THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK
BSSW PROGRAM
Spring 2019

SW467R: Honors Integrative Seminar

Instructor: Bill Nugent, MSW, PhD
Time: 9:40-10:55 TR
Office: Henson Hall 411
Location: Henson Hall 423
Phone: (865) 974-6544
Office Hours: Tuesdays after class or by appointment
Email: wnugent@utk.edu

Corequisite(s): 481 or 483
Social work majors - honors concentration.

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

All social work majors are expected to abide by the University **Honor Statement**. 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 “*Hilltopics*”. 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 [https://hilltopics.utk.edu](https://hilltopics.utk.edu) for more detailed information.

### 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/](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**
Advanced social work content for professional practice and current issues influencing the profession. Includes development of a portfolio reflecting BSSW competencies and completion of a research project.

**Course Rationale**
Social Work467R, a 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, 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. Explore grant writing components and funding streams. 4.3, 9.4
7. Identify the importance of research in practice and grant writing. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3
8. Identify practice issues and concerns experienced by workers. 1.1
9. Further develop and demonstrate critical thinking. 4.2, 5.3, 7.1
10. Demonstrate advanced research abilities by completing and presenting a research project. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4
**Required Text**
Required articles will be posted on Canvas for you to download and read.

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

**Course Requirements for students in SW467R**

A. **Attendance, Participation, and Class Behaviors**
Students are expected to attend all classes and to arrive punctually. If you will be missing a class or will be late the instructor must be notified PRIOR to the BEGINNING of the class. Attendance sign-in sheets will be passed around at the beginning of each class. It is the student’s responsibility to sign in as the attendance sheets are the final say for attendance. Each unapproved late arrival will result in 0.5 point deducted from your attendance grade. Each unapproved absence will result in one (1) point deducted from your attendance grade. From the third unapproved absence, each unapproved absence will result in being lowered one letter grade. Only one (1) approved absence will be allowed without point deduction unless it is under extreme circumstances.

In addition, students are expected to fully participate in and contribute to in-class peer-learning processes. Classroom behaviors that impair positive learning environment (e.g., text messaging; improper use of a laptop computer during class) will also lower students’ grade.

The purpose of attendance and class participation is to address competencies #1 through #10 (Dimensions of Competence: Knowledge, Values, Skills, and Cognitive and Affective Processes).

B. **Portfolio**
Each student will prepare a comprehensive portfolio according to the guidelines that will be provided in class (and also available at the seminar’s Canvas site). The completed portfolio is due at the beginning of class on March 7th (drop off at 301 Henson Hall). Late portfolios will be penalized 10% per business day after the due date. Sample portfolios are on reserve in the BSSW program office for your review.

The purpose of this assignment is to address competencies #1 through #10 (Dimensions of Competence: Knowledge, Values, Skills, and Cognitive and Affective Processes).

C. **Senior Research Project Exhibition and Presentation**
All students are required to enter their research project into the University of Tennessee’s Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement (EURECA). IRB approval and the research agreement form are required to conduct your research and present in the exhibition. This semester, students will be required to develop an abstract, finish the research project and develop a poster, and attend the EURECA in April (April 15-18, 2019). **ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED.** Professional attire and demeanor is expected. Additional information on the Exhibition of Undergraduate Research Fair will be distributed and discussed in class. In addition, each student will have the opportunity for presenting her/his research project in class (two times; before EURECA) to get feedback from peer and the instructor. The first in-class presentation is based on the research proposal that each student has developed in SW417R, and the second in-class presentation should contain all aspects of research project by adding study findings.

The purpose of this assignment is to address competencies #1 through #10 (Dimensions of Competence: Knowledge, Values, Skills, and Cognitive and Affective Processes).
D. **California Critical Thinking Skills Test**

The university requires that graduating students complete the California Critical Thinking Skills Test. It will be administered in class on **January 24th**. No special preparation or studying is required for this exam. The test is worth 5% of the final course grade. Full credit will be earned if the student completes the exam on January 24th 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.

The purpose of this assignment is to address competency #9 (Dimensions of Competence: Cognitive and Affective Processes).

**Course Grade**

The course grade for students in SW467R will be calculated as follows:

A. Attendance, Participation, IRB submission, and Class Behavior - 5 Points  
B. Portfolio (Due March 7) - 40 Points  
C. Senior Research Project and EUReCA – 50 Points Total  
   a. Abstracts (Draft due March 5; Final due March 11) – 10 Points (5 points x 2)  
   b. In-class presentations – 10 Points (5 points x 2)  
   c. Poster display (EUReCA) - 10 Points  
   d. Poster presentation and evaluation (EUReCA) - 20 Points  
D. California Critical Thinking Skills Test (January 24) – 5 Points

*Deadline extensions are made rarely, at the discretion of the instructor, only in extenuating circumstances. Late assignments will be penalized 10% for each calendar day past the due date unless alternative arrangements are made with the instructor prior to the due date.*

**Grading Scale for SW467R**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86-89.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-85.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>76-79.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-75.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>66-69.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63-65.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-62.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59.9 &amp; Below</td>
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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.

**Course Schedule**

January 10 – Portfolio Description & Review

January 15 – IRB application / Introduction and Overview of Research Project (sign up for student presentations)
January 17 – First student presentations of research proposal / feedback
January 21 – First student presentations of research proposal / feedback

**January 24 – California Critical Thinking Skills Test**

January 29 – First student presentations of research proposal / feedback
January 31 – IRB application continued.

February 5 – Individual consultations with instructor

**February 7 – [The latest date you can submit your IRB application via iMedRIS without penalty]**

February 12 – Portfolio Q/A

February 14 – SPSS Review (Update your SPSS license. Bring your computer and data to class)

February 19 – individual consultations with instructor
February 21 – individual consultations with instructor
February 26 – individual consultations with instructor
February 28 – individual consultations with instructor

March 5 – [EUReCA title and abstract rough draft due (by 11:59PM), to the instructor, via CANVAS]

March 7 – [Portfolio due (drop off at 301 Henson Hall); before class]


March 14 – Presentation Skills & Making a Good Poster (TBD)

**March 19 –21 Spring Break**

March 26 – (Tentative) Resume training (Simone Stewart) (class meets with SW460)

March 28 – Students Presentations II / peer consultation

April 2 – Students Presentations II / peer consultation

**April 9 – Portfolios due back to students; student presentations 2**

April 11 – finishing up EUREKA posters

**April 15-18 – EUReCA (research exhibition, exhibition dates and details TBA)**

April 25 – Exit Survey and Open Discussion (class meets with SW460)