

Social Work 545
Section(s) # 67369

Social Work Practice with Families and Groups

3 Units

“What after all, has maintained the human race on this old globe despite all the calamities of nature and all the tragic failings of mankind, if not faith in new possibilities, and the courage to advocate for them.” Jane Addams

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Course
Day:Saturday
Course Time:9:00

Course
Location:VAC

I. COURSE PREREQUISITES

SOWK 503, SOWK 534, SOWK 543

II. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

Theories and principles with primary emphasis on families and groups with application to problems requiring multi-level interventions.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

SOWK 545 continues the emphasis on generalist social work practice using the problem solving process and builds on the foundation skills learned in SOWK 543. In SOWK 543 the focus was on the problem solving process and knowledge of engagement, assessment, intervention, termination and evaluation with individuals. In SOWK 545, this focus is built upon and expanded to include assessment and

intervention with families and with groups, both within a systems context. Understanding and applying knowledge with diverse client groups in varied social work settings is an important focus of the semester. Throughout the course, students will have an opportunity to review appropriate theories and interventions with regard to their applicability to social work with special populations. Examination of social work ethics and values and the dilemmas faced in practice continues throughout this course. Continuing emphasis is placed on the role of empirical research as it applies to evaluating social work practice.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Objective #	Objectives
1	Teach the ethical standards and practices of professional social work. Provide an environment which encourages students to explore how their particular gender, age, religion, ethnicity, social class, and sexual orientation influence their ethics and how these variables may affect their ethical decision making in practice.
2	Provide opportunities for students to increase awareness that diverse populations (gender, race, sexual orientation, social class, religion, and vulnerable and oppressed groups) present with individualized, group and family needs and require appropriately matched effective services.
3	Demonstrate the importance of the role of empirical research and evidence-based practice as they apply to social work practice. Training will be provided, offering students opportunities to apply the principles of evidence-based practice to case studies.
4	Provide the theoretical foundation needed for students to develop core practice skills underlying social work service to families and groups. Provide students with experiential activities to practice clinical skills.

V. COURSE FORMAT / INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

A combination of lecture, class discussion, and experiential exercises will be used in class. These exercises may include the use of videotapes, role-play, or structured small group exercises. Material from the field will be used to illustrate class content and to provide integration between class and field. (Confidentiality of material shared in class will be maintained.) As class discussion is an integral part of the learning process, students are expected to come to class ready to discuss required reading and its application to theory and practice.

VI. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The following table lists the nine Social Work core competencies as defined by the Council on Social Work Education's 2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards:

Social Work Core Competencies	
1	Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior *
2	Engage in Diversity and Difference in Practice *
3	Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
4	Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice *
5	Engage in Policy Practice
6	Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities *
7	Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities *
8	Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities *
9	Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities *

* Highlighted in this course

The following table shows the competencies highlighted in this course, the related course objectives, student learning outcomes, and dimensions of each competency measured. The final column provides the location of course content related to the competency