to suspend a student from his/her class, to assign an “F” for an assignment or examination or to assign an “F” in the course. See <a href="https://hilltopics.utk.edu">https://hilltopics.utk.edu</a> for more detailed information.</td>
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**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 Services
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 Office of Disability Services 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.

Inclement Weather
Class will be cancelled only if the University is closed due to inclement weather. Campus and local radio and TV stations will be notified, so that appropriate announcement may be made. If class is cancelled, any assignments due that day will be due the next time class meets.

BSWO
BSWO is a student organization that provides an excellent opportunity for leadership development, community and university service, the enhancement of group skills, research opportunities, and socialization. The organization and its activities are viewed as an extension of the BSSW curriculum. All students, regardless of major, who are enrolled in a social work course or considering a major in social work, are welcome. BSWO meets every Tuesday from
11:10 -12:25 in 220 Henson Hall. This time slot is built into the class schedule as a lab for many social work courses. Given the time of the meetings, students are encouraged to bring their lunch.

**Course Description**
Social work content for entry-level professional practice and current issues influencing the profession. Includes development of a portfolio reflecting BSSW competencies and completion of a research-based assignment.

**Course Rationale**
The seminar is designed to provide students the opportunity to further synthesize their academic experience, review previous course work, consider tasks for beginning employment and discuss challenges facing the beginning social work practitioner as well as the social work profession. The portfolio of the student’s work will be the primary assignment in the course.

**Course Competencies**
By the completion of this course, the students are expected to be able to demonstrate (through course activities, assignments, and/or exams):

1. Self-evaluate students’ development in relation to the competencies of the BSSW program. 1.1
2. Prepare for beginning practice and employment. 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.3
3. Reinforce the necessity for ongoing professional development and self-evaluation. 2.3
4. Explore the ethical and value issues facing professional social workers. 1.1, 2.3
5. Demonstrate the standards and commitments of the social work profession, including those related to social justice. 1.1
6. Identify practice issues and concerns experienced by workers. 1.1
7. Further develop and demonstrate critical thinking. 4.2, 5.3, 7.1

**Canvas**
This course uses Canvas for announcements, readings and grade recording. Please check the site regularly.

The final grade for this course will be based on the following assignments:

**Portfolio (40 points) [Measures course competencies 1-9; Dimensions of competency: Knowledge, values, and cognitive and affective processes]**

Each student will prepare a comprehensive portfolio according to the guidelines provided at the seminar’s Canvas site. **Students are expected to demonstrate through their selection of proofs and narrative summaries that they have acquired the requisite knowledge and skills for each BSSW program competency. Each student should drop off their portfolio folder to Gina Middleton in HH 301 as well submit completed proof cover sheets, narrative summaries for each competency, and personal reflections to Canvas no later than 4 PM (EST) on March 7, 2019.** Late portfolios will be penalized 4 points each business day after the due date.
Capstone Group Project (25 points) [Measures course competencies 2-7; Dimensions of competency: Knowledge, values, and cognitive and affective processes]
A project team of 3-4 students will be assigned to tackle one of the 12 Grand Challenges for Social Work. A detailed description of this assignment is posted on the course Canvas site.

California Critical Thinking Skills Test (15 points)
The university requires that graduating students complete the California Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST). It will be administered in class on January 24, 2019. No special preparation or studying is required for this exam. The test is worth 15 points. Full credit will be earned if the student completes the exam on January 24 during the usual class time. Students who are absent and do not take the exam will receive no credit for this assignment. There is no make-up or alternate exam time for this test.

Attendance and Participation (20 points)
Attendance and participation during all class meetings is expected. Attendance will be taken at each class session. To receive full points for attendance/participation, students must be present, on time, and fully engaged during the class meetings.
Please note that attendance AND participation are required. Being present for class does not ensure you receive credit—participation includes professional behavior and genuine engagement during class sessions. For example, the use of electronic devices (cell phones, laptops, iPods, etc.) for non-class related activity while in class will result in the loss of attendance/participation points. Additionally, the student may be asked to leave the classroom. Electronic devices should be turned off or on silent mode and put away during class.

The grading scale for SW 460 is:
- A 94-100
- A- 90-93.9
- B+ 86-89.9
- B 83-85.9
- B- 80-82.9
- C+ 76-79.9
- C 73-75.9
- C- 70-72.9
- D+ 66-69.9
- D 63-65.9
- D- 60-62.9
- F 59.9 and below

As stated in the University’s Undergraduate Catalog, students must earn a C or better in this course to receive credit toward completion of the BSSW degree.
SW 460–Tentative Seminar Schedule

January 10: Introduction/Overview of course
January 15: Portfolio description
January 17: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)
January 22: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)
January 24: Students take CA Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST)
January 29: Class discussion and feedback on portfolio
January 31: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)
February 5: Class discussion and feedback on portfolio
February 7: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)
February 12: Class discussion and feedback on portfolio
February 14: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)
February 19: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)
February 21: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)
February 26: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)
March 5: Work on portfolio (class will not meet)
March 7: Portfolios Due Today (drop off at HH 301 to Gina Middleton)
March 12: Capstone group project presentations and discussion
March 14: Capstone group project presentations and discussion
March 19 & 21: No class—Spring Break
March 26: Guest speaker: Simone Stewart from UT Center for Career Development Resume and Cover Letter Development
March 28: Capstone group project presentations and discussion
April 2: Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 4: Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 9: Capstone group project presentations and discussion
*Graded Portfolios returned to students (pick up from 301 Henson Hall)*

April 11: Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 16: Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 18: Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 23: Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 25: Senior exit survey and open discussion (meet with 467 class)