Social Work 637

Assessing Wellness to Improve Recovery in Integrated Care
3 Units

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Phone Number: (323) 251-1379
Office Hours: By appointment

Location: ONLINE
Day: Wednesday

Note: Summer Session is 12 weeks. Please see the 12-Week Summer Schedule Handout for details.

I. COURSE PREREQUISITES

SOWK 506, SOWK 536, SOWK 544, and SOWK 546

II. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

This course serves as a foundation of practice for students working within the public health, mental health, and integrated care health systems. The course focuses on cutting-edge knowledge in assessing and promoting wellness and recovery, and the interacting systems of mind, brain, and body. Some discussion will also focus on evidence-based integrated care interventions aimed at improving the well-being of low-income and vulnerable populations in a new era of health care reform.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The focus of this course will be to develop skills and theories on how to assess and diagnose. This course builds on foundation semester courses and prepares students to create and conduct full bio-psycho-social assessments that will then be linked to current knowledge in evidence-informed practices for wellness of mind, brain, and body, the natural helping network of families and peer support, and culturally informed models of care. Toward achieving this end, this course employs a life-course perspective that considers the interacting forces of health and mental health in development of integrated care interventions, often delivered by interdisciplinary teams.

Using a person-centered framework, this course emphasizes how social workers in health, behavioral health, and integrated care settings can support wellness and recovery using a strengths perspective. This strength based perspective is important in properly assessing and identifying protective factors, resiliency, lifestyle choices, and supportive factors to include a culture in which people live. We will also address factors impacting the effects of stress on body, mind, and brain. This course addresses practice challenges associated with multiple and
complex health and mental health conditions that require a focus on wellness, disease self-management, and holistic, culturally responsive care coordination.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective Number</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Develop a theoretical and skill-based approach to create complex bio-psycho-social assessments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Demonstrate skills in conducting brief functional assessments and care collaboration with individuals in the context of family, community, and cultural identities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Demonstrate knowledge of the interacting systems of mind, brain, and body, and how these systems relate to wellness and the recovery model in the integration of health and mental health care.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Facilitate selection of intervention methods in primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention.</td>
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V. COURSE FORMAT/INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This course will use a student-centered learning approach that is both didactic and interactive. Case vignettes, video clips, and class exercises will accompany lectures and assigned reading.

Professional standards and confidentiality: Students are expected to adhere to all the core principles contained in the NASW Code of Ethics (2017) and are cautioned to use their professional judgment in protecting the confidentiality of clients in class discussions.

Person-first language: Students should be especially careful not to contribute unwittingly to myths about chronic health conditions, mental illness, and disability in the conduct of practice, research, interpretation of data, and use of terms. The integrity of persons being addressed should be maintained by avoiding language that pathologizes or equates persons with the conditions they have (such as “a schizophrenic,” “a borderline,” “addicts,” “epileptics,” or “the disabled”) or language that implies that the person as a whole is disordered or disabled, as in the expression “chronics,” “psychotics,” or “disabled persons.” Emphasis should be on the person first, not the disability. This is accomplished by putting the person-noun first (i.e., “persons [or people] with disabilities,” or “an individual diagnosed with schizophrenia”).
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Work Core Competencies</th>
<th>SOWK 637</th>
<th>Course Objective</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Engage in Diversity and Difference in Practice</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Engage in Policy Practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1–4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>1–3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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.
### Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency Description</th>
<th>Course Objectives (number in syllabus)</th>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Competency Dimension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social workers in health, behavioral health and integrated care settings understand that assessment is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with and on behalf of, diverse individuals, and groups. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, person in environment, and other multi-disciplinary frameworks, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in the assessment of diverse clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, and groups. Social workers collect, organize, and interpret client data with a primary focus of assessing client’s strengths. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may affect their assessment and decision-making.</td>
<td><strong>Social Workers:</strong> 1b, 2b. Understand, critically evaluate, and apply theories of human behavior and the social environment, person in environment, and other multi-disciplinary frameworks in the assessment of diverse clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, and groups. 3. Understand how personal life-course experiences, neurodevelopmental growth, and cultural experiences, may affect assessment and treatment planning.</td>
<td><strong>a.</strong> Students will be able to create both brief and complex holistic assessments that focus on the life course development of their clients. These assessments will draw upon knowledge of body mind connections, as well as be culturally responsive. They will use a strengths perspective that fits into the Integrated care model. <strong>b.</strong> Understand, critically evaluate, and apply theories of human behavior and the social environment, person in environment, and other multi-disciplinary frameworks in the assessment of diverse clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, and groups.</td>
<td>Units 1–10</td>
<td>Assignment 2  Assignment 3</td>
<td>Knowledge Reflection Skills</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Competency 9: Evaluate practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency Description</th>
<th>Course Objectives (number in syllabus)</th>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Competency Dimension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social workers in health, behavioral health and integrated care settings value and understand the primacy of relationships in the engagement process. Social workers practicing with adults and older adults understand that engagement involves the dynamic, interactive, and reciprocal processes. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge along with knowledge of practice theories (models, strategies, techniques, and approaches) to facilitate engagement with individuals, families and groups. Social workers understand strategies to engage diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may impact their ability to effectively engage with diverse clients and constituencies.</td>
<td>Social Workers: 3. Demonstrate knowledge of the interacting systems of mind, brain, and body, and how these systems relate to wellness and the recovery model in the integration of health and mental health care. 4. Facilitate selection of intervention methods in primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention.</td>
<td>Choose appropriate prevention targets for clients and provide education on how clients can integrate prevention into their life styles.</td>
<td>Units 1–15</td>
<td>Assignment 3</td>
<td>Values Skills \ Affective reaction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VII. Course Assignments, Due Dates & Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1: Jeopardy Exam</td>
<td>Unit 5</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2: Ethno cultural observational assessment on mental health and wellness presentation</td>
<td>Units 6-10</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 3: Integrated Case Assessment Analysis</td>
<td>Unit 12</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Class Participation</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Assignment 1**

