

SLWK 200
Introduction to Social Work
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County
Common Course Outline

Description

SLWK 200 – Introduction to Social Work: is a course that offers the students an introduction to the practice of generalist social work. It provides a broad overview of the practical and theoretical orientations to the Social Work profession, including the role of the social worker and social work systems in a diverse society.

Co-requisites: ACLT 053 or (ESOL 052 and ESOL 054) or consent of the program director

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. distinguish the roles of social workers at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels of practice;
2. describe social justice issues and policies related to the needs of marginalized populations, focusing on ecological and economic justice and the social worker as advocate;
3. define dimensions of diversity, bias, and oppression as they impact social work practice;
4. reflect upon personal and professional values as they impact social work practice;
5. apply the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics to a variety of ethical dilemmas as experienced by diverse populations;
6. describe the evolution of the social welfare system and the social worker's role within it;
7. devise social work interventions for a variety of client populations and situations;
8. reflect upon experiential learning, service learning, or volunteer-based learning opportunities;
9. demonstrate empowering and collaborative practices as a social worker, using a strengths-based perspective;
10. describe the roles of social workers in a variety of healthcare settings, including end-of-life care;
11. reflect on the variety of social, environmental, and economic justice issues impacting clients;
12. apply forensic social work principles with a variety of populations; and
13. identify community resources and strategies to link clients to those resources.

Major Topics

- I. Levels of Social Work Practice-fields and Generalist Practice
- II. The Role of a Social Worker
- III. Diversity in Social Work Practice

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.

For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- IV. Personal and Professional Values
- V. Introduction to Ethics in Social Work and the NASW Code of Ethics
- VI. History of American Social Work Practice
- VII. Specific Populations
 - a. Under-resourced Families and Communities
 - b. Family and Child Welfare
 - c. People with Disabilities
 - d. People with Substance Use Disorders
 - e. Aging Adults
 - f. People Engaged with the Criminal Justice System
 - g. Veterans and their Families
 - h. LGBTQ+ Populations
 - i. People seeking asylum

Course Requirements

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- a service-learning experience of at least ten hours and a written reflection
- a presentation based upon an interview with a social worker or visit to an agency and a paper addressing the organization/agency, levels of social work practice, roles of the social worker and the services provided to the specific population the social workers serve
- a social work service plan for a hypothetical client

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor. The students will gain competency in writing all course material using APA formatting to gain competency within the field's professional standards.

Other Course Information

This course will be taught by licensed social workers.

Date Revised: 5/7/2024

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