



ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

DIVISION: Humanities, Fine Arts, and Social Sciences

COURSE: SWK-1000 Introduction to Social Work

Date: Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Complete all that apply or mark "None" where appropriate:

Prerequisite(s): None

Enrollment by assessment or other measure? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Corequisite(s): None

Pre- or Corequisite(s): None

Consent of Instructor: Yes No

Delivery Method:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lecture	3 Contact Hours (1 contact = 1 credit hour)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Seminar	0 Contact Hours (1 contact = 1 credit hour)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab	0 Contact Hours (2-3 contact = 1 credit hour)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical	0 Contact Hours (3 contact = 1 credit hour)

Offered: **Fall** **Spring** **Summer**

CATALOG DESCRIPTION and IAI NUMBER (if applicable):

This course provides an introduction to the field of Social Work. Students will learn about the NASW Code of Ethics and the principle methods of intervention. The course will provide an overview of social welfare services such as Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans Affairs benefits, child and family services, food assistance programs, and more. Select social issues will be examined in detail through case studies and projects. Students will also learn about Social Work as a profession by learning about the responsibilities and licensing requirements of various social worker careers.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS AND COURSE NOTES:

Students may be required to interview a professional social worker and visit a community service center outside of class meeting times in order to complete an assignment.

COURSE TOPICS AND CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:

Course topics may include:

1. Social Welfare as an Institution and as a Discipline
2. Social Work as a Profession and a Career
 - A Brief History of Social Work
 - Goals of Social Work Practice
3. Generalist Social Work Practice
 - Social Work with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and the Community
 - Knowledge, Skills, and Values for Social Work Practice
 - Social Work Values
 - Social Work Education
4. Poverty and Public Welfare
 - Social Insurance Programs
 - Public Assistance Programs
5. Emotional/Behavioral Problems, Mental Health, and Counseling
6. Issues Affecting the Family and Services to Families
7. Practice Considerations for LGBTQIA+ Persons
8. Drugs, Substance Abuse, and Substance Abuse Treatment Programs
9. Crime, Juvenile Delinquency, and Correctional Services
10. Problems in Education and School Social Work
 - Problems in Education
 - Strategies to Improve Education
 - Promoting an Equal Educational Opportunity
 - School Social Workers
11. Work-Related Problems and Social Work in the Workplace
 - Trends in the Workforce
 - Problems in the Work Setting
 - Social Work in the Workplace
12. Racism, Ethnocentrism, and Strategies for Advancing Social and Economic Justice
 - Causes of Racial Discrimination and Oppression
 - The Effects and Costs of Discrimination and Oppression
 - Strategies for Advancing Social and Economic Justice
 - Multicultural Social Work Practice
13. Sexism and Efforts for Achieving Equality
14. Aging and Gerontological Services
15. Health Problems and Medical Social Services
 - Problems in Health Care
 - Financing Medical Care
 - Medical Social Work
16. Physical and Mental Disabilities and Rehabilitation
 - History of Rehabilitation Practices
 - Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities
 - Current Services

- Roles of Social Workers
17. Overpopulation, Misuse of the Environment, and Family Planning
- The Population Crisis
 - Solid Waste Disposal
 - Social Work and Family Planning

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

Instructor lectures
 Textbook reading material
 Online instructional content and activities
 Case studies
 Class and group discussions
 Small group projects and exercises
 Guest speakers
 Interview with Social Work practitioners
 Field experiences / service-learning

EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:

Written Assignments
 Case Studies
 Quizzes and Exams
 Class/Group Discussion
 Individual or Group Projects
 Online assignments and activities
 Interview with Social Work practitioner
 Assignments based on a field experience or service-learning project

Grading Rubric: A (90-100%), B (80-89%), C (70-79%), D (60-69%), F (Below 60%)

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Textbooks

- Zastrow and Hessenauer. *Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare*. Cengage. (Most recent edition.)
- Or, a similar Into to Social Work textbook by a major publisher, with approval by the division dean.
- Supplementary readings available online or provided by the instructor.

Resources

D2L Brightspace and Zoom
 Student access to off-campus community service center

LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GOALS:

Institutional Learning Outcomes

- 1) Communication – to communicate effectively;
- 2) Inquiry – to apply critical, logical, creative, aesthetic, or quantitative analytical reasoning to formulate a judgement or conclusion;
- 3) Social Consciousness – to understand what it means to be a socially conscious person, locally and globally;

☒ 4) Responsibility – to recognize how personal choices affect self and society.

Course Outcomes and Competencies

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

Outcome #1 – Demonstrate a general knowledge of the field of Social Work.

Competency 1.1 – Students will be able to summarize what is meant by social welfare.

Competency 1.2 – Students will be able to describe the difference between social work and social welfare.

Competency 1.3 – Students will be able to discuss the two conflicting views regarding the role of social welfare in society.

Competency 1.4 – Students will be able to summarize changing social/technological conditions that impact social welfare institutions.

Outcome #2 – Demonstrate a general knowledge of methods of social work intervention.

Competency 2.1 – Students will be able to utilize the problem-solving process for generalist social work intervention.

Competency 2.2 – Students will be able to summarize the variety of roles for social work intervention.

Competency 2.3 – Students will be able to identify and summarize at least two models for group and community practice.

Competency 2.4 – Students will be able to discuss the knowledge, skills, and values for social work intervention.

Outcome #3 – Examine and demonstrate critical thinking with regard to selected contemporary social issues.

Competency 3.1 – Students will be able to discern and discuss relevant facts regarding social issues, such as poverty, family problems, homophobia, drug abuse, crime and juvenile delinquency, inequality, and problems in school and the workplace.

Competency 3.2 – Students will be able to discuss the role of social work intervention in impacting identified social problems.

Competency 3.3 – Students will be able to demonstrate beginning proficiency in designing intervention strategies to impact social problems.

Outcome #4 – Explore reasons for considering Social Work as a profession, as well as demonstrate knowledge of educational and licensing requirements.

Competency 4.1 – Students will be able to utilize relevant web sites, including the web site for the National Association for Social Workers, to obtain information on career opportunities in social work and required credentials and competencies for specific positions.

Competency 4.2 – Students will be able to discuss a variety of social work roles as they relate to personal strengths and competencies.

Competency 4.3 – Students will be able to utilize experiential opportunities for career self-assessment.

Competency 4.4 – Students will be able to analyze various social work/human service job roles and the educational requirements for these roles.