Students will complete an in-class multiple choice exam during Week 5. This exam will cover Units 1-4 and the documentary Fed-up in a Jeopardy format. The categories will be provided to the students as a study guideline. The Jeopardy format: the answer will be provided and students will have time to provide the question. All the questions will be presented twice to allow the students adequate time to provide an answer (on ground/ONLINE only); ONLINE students will submit their answer sheet onto Blackboard immediately after the exam ends. Students accomplishing this assignment on the VAC will have time to go back to previous questions if needed within the prescribed time limit.

**Assignment 2**

This assignment is an ethno cultural observational assessment with a focus on mental health and wellness from a community perspective. Students will present a 15-20 minute PowerPoint presentation that will be followed by leading a 3-5-minute class discussion with a question related to the content presented (health outcomes, environmental factors, community policing, public transportation, etc.). Students may use a combination of PowerPoint presentations along with pictures, graphs etc., of the observed neighborhoods. Presentation dates will be determined during the second class session. Please review grading rubrics for details regarding presentation. You may present individually or in pairs.

Each student will provide a copy of the completed assignment on the selected presentation date to the instructor via the grading portal. The presentation should include (1) a comparative summary of student’s neighborhood in relation to another neighborhood that is different from the neighborhood where the student resides. Student should observe grocery stores, coffee shops, fast-food restaurants, bars, churches, motels, trash on streets, sidewalk safety, and carryout stores, parks, medical clinics/hospitals/dental and health clubs, gun shops, school lunch meals, etc.; making impact statements regarding these committee observations impact on the people who live in the environment to include the impact of Covid-19 (2) a brief summary of the biopsychosocial-spiritual impressions of the documentary Fed-Up roles and how the observed neighborhoods impact the communities’ wellness and mental health; (3) integrate observations, film, and reading articles to support your impressions into a cohesive summary and conclusion.
regarding the impact of person in environment on health and wellness; and (4) select two to three readings to support your analysis. Student will include total of 3 references used to prepare your presentation. See the grading and scoring rubric for specific instructions and required references.

* This is assignment is a POWERPOINT, there is NO PAPER. Your uploaded presentation is due the day before you present.

6-10: Presentations — recommend no more than two presentations per week (10 student enrollments, if 12 or more students enrolled).

Assignment 3

This assignment is an integrated case analysis written in a report format based on both Isaac Ford’s live class visit and his memoir, *Up from the Bottom*. Students will complete a comprehensive assessment that will include background information on the client, problem list (acute vs. chronic), bio-psych-social analysis, identify what would be helpful from a prevention perspective, and diagnosis with an integrated treatment plan (integrated intervention approach). Students will identify problem areas, necessary and appropriate psychological testing, health related illnesses and appropriate referrals. The treatment plan should also identify prevention areas and, interventions that would improve the quality of the client’s life. This assessment should be six to eight pages in content (does not include cover page). See the grading and scoring rubric for specific instructions and required references. There will be a live assessment of the client TBD, during class time. Please review grading rubrics for details regarding this assignment.

