

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

SW 503 Foundations of Social Work Practice II

Course Outline
Spring 2007

Instructor: Sarah Hamil, LCSW, RPT, ATR-BC

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Course Requirements/Evaluation Procedures:

Students are expected to attend every class session. Assigned readings and other course requirements are expected to be completed as specified by the instructor in class, and as described in the course outline. It is imperative that students contact the instructor regarding any circumstances that interfere with punctual weekly attendance and participation, or the completion of course requirements.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

Article Reading and Response	40 points
Student-Family Explorations	100 points
Family Paper	100 points
Group Paper	100 points
Practice Methods Demonstration	60 points

Assignment of Final Grades

A	376-400 points (Superior performance)
B+	349-375.9 points (Better than satisfactory performance)
B	328-347.9 points (Satisfactory performance)
C+	308-327.9 points (Less than satisfactory performance)
C	280-307.9 points (performance well below graduate level standard)

Required Text:

Collins, D., Jordan, C., & Coleman, H. (2007). *An introduction to family social work* (2nd ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Brooks/Cole.

-Continued use of text from Practice I

Hepworth, Rooney, Rooney, Strom-Gottfried & Larsen. (2006). *Direct social work practice: Theory and skills* (7th ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Brooks/Cole.

Thomlison, B. (2007). *Family assessment handbook: An introductory practice guide to family assessment and intervention*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole

Toseland, R. & Rivas, R. (2005). *An introduction to group work practice* (5th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Other readings may be obtained through the on-line library reserve

-A list of weekly topic readings will be provided by the instructor

Course Requirements

Attendance -Punctual weekly attendance is expected of all graduate students. Students are required to be on time to class, and attend the entire class session. Students are required to participate in classroom ethical discussions, group forums and demonstrate critical thinking skills in responses in related classroom discourse.

Each class absence results in a deduction of 10 points from your final grade. Perfect attendance results in 10 points added to your final grade. (10 points based on 400 total point grading format)

Classroom Participation in Reading and Response

Each student will participate as a reader and as a responder to assigned articles. The student will provide a brief overview highlighting the important points of the article to the class, and the responder will submit three questions pertaining to the article. Specific instructions and a list of readings will be provided by the instructor

Student-Family Explorations

This assignment requires assessing your own family of origin using a social work perspective. The student will use critical thinking skills to explore the family structure, the roles of family members and the family expectations. Other requirements include analyzing the family ideas about gender, culture and ethnicity. The student will include a three-generational family genogram and a social network map and grid. The student will also be required to conduct an interview with a family member to obtain a personal social history. The conclusion for this assignment will include a summarization that targets family needs and strengths from the social work perspective. A detailed format for this assignment can be found in the Thomlinson text (*Family Assessment Handbook*, pages 28-30, activities 3.2 and 3.3)

Family Paper

The student will select an approved movie or book to use as the basis for a family assessment and intervention. This includes using the content of the movie/book to collect and organize clinical data to evaluate and assess the family system. A genogram and eco-map will be completed portraying family structure, relationships, and community resources. The student will provide recommendations for addressing the family needs and identify specific social work interventions. The recommendations and interventions must be evidenced based practice methods. Furthermore the research and references for these methods must be appropriately documented in this paper.

Group Paper

This assignment requires the student to identify and describe a psychosocial problem impacting families or individuals. A description of the problem/need will be provided as the basis for an in-depth literature review on the topic. After thorough research has been conducted the student will identify a standardized and evidence-based framework for an appropriate social work group practice model. This will include a step-by-step format for implementing and managing group work, as well as the expected benefits for the group members. The student will outline preparation needed to establish the group, the objectives for the group, and the expected outcomes/benefits of the group.

Practice Method Demonstrations

The last four class sessions will be devoted to evidenced-based social work interventions for families and groups. Each student is required to demonstrate a social work method or intervention addressing a psychosocial problem impacting families or individuals. This assignment may be conducted individually or in teams depending upon the number of students in the class, and time available for demonstrations. Demonstrations will include the following: 1) handouts for the class defining the target need and population for the group, 2) a description of the method/intervention, 3) the rationale for application, 4) skills or tools needed to implement the method, 5) description of the expected outcomes/benefits for the group.

Outline of Weekly Class Topics and Assignments

- 01/15/07** **No Class: Martin Luther King Holiday**
- 01/22/07** Introductions and Discussion of Expectations
Social Work Practice with Families and Small Groups
Maintaining Ethical Standards
-special considerations for confidentiality with families and groups
- Assignment: Each student will select articles for the Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Obtain a copy of the **NASW Code of Ethics**
<http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/default.asp>
 - Assigned Readings: *A list of weekly topic readings will be provided by the instructor*
- 01/29/07** Foundations for Family Assessment
The Context for Family Work
Framework for Understanding Families
- Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Begin Student-Family Explorations
 - *Family Assessment Handbook* (pages 28-30, activities 3.2 & 3.3)
- 02/05/07** Family Assessment and Intervention
Purpose of Family Assessment
Ecological Assessment
Qualitative Techniques and Visual Techniques
- Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Select movie or book for Family Paper
- 02/12/07** **To Be Announced**
- Assignment: **Independent Work**
Complete Student-Family Explorations due 2/19/07
View movie or read book for Family Paper due 3/5/07
- 02/19/07** **Student-Family Explorations Due**
Family Development and the Life Cycle
Variations Affecting Family Life Cycle
Culture, Diversity and Family Treatment
- Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Continue work on Family Paper
- 02/26/07** Evidenced Based Family Interventions
Coordination of Care, Integration of Resources
Quantitative Family Assessment
- Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Family Paper due next week

- 03/05/07** **Family Paper Due**
Linking Assessment and Intervention: Evaluating Progress
Family Strengths and Resilience
Common Family Problems
Evaluating Family Change
-Discussion of topics for Group Papers & Practice Methods for SW Groups
- Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Select topic for Group Paper and begin literature review

03/12/07 **No Class: Spring Break**

- 03/19/07** Introduction to Social Work Practice with Groups
Standards for SW Practice with Groups
Pre-group phase: Formulating group goals, census, format
Understanding Group Practice: Theories and Methods
- Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Prepare for Group Paper and Practice Methods

- 03/26/07** Social Work Practice with Groups –continued
Group Guidelines
Assessing Group Process
Recognizing Functional Group Behavior
Recognizing Problematic Group Behavior
- Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Prepare for Group Paper and Practice Methods

- 04/02/07** Stages in Group Work
 Group Work in the Beginning Phase
 Group Work in the Middle Phase
 Group Work in the Ending Phase
- Reading & Response
 - Assignment: Group Paper and Practice Methods due next week

- 04/09/07** **Group Paper Due and Practice Methods Due**
Social Work Practice Methods for Families & Small Groups
- Reading & Response
 - Student Demonstrations

- 04/16/07** Social Work Practice Methods for Families & Small Groups
- Reading & Response
 - Student Demonstrations

- 04/23/07** Social Work Practice Methods for Families & Small Groups
- Reading & Response
 - Student Demonstrations