SW 467: Honors Integrative Seminar

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Time: 9:40-10:55 TR  
Location: Henson #423  
Office Hours: Tuesdays after class or by appointment

Corequisite: 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

- **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

- **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**
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 Work 467, 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. Further synthesize their academic experience through the portfolio and research fair experiences
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.
12. Demonstrate advanced research abilities by completing and presenting a research project

**Required Text**
Required articles will be posted on Blackboard for you to download and read.

**Blackboard**
This course uses Blackboard for announcements, readings and grade recording. Please check the site regularly.
Course Requirements for students in SW 467

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 group activities. 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 is to address competencies #1 through #12.

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 Blackboard site). The completed portfolio is due at the beginning of class on March 1 (drop off at 411 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 #12.

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 during the week of April 11 (exact days: TBA). 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 SW417, 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 #12.

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 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. The purpose of this assignment is to address competencies #1 through #12.
Course Grade
The course grade for students in SW 467 will be calculated as follows:

A. Attendance, Participation, and Class Behaviors - 5 Points
B. Portfolio (Due March 1) - 40 Points
C. Senior Research Project and EUReCA – 50 Points Total
   a. Abstract (Draft due February 23; Final due March 8) – 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 (March 8) – 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 SW 467
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 & 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.

Course Schedule
January 14 – No class (SSWR conference)
January 19 – Portfolio Description (class meets with SW460)
January 26 – Introduction and Overview of Research Project (sign up for students presentations)
February 2 – Students Presentations I / peer consultation
February 9 – Students Presentations I / peer consultation
February 16 – Presentation Skills & Making a Good Poster
February 23 – No Class (preparing for portfolio)
   [EUReCA title and abstract rough draft due via email]
March 1 – Portfolio due (drop off at 411 Henson Hall)
March 8 – CA Critical Thinking Skills Test (required for graduating seniors, class meets with SW460)

[EUReCA final title and abstract due via email]

March 10 – Resume training (Mary Beth Browder) (class meets with SW460)

March 15 – No Class (Spring Break)

March 22 – Students Presentations II/ peer consultation

March 29 – Students Presentations II / peer consultation

April 5 – Students Presentations II / peer consultation

[Graded Portfolios are returned to students – pick up from 411 Henson Hall]

April 11-15 – EUReCa (research exhibition, details TBA)

April 28 – Exit Survey and Open Discussion (class meets with SW460)