Week 12: Assignment due by midnight on the day of class

In-Class Participation

There are test-your-knowledge questions and topic-specific discussion questions that students are expected to complete. The completion of these questions will count toward participation points. Students who complete all of the test-your-knowledge questions, discussion questions, and participate in live session discussions will receive maximum points.

Expectations for Written Work

All written assignments must be doubled-spaced, typed with a 12-point professional font, and have 1-inch margins. Text citations and references list must be in correct APA (6th ed.) format. All sentences must be written in the student’s own words. Ideas, information, and concepts that originated with any other source must always be noted as such (based on APA format). Material that is not correctly cited is considered plagiarized and provides grounds for academic discipline. Assignments should be carefully proofed for spelling and grammar

Class grades will be based on the following:

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### Class Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Grade Range</th>
<th>Final Grade</th>
<th>Class Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.85–4.00</td>
<td>93–100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.60–3.84</td>
<td>90–92</td>
<td>A–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.25–3.59</td>
<td>87–89</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.90–3.24</td>
<td>83–86</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.60–2.89</td>
<td>80–82</td>
<td>B–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.25–2.59</td>
<td>77–79</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.90–2.24</td>
<td>73–76</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 1.90</td>
<td>Below 72</td>
<td>C–</td>
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</tbody>
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### School of Social Work Grading Policy

**Grades of A or A–** are reserved for student work which not only demonstrates very good mastery of content but which also shows that the student has undertaken a complex task, has applied critical thinking skills to the assignment, and/or has demonstrated creativity in her or his approach to the assignment. The difference between these two grades would be determined by the degree to which these skills have been demonstrated by the student.

**A grade of B+** will be given to work which is judged to be very good. This grade denotes that a student has demonstrated a more-than-competent understanding of the material being evaluated in the assignment. To earn at least a B, students must incorporate relevant required and recommended readings.

**A grade of B** will be given to student work which meets the basic requirements of the assignment. It denotes that the student has done adequate work on the assignment and meets basic course expectations.

**A grade of B–** will denote that a student’s performance was less than adequate on an assignment, reflecting only moderate grasp of content and/or expectations.

**A grade of C** would reflect a minimal grasp of the assignment, poor organization of ideas and/or several significant areas requiring improvement.

**Grades between C– and F** will be applied to denote a failure to meet minimum standards, reflecting serious deficiencies in all aspects of a student’s performance on the assignment.
VIII. REQUIRED AND SUPPLEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND RESOURCES


3. Documentary Video: *Fed-up* (2014) by Katie Couric (Ground and VAC); available on Netflix and YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceRFvhIcSy

4. Up From the Bottom: Isaac Ford’s Memoir and personal interview (unit 10-12 class visits, for Assignment 3)

*Required Readings that are not from the textbooks above can been found in ARES under “Kimberly Finney”*

*Note: Additional required and recommended readings will be assigned by the instructor through the course.*

Recommended Guidebook for APA Style Formatting


Recommended Websites


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit/Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction: Wellness Recovery and Integrated Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Introduction to a Biopsychosocial-spiritual Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Why do we assess? Brain and Biology role in Mental Health and Wellness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Assessing the Client’s Mental State</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tools of Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Culturally Responsive Social Work Service Delivery Approaches</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Life Course Considerations</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Primary Prevention</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Secondary Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Prevention and Intervention: Continuum of Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mindfulness Based Treatment Approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Recovery From Serious Mental Illness</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Understanding Drug Abuse and Addiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Putting it All Together</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Integration and Application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Please see the 12-Week Summer Schedule Handout
Unit 1: Introduction: Wellness Recovery and Integrated Care

Topics
- Brief and Modern History of Mental Health
- Integrated Health Care and Contemporary Care
- Health Inequality
- Life Course Perspectives
- Culture in Mental Health Care
- Diversity in Health
- Family and Support Factors in Mental Health

Required Readings
1. HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities (pp. 1–27).

Unit 2: Introduction to a Biopsychosocial-Spiritual Assessment

Topics
- What Is a Biopsychosocial Assessment (BPS)?
- Using the Standard Assessment Form in a BPS
- Language Overview to Describe a Client’s Mood Congruency
- Documentary: Fed-Up

Required Readings

Unit 3: Why Do We Assess? Brain and Biology in the role of Mental Health

Topics
- Brain and Central Nervous System
- Sympathetic and Parasympathetic Nervous System
- The Neurons
- Neurotransmitters and Disorders
- Health, Diet, and Environment

