Social Work 460 - Integrative Seminar (3 credits)

**Instructor:**  David R. Dupper, Ph.D., MSW  
**Office:**  303 Henson Hall  
**Phone:**  865-974-8109  
**Email:**  ddupper@utk.edu  

**Time:**  Tue. (& some Th) 9:40-10:55  
**Location:**  HMC-068 (Natalie L. Haslam Music Center)  
**Office Hours:**  By appointment

**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 (www.csw.utk.edu). Students also must follow the policies and rules required by their field placement agency. It is the student’s responsibility to have read these documents and demonstrate professional conduct at all times at their field placement and in the classroom.

**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.

- **Professional Behavior.** The social work student behaves professionally by knowing and practicing within the scope of social work, adhering to the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics and the Tennessee Board of Social Worker Standards of Conduct (1365-01-.10) as found in the Tennessee Board of Social Work Certification and Licensure General Rules and Regulations, [http://www.state.tn.us/sos/rules/1365/1365-01_20100729.pdf](http://www.state.tn.us/sos/rules/1365/1365-01_20100729.pdf)

- **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.

**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*).

**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, 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 “*Hilltopics*” for more detailed information.

**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 adaptation or accommodations because of a documented disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 100 Dunford Hall at 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.

**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. Further synthesize their academic experience through the portfolio experience
2. Self-evaluate their development in relation to the competencies of the BSSW program.
3. Prepare for beginning practice and employment.
4. Reinforce the necessity for ongoing professional development and self evaluation.
5. Explore the ethical and value issues facing professional social workers.
6. Demonstrate the standards and commitments of the social work profession, including those related to social justice.
7. Explore grant writing components and funding streams.
8. Identify the importance of research in practice and grant writing.
9. Identify practice issues and concerns experienced by workers.
10. Further develop and demonstrate critical thinking.
11. Provide feedback to the BSSW program, college, and university regarding their education experience.

**Course Schedule**
All students will attend class on Tuesdays as scheduled. Thursday mornings are reserved for small group meetings with Dr. Dupper to discuss the portfolio assignment and the capstone group project.

**Blackboard**
This course uses Blackboard 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 (75%)** *This assignment evaluates course competencies #1-11*

Each student will prepare a comprehensive portfolio according to the guidelines provided at the seminar’s BlackBoard 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 as well as e-mail electronic versions of all completed proof cover sheets, narrative summaries for each competency, and personal reflections to ddupper@utk.edu no later than 4 PM (EST) on March 1, 2016. Late portfolios will be penalized 5 points each weekday after the due date.

Capstone Group Project (20%) This assignment evaluates course competencies #2-10

A project team of 2-3 students will conduct an analysis of a case study and prepare a presentation and lead a class discussion of their case. A detailed description of this assignment is posted on the course Blackboard site.

California Critical Thinking Skills Test (5%)
The university requires that graduating students complete the California Critical Thinking Skills Test. It will be administered in class on March 8. 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 March 8 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.

Extra Credit Opportunities

Job Search Mock Interview (5 extra credit points)
Each student will have an opportunity to meet with Ms. Mary Beth Browder from Career Services to receive feedback on your resume as well as an opportunity to set up a mock interview. You should bring your updated resume with you to the mock interview. You need to provide a job posting (the actual text of the posting) to Ms. Browder prior to your scheduled interview. This needs to be a job that you are truly interested in obtaining, so that the interview with her will be more valuable to you.

BSWO (3-5 participation points)
It is the BSSW program’s expectation that all social work majors participate in the Bachelor’s Social Work Organization (BSWO). 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 322 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.

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. Students in this class will have the opportunity to earn 3-5 points added to their course grade by attending and participating in BSWO this semester. Your attendance and participation must be documented. Attendance will be taken at each meeting. To be an active member in BSWO and be eligible for extra credit, students are required to attend at least 7 meetings per semester (officers are required to attend 75% of the meetings each semester) and earn 3 - 5 participation points.

Participation points are earned using the following scale:
• 1 point for attending minimum number of meetings required for membership (see above);
• 1 point for participating in one or more drives;
• 2 points for fundraising participation (one per event);
• 2 points for community service or other participation (one per event)

The BSWO advisor and committee chairs determine criteria for participation in all activities. Students may earn
3 to 5 extra credit points in designated BSSW courses. Points awarded for extra credit equal BSWO participation points for a minimum of 3 and not to exceed 5 points. No points will be awarded for students earning less than 3 participation points.

Students must also submit a one-page, double-spaced statement indicating how BSWO participation relates to one or more of the course competencies. The paper is due to the instructor via email one week prior to the end of class. No other extra credit is available in this class.

The grading scale for SW 460 is:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>86-89</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>83-85</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>F</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.

SW 460–Seminar Schedule

January 14: Introduction/Overview of course

January 19: Portfolio description (meet with 467 class)

January 21: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)

January 26: Class discussion and feedback on portfolio

January 28: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)

February 2: Class discussion and feedback on portfolio

February 4: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)

February 9: Class discussion and feedback on portfolio

February 11: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)

February 16: Class discussion and feedback on portfolio

February 18: Individual or small group meetings (by appointment)

February 23: Work on portfolio (class will not meet)
March 1:  
*Portfolios Due Today (drop off at 303 Henson Hall)*

March 8:  
Students take CA Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST) (meet with 467 class)

March 10:  
Resume training (Mary Beth Browder) (meet with 467 class)

March 15 & 17:  
No Class- Spring Break

March 22:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

March 24:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

March 29:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

March 31:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 5:  
*Graded Portfolios are returned to students (pick up from 303 Henson Hall)*

April 7:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 12:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 14:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 19:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 26:  
Capstone group project presentations and discussion

April 28:  
Senior exit survey and open discussion (meet with 467 class)