

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**

**SW552 - COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION**

Course Outline  
Summer 2006

Stan L. Bowie, Ph.D.

Binta ,Alleyne, M.S.W., T/A

Course Section # 33542

Tuesday/Thursday, 9:15-12:15

Henson Hall, Rm 306

Office: 321 Henson Hall

Phone: 974-0692

sbowie@utk.edu

Office Hrs: Thu, 12:15-1:15

**INTRODUCTION:**

The University of Tennessee College of Social Work (UTCSW) is a humane community of proactive, engaged learners and teachers who are prepared to embrace the idea of change with receptive intellectual curiosity. We aspire to be an institution that recognizes change and its implications for social work practice and change that fosters leadership in social change and creativity to address human needs for social and economic justice, while remaining focused on the values, ethics, and history of the social work profession. The College aspires to excellence in classroom and field instruction that supports critical thinking, life-long learning, and appropriate responsiveness to the needs of a diverse body of students, macro and clinical practitioners, and local, national, and international communities. We also strive for excellence in knowledge-building through the meticulous and responsible use of the best available research methods, interdisciplinary collaboration, and programs of research that are designed to address questions critical to social work concerns.

In striving for these standards of excellence, the UTCSW emphasizes the need to (1) address social problems that negatively impact the quality of life for oppressed and vulnerable populations, especially high-risk children and families living in urban and rural poverty, and (2) develop practitioners who are culturally competent, committed to taking a stand against oppressive, inhumane, and unfair societal propensities and political trends, and sensitive to the personal, social, economic, and political circumstances of high-risk, downtrodden, impoverished, and disenfranchised segments of America and world society.

**TEACHING METHOD AND FORMAT:**

The instructional emphasis will be placed on class discussion and interaction, participatory group exercises, and community assessment protocols. The course will be taught with a framework that stresses self-help and self-determination, empowerment, change, economic and social justice, and the use of non-deficit perspectives in social work practice. Students are expected to actively participate in class exercises and discussions, and to challenge themselves, their fellow students, and the instructor. The integration of theory and practice will be emphasized.

**The course will be enriched through sessions that will be conducted on-site at various local agencies that engage in community organization or community empowering activities.** This will enable the class to visit different communities, interface with, and obtain insight from agency leaders regarding their roles in local community organization efforts and the different dynamics and challenges involved in those efforts.

## **STUDENT EVALUATIONS:**

Students will be evaluated as follows for the class assignments:

Simulated Community Organization Paper (SCOP)	50%
Class participation	25%
Attendance	25%

Required Readings: There will be no required textbook for the class. Students will be provided with a set of readings for class discussion and for the major course tasks.

### **Simulated Community Organization Paper (SCOP)**

The Simulated Community Organization Paper (**SCOP**) is an exercise in critical thinking. The objective is to develop a comprehensive, well-written, and well thought-out term paper that involves a hypothetical community organization (C/O) scenario and episode. The C/O episode can occur in an urban or rural context, and students have “creative freedom” on the details, in terms of six questions: Who, what, where, how, when, and why.

The **SCOP** should reflect an integration of literature and pragmatic thinking. This will be accomplished by using specific material from class readings as a guide to your **SCOP** ideas and discussion. For each element of the assignment, a recommended segment is provided. **(in bold print)** by the instructor.

#### ***SCOP Assignment Specifications and Integrative Readings***

1. An overview of the community organization episode should be provided to start the assignment. The overview should provide details on the SCOP neighborhood or community, its unmet needs, community resources or assets in place, and so forth. All **SCOPs** must have scenarios that involve multi-ethnic communities and associated dynamics between them. **(Homan, 115-123, Rivera & Erlich, 254-269).**
2. What is the general focus of the community organization effort? **(Weil & Gamble, 525-534)**
3. What is the specific target for community change, or specific system(s) in the community targeted for social change? **(Weil & Gamble, 525-534)**
4. What was the “trigger event” that caused community mobilization in the **SCOP**, and what is the broader problem that the event now makes visible? **(Rubin & Rubin, 145-146)**
5. How did you determine that there was, indeed, a problem in need of intervention with C/O protocols? **(Mizrahi, 519-520).**
6. Describe the general community mobilization that occurred for collective action, including “bootstrapping” that took place in the **SCOEOP**. **(Rubin & Rubin, 141)**
7. Describe the political participation patterns in the **SCOEOP**, including “political apathetics, spectators, foot soldiers, and gladiators.” **Rubin & Rubin, 142-145.**