Required Readings

Unit 4: Assessing the Client’s Mental State Status

Topics
- Obtaining Consent and Informing the Client
- The role of Ethics of Assessment and Practice
- Client’s Right
- Assessing a Client’s Present Mental State
  - Mini-Mental Status Exam
  - Sanity Evaluation
  - Language Overview to Describe a Client’s Affect, Appearance, Behavior, and Mood
  - Suicidal and Homicidal Ideation
  - Outcome Measures and Analysis

Required Readings


Unit 5: Tools of Assessment

Topics
- History of Biometrics
- Theories and Hypothesis of Biometrics
- Diversity in Testing and Assessment
- Test Selection
- Mood and Personality Testing
- Dementia, Delirium, and Depression
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Nutrition and Health Assessments
- Treatment Team Meetings and Treatment Planning

Required Readings

Unit 6: Culturally Responsive Social Work Service Delivery Approaches

Topics
- Faith and Spirituality
- Video: *U.S. Faith-Based Organization*
- Buddhist Recovery (Refuge Recovery)
- African Americans and Community Mental Health (see #3 below)
- Asian Americans in Community Mental Health (see #4 below)

Required Readings


3. Mental Health and the LGBTQ community. Available at [LGBTQ_MentalHealth_OnePager.pdf (suicidepreventionlifeline.org)](LGBTQ_MentalHealth_OnePager.pdf)


**Videos**


6. Community Mental Health and Asian Americans (Video: 6.3 mins): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4iSGlAjneA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4iSGlAjneA)


Unit 7: Life Course Considerations

Topics
- Life Course Considerations
- Factors That Impact the Life Course
- Genetic Inheritance
- Environmental Factors
- Growth and Neurodevelopment
- Stress

Required Readings
Unit 8: Primary Prevention

Topics
- Introduction of Prevention Versus Intervention
- Theories of Prevention
- Types of Primary Prevention

Required Readings

Unit 9: Secondary and Tertiary Prevention

- Secondary Prevention Review
- Key Factors Regarding Tertiary Prevention
- Health Promotion Interventions
- Risk and Protective Factors
- Prevention Models
- Phases of Treatments
- Considerations of Secondary Prevention

Required Readings
Unit 10: Prevention and Intervention: Continuum of Care

**Topics**
- Facts About Tertiary Prevention
- Psychosis
- Phases of Treatment
- Treatment Outcomes
- Rethinking Antipsychotics (Robert Whittaker-Video)

**Required Readings**

Unit 11: Mindfulness-Based Treatment Approaches

**Topics**
- Background of Mindful Practices
- Evidence-Based Mindfulness Practices
- Imagery
- Body and Stress Connection
- Diaphragmatic Breathing

**Required Readings**
Unit 12: Recovery From Serious Mental Illness

Topics

- Introduction to Person-First Mental Health
- Major Depressive Disorder
- Bipolar Disorder
- Schizophrenia and Related Disorders
- Continuum Model of Mental Illness
- Elements of Recovery

Required Readings


Recommended Reading

Unit 13: Understanding Drug Abuse and Addiction

Topics

- How Our Brain Seeks and Reacts to Stimulants
- How the Brain Reacts to Substances
- Risk Factors to Substance Use
- Substance Prevention
- Understanding Drug Abuse and Addictions
- Factors of Treatment

Required Readings


2. Peele, S. (2016). People control their addictions: No matter how much the “chronic” brain disease model of addiction indicates otherwise, we know that people can quit addictions—with special reference to harm reduction and mindfulness. Addictive Behaviors Reports, 4, 97–101.


Unit 14: Putting It All Together

Topics
- Reviewing What We Know of Practice
- Changing Our Practice and Research
- Changing the World

Required Readings


Unit 15: Integration and Application

Topics
- Integrated Case Assessment, Analysis, and Treatment Plan

Required Readings continued from Unit 14 above

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend every class and to remain in class for the duration of the unit. Failure to attend class or arriving late may impact your ability to achieve course objectives which could affect your course grade. Students are expected to notify the instructor by email (xxx@usc.edu) of any anticipated absence or reason for tardiness.

University of Southern California policy permits students to be excused from class for the observance of religious holy days. This policy also covers scheduled final examinations which conflict with students’ observance of a holy day. Students must make arrangements in advance to complete class work which will be missed, or to reschedule an examination, due to holy days observance.

Please refer to Scampus and to the USC School of Social Work Student Handbook for additional information on attendance policies.

X. ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

XI. SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Student Counseling Services (SCS) – (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1 (800) 273-8255
Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) – (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp

Sexual Assault Resource Center
For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: sarc.usc.edu

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086
Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. equity.usc.edu

Bias Assessment Response and Support
Incidents of bias, hate crimes and micro aggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

The Office of Disability Services and Programs
Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. dsp.usc.edu
USC Support and Advocacy (USCSA) – (213) 821-4710
Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa

Diversity at USC
Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. diversity.usc.edu

USC Emergency Information
Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible. emergency.usc.edu

USC Department of Public Safety – UPC: (213) 740-4321 – HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24-hour emergency or to report a crime. Provides overall safety to USC community. dps.usc.edu

XII. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Students enrolled in the Virtual Academic Center can access support services for themselves and their families by contacting Perspectives, Ltd., an independent student assistance program offering crisis services, short-term counseling, and referral 24/7. To access Perspectives, Ltd., call 800-456-6327.

XIII. STATEMENT ABOUT INCOMPLETES

The Grade of Incomplete (IN) can be assigned only if there is work not completed because of a documented illness or some other emergency occurring after the 12th week of the semester. Students must NOT assume that the instructor will agree to the grade of IN. Removal of the grade of IN must be instituted by the student and agreed to be the instructor and reported on the official “Incomplete Completion Form.”

XIV. POLICY ON LATE OR MAKE-UP WORK

Papers are due on the day and time specified. Extensions will be granted only for extenuating circumstances. If the paper is late without permission, the grade will be affected.

XV. POLICY ON CHANGES TO THE SYLLABUS AND/OR COURSE REQUIREMENTS

It may be necessary to make some adjustments in the syllabus during the semester in order to respond to unforeseen or extenuating circumstances. Adjustments that are made will be communicated to students both verbally and in writing.

XVI. CODE OF ETHICS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS (OPTIONAL)

Approved by the 1996 NASW Delegate Assembly and revised by the 2017 NASW Delegate Assembly

Preamble

The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. A historic and defining feature of social work is the profession’s focus on individual well-being in a social context and the well-being of society. Fundamental to social work is attention to the environmental forces that create, contribute to, and address problems in living.
Social workers promote social justice and social change with and on behalf of clients. "Clients" is used inclusively to refer to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers are sensitive to cultural and ethnic diversity and strive to end discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustice. These activities may be in the form of direct practice, community organizing, supervision, consultation, administration, advocacy, social and political action, policy development and implementation, education, and research and evaluation. Social workers seek to enhance the capacity of people to address their own needs. Social workers also seek to promote the responsiveness of organizations, communities, and other social institutions to individuals' needs and social problems.

The mission of the social work profession is rooted in a set of core values. These core values, embraced by social workers throughout the profession's history, are the foundation of social work's unique purpose and perspective:

- Service
- Social justice
- Dignity and worth of the person
- Importance of human relationships
- Integrity
- Competence

This constellation of core values reflects what is unique to the social work profession. Core values, and the principles that flow from them, must be balanced within the context and complexity of the human experience.

**XVII. Academic Dishonesty Sanction Guidelines**

Some lecture slides, notes, or exercises used in this course may be the property of the textbook publisher or other third parties. All other course material, including but not limited to slides developed by the instructor(s), the syllabus, assignments, course notes, course recordings (whether audio or video) and examinations or quizzes are the property of the University or of the individual instructor who developed them. Students are free to use this material for study and learning, and for discussion with others, including those who may not be in this class, unless the instructor imposes more stringent requirements. Republishing or redistributing this material, including uploading it to web sites or linking to it through services like iTunes, violates the rights of the copyright holder and is prohibited. There are civil and criminal penalties for copyright violation. Publishing or redistributing this material in a way that might give others an unfair advantage in this or future courses may subject you to penalties for academic misconduct.

**XVIII. Complaints**

If you have a complaint or concern about the course or the instructor, please discuss it first with the instructor. If you feel cannot discuss it with the instructor, contact Lead Professor Dawn Joosten-Hagye, PhD, LCSW, GC-C at jpoosten@usc.edu. If you do not receive a satisfactory response or solution, contact your advisor and/or chair of the MSW program Tyan Parker Dominguez at tyanpark@usc.edu.

- Be mindful of getting proper nutrition, exercise, rest and sleep!
- Come to class.
- Complete required readings and assignments BEFORE coming to class.
- BEFORE coming to class, review the materials from the previous Unit AND the current Unit, AND scan the topics to be covered in the next Unit.
- Come to class prepared to ask any questions you might have.
- Participate in class discussions.
- AFTER you leave class, review the materials assigned for that Unit again, along with your notes from that Unit.
✓ If you don't understand something, ask questions! Ask questions in class, during office hours, and/or through email!
✓ Keep up with the assigned readings.

Don't procrastinate or postpone working on assignments.