8. What type of specific mobilization tactics are used in the **SCOP**? What mobilization models are they consistent with and why? (**Mondross, 536-539; Rubin & Rubin, 148-159**).
9. Describe the role of coalitions. What kind of common characteristics or common oppression can be identified to promote different ethnic groups being part of collective action, and how is it facilitated? (**Homan, 13-19; Rivera & Erlich, 254-269; Rubin & Rubin, 67-70; 146-147**)
10. What types of incentives are offered to encourage individual participation in the **SCOP**? (**Rubin & Rubin, 159-163**).

### READING LIST FOR SCOP ASSIGNMENT

- Homan, M.S. (1999). *Promoting community change: Making it happen in the real world* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.
- Mizrahi, T. (2002). Community organizing principles and practice guidelines. In A.R. Roberts, & G.J. Greene (Eds.), *Social workers' desk reference* (pp. 517-524). New York: Oxford.
- Mondros, J.B. (2002). Principles and practice guidelines for social action. In A.R. Roberts, & G.J. Greene (Eds.), *Social workers' desk reference* (pp. 534-539). New York: Oxford.
- Rivera, F.G., & Erlich, J.L. (2001). Organizing with people of color: A perspective. In J.E. Tropman, J.L. Erlich, & J. Rothman (Eds.), *Tactics and techniques of community intervention* (pp. 254-269).
- Rubin, H.J., & Rubin, I.S. (*Community organizing and development* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Weil, M.O., & Gamble, D.N. (2002). Community practice models for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In A.R. Roberts, & G.J. Greene (Eds.), *Social workers' desk reference* (pp. 525-534). New York: Oxford.

## COURSE SCHEDULE:

- Week 1 (June 6/8)            Course Introduction, semester plan  
Historical perspectives on community organization  
Introduction to community organization concepts  
Contemporary community practice models and theoretical perspectives
- Week 2 (June 13/15)        Basic community organization issues  
Targets for community change  
Neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations  
Discovering and documenting the life of a community
- Week 3 (June 20/22)        Direct Action Organizing
- 11.    Fundamentals
  - 12.    Issue and strategy selection
  - 13.    A guide to tactics
  - 14.    Designing actions
- Week 4 (June 27/29)        Organizing Skills
- 15.    Accountability sessions
  - 16.    Building and Joining coalitions
  - 17.    Recruitment and leadership development
  - 18.    Planning and facilitating meetings
  - 19.    Public speaking and media strategy
  - 20.    Working with community boards and religious organizations
  - 21.    Tactical investigations
- Week 5    Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>: Independence Day Holiday
- Final Class, July 6th        \*\* Term Papers Due , Course Evaluation
- 22.    Grassroots fund raising
  - 23.    Development of administrative systems
  - 24.    Supervision
  - 25.    Financial and legal matters
  - 26.    Developing a long-term perspective

SUMMER 2006, Community Organization (SW 552)  
Agency Visitation (Tentative) Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Agency/Contact Person</u>
June 15	Legal Aid of Greater Knoxville 502 South Gay Street Knoxville, TN 865- 637-0484 Bill Murrah, Community Organizer
June 20	Race Relations Center of East Tennessee 1545 Western Avenue Knoxville, Tennessee 856-522-3004 Saadia Williams, Executive Director
June 22	Save Our Cumberland Mountains, Inc. Lake City, TN 37769 Address TBA, 865-426-9455 Jonathan Dudley, Community Organizer
June 27	Solutions, Inc. 3204 Magnolia Avenue Knoxville, TN 37914 865-523-8009 Jay Mazon, Executive Director
June 29	Cherokee Health Systems Knoxville, TN Address TBA Abe Brown, Vice President
July 6	Knoxville Area Urban League 1514 East 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue 37917 Knoxville, TN 865-524-5511 Phyllis Nichols, President/CEO

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Alvarez, A.R., Gutierrez, L. M. (2001). Choosing to do participatory research: An example and issues of fit to consider. *Journal of Community Practice*, 9, 1-20.
- Aranda, M.P. (2001). The development of the Latino social work profession in Los Angeles. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 11, 254-265.
- Babacan, H., & Gopalkrishnan, N. (2001). Community work partnerships in a global context. *Community Development Journal*, 36, 3-17.
- Beck, E.L. & Eichler, M. (2000). Consensus organizing: A practice model for community-building. *Journal of Community Practice*, 8, 87-103.
- Bobo, K., Kendall, J. & Max, S. (1995). Cleaning up in the nineties. In J. Rothman, J.L. Erlich, & J.E. Tropman (Eds.), *Strategies of community intervention* (pp. 99-113). Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.
- Castelloe, P., Watson, T., & White, C. (2002). Participatory change: An integrative approach to community practice. *Journal of Community Practice*, 10, 7-31.
- Chaskin, R.J. Joseph, M.L. & Chipenda-Dansokho, S. (1997). Implementing comprehensive community development: Possibilities and limitations. *Social Work*, 42 (5): 435-443.
- Copeland, V.C. (1996). Immunization among African-American children: Implications for social work. *Health and Social Work*, 21 (2): 105-114.
- Cousins, L.H. (1998). Partnerships for vitalizing communities and neighborhoods: Celebrating a "return"! *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, xxv (1): 61-69.
- Doe, S.S., & Lowery, D. (2004). The role of evaluation in developing community-based interventions. *Journal of Community Practice*, 12, 71-88.
- Douglass, R.L. (1995). How to use and present community data. In J.E. Tropman, J.L. Erlich & J. Rothman (Eds.) *Tactics and Techniques of Community Intervention* (pp.427-438). Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.
- Edwards, E.D. & Edwards, M.E. (1995). Community development with Native Americans. In F.G. Erlich & J.L. Erlich (Eds.), *Community organizing in a diverse society* (pp. 25-42). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Fisher, R. (1995). Social action community organization: Proliferation, persistence, roots, and prospects. In J. Rothman, J.L. Erlich & J. E. Tropman (Ed.), *Strategies of community intervention* (pp. 327-340). Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.
- Fisher, R., & Karger, H.J. (1997). A Framework for contextualizing social work practice; Macro practice: putting social change and public life back into social work practice. In Fisher, R. & Karger, H.J. (1997). *Social Work and Community in a Private World*. New York: Longman.
- Fisher, R., & Shrage, E. (2000). Challenging community organizing: Facing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. *Journal of Community*

*Practice*, 8, 1-19.

- Garvin, C.D. and Cox, F.M. (1995). A history of community organizing since the Civil War with special reference to oppressed communities. In J. Rothman, J.I., Erlich, & J.E. Tropman (Eds.), Strategies of community intervention (64-98) Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.
- Gellis, Z.D. (2001). Using a participatory research approach to mobilize immigrant minority family caregivers. *Journal of Social Work Research and Evaluation*, 2, 267-282.
- Gray, K.A., & Maas, C. The decision case method: Teaching and training for grassroots organizing. *Journal of Community Practice*, 13, 105-120.
- Hayashi, R., & Rouscoulp, T. (2004). The "Our Homes, Not Nursing Homes" Project: Lives of people with disabilities in nursing homes. *Journal of Social Work in Disability and Rehabilitation*, 3, 57-70.
- Iglehart, A.P. & Becerra, R.M. (1995). Service delivery to diverse communities: Agency-focused obstacles and pathways. In *Social services and the ethnic community* (pp. 204-239). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Iglehart, A.P. & Becerra, R.M. (1995). *Social services and the ethnic community*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Kahn, S. (1991). Organizing. Second Edition. Washington, D.C.: NASW Press. Chapters 1,8,9,10, Organizing: Strategy; Research; and Tactics.
- Kaul, M.L. (1995). Serving oppressed communities: the self-help approach. In J. Rothman, J.L. Erlich, & J.E. Tropman (Ed.), Strategies of community intervention (pp.268-274). Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock, publishers, Inc.
- Midgley, J. & Livermore, M. (1998). Social capital and local economic development: Implications for community social work practice. Journal of Community Practice, 5 (1.5) : 29-40.
- Mizrahi, T. (2001). The status of community organizing in 2001: Community practice context, complexities, contradictions, and contributions. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 11, 176-189.
- Mizrahi, T., & Rosenthal, B.B. (2001). Complexities of coalition-building: Leader's successes, strategies, struggles, and solutions. *Social Work*, 46, 63-78.
- Montiel, M. & Ortego y Gasga, F. (1995). Chicanos, Communities, and Change. In F.G. Rivera, & J.L. Erlich (eds). *Community organizing in a diverse society*, 1-24. Boston:MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Padilla, Y.C. (2004). *Gay and lesbian rights organizing: Community-based strategies*. Binghamton, NY: Harrington Park Press.
- Page-Adams, D. & Sherraden, M. (1997). Asset-building as a community revitalization strategy. Social Work, 42 (5): 423-434.
- Pantoja, A.& Perry, W. (1995). Community development and community restoration: A perspective. In F.G. Rivera &

- J.L. Erlich (Eds.), Community organizing in a diverse society (pp.217-242). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Rivera, F.G. & Erlich, J.L. (1995). *Community organizing in a diverse society*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Rivera, F.G. & Erlich, J.L. (1995). An option assessment framework for organizing in emerging minority communities. In J.E. Tropman, J.L. Erlich & J. Rothman (Eds.), *Tactics and techniques of community intervention* (pp. 94-102). Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.
- Rivera, F.G. & Erlich J.L. (1995). A time for fear: A time for hope. In: F.G. Rivera & Erlich (eds.) *Community organizing in A diverse society*. 1-24. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Rivera, F.G. & Erlich, J.L. (1995). Organizing with people of color: A perspective. In J.E. Tropman, J.L. Erlich & J. Rothman (Eds.), *Tactics and techniques of community intervention* (pp.198-213). Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.
- Rosenthal, B., Mizrahi, T., & Sampson, T. (1994). Should community-based organizations give priority to building coalitions rather than building their own memberships? In M.J. Austin and J.J. Lowe (Eds.), *Controversial issues in communities and organizations* (pp. 9-22). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.
- Rothman, J. (1995). Approaches to community intervention. In J.Rothman, J.L. Erlich, & J.E. Tropman (Eds.), Strategies of community intervention (pp.26-63). Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.
- Shepard, B. (2005). Play, creativity, and the new community organizing. *Journal of Progressive Human Services, 16*, 47-69.
- Schopler, J.H., Abell, M.D. & Galinsky, M.J. (1998). Technology-based groups: A review of conceptual framework for practice. Social Work, 43 (3): 254-267. (community involvement through technology and ethics).
- Specht, H. & Courtney, M.E. (1994). *Unfaithful angels*. New York: Free Press.
- Tropman, J.E., Erlich, J.L., & Rothman, J. (Eds.) (1995). *Tactics and techniques of community intervention*. Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock.
- Weil, M. (1995). Women, community, and organizing. In J.E. Tropman, J.L. Erlich & J. Rothman (Eds.), *Tactics and techniques of community intervention* (pp.118-134). Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.
- Weil, M. (1996). Model Development in community practice: An Historical Perspective. Journal of Community practice, 3 (3/4) 5-67.
- Weil, M. (1996). Model Development in Community Practice: An Historical Perspective. Journal of Community Practice, 3(3/4), 5-67.
- Wilson, A.M. (2003). Preventing developmental disabilities and promoting maternal and child health: Women organizing for change. *Affilia - Journal of Women and Social Work, 18*, 473-478.

Zald, M.N. (1995). Organizations: Organizations as polities: An analysis of community organization agencies. In J. Rothman, J.L. Erlich, & J.E. Tropicman (Eds.), *Strategies of community intervention* (pp. 129-139), Itasca, IL: F.E. Peacock Publishers, Inc.