

Human Services 120: Introduction to Social Work

*San Diego Community College District
San Diego City College – Fall, 2008*

Units: 3

Catalog Course Description:

This is an introduction to the field of social work. It covers the historical development of social work as a profession, and the core knowledge base, including theoretical perspectives underpinning the profession. Emphasis is placed on social work roles, training, and methods of intervention and core social work values and ethics. Human Services 120 requires students to complete 40 hours of volunteer work with a social service agency. (FT)Transfer Credit: CSU

Instructor: Marty Dare, MSW, LCSW **Phone Messages:** 619 388-4603

Advisory: Completion of English 51 and 56 with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent or Assessment Skill Level W5 and R5.

Required Text:

Farley, W.O., (2005). Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare, 10th , Boston: Allen & Bacon (Additional readings will be assigned on-line)

Objectives:

1. Explain the historical development of social work and its emergence as a profession.
2. Define SW as a profession and the ways it differs from other helping professions.
3. Clarify the different levels of SW practice, responsibilities, and training
4. Describe the profession’s core knowledge base including theoretical perspectives.
5. Delineate methods of intervention, including case work, group work, and community.
6. Identify and differentiate SW roles at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels.
7. Explain the generalist model of SW practice.
8. Describe core SW values
9. Describe and know SW ethics based on the NASW Code of Ethics.
10. Define empowerment and its implications for SW practice.
11. Define the concept “population at risk” and ethical dilemmas.
12. Summarize and draw conclusions on future trends for the profession.

Requirements:

In addition to readings and participation you must demonstrate mastery of course materials through the following required activities: two tests, five quizzes, and written assignments. **PLUS: In order to receive credit for this class, you must complete a 40-HOUR volunteer placement.**

Evaluation:

Student grades will be based on multiple measures of performance. Multiple measures may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A - Objective examinations that test for knowledge subjects in learning objectives.
- B - Writing assignments that measure knowledge of subjects in learning objectives above.
- C - Class participation including discussion on clinical, group, and community aspects of social work and social welfare.

Midterm	125 points
Final	125 points
Essay	125 points
Quizzes/posts	125 points
Total Possible	500 points

A	180 +
B	160-179
C	140-159
D	120-139
F	-119

Mid-term Exam: 125

There will be a mid-term examination which will cover the materials on Chapter 1 to Chapter 7 in the required text book, as well as the class lectures and guest lectures.

Final Exam: 125

There will be a final, comprehensive examination, covering Chapter 8 through Chapter 20 specifically and inclusive of reading and lectures from the start of the semester.

Quizzes: 125

There will be 5 regular in-class quizzes

Essay – Volunteer Placement 125

4 -5 pages, typed and double-spaced paper on social service agency visited. For details, refer to “Essay Specifications” document. A signed verification of hours from placement site (time sheet) is also required for completion.

Late Assignments:

Quizzes will be marked down if turned in late. The mid-term and final must be taken on the scheduled day or will be assigned a zero. In rare instances, a make-up exam can be taken *only if student makes prior arrangement with the instructor*. The essay and time sheet can be turned in up until the day of the final. NO PAPERS accepted after this date.

Methods of Instruction:

Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to, lecture and visual aids, class Discussion, examination review performed in class, optional materials available at the Independent Learning Center, homework, including assigned readings, guest speakers, T/V, Internet, and distance education.

Student Responsibilities: Please refer to the “Students Rights and Responsibilities” section of the Student Handbook of College Catalog (see Policy 3100 and Procedure 3100.2). Students may be dropped from the course as a result of consistently poor academic performance.

Attendance Requirements: Under the Community College system, you are required to attend classes. It is the students' responsibility to make sure their names are on each class meeting's sign in. Failure to do so will result in a recorded absence. Students may be dropped from the course if attendance falls below San Diego City College Catalog guidelines.

Students with disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss options with their professors during the first week of class. ATTENTION: I have made every effort to ensure that this course is accessible to all students, including students with disabilities. If you encounter a problem accessing any portion of this course, please contact me immediately.

Plagiarism/cheating: It is against the policy of this class to present the ideas or words of another as one's own AND can be against the law to misrepresent copyrighted material as one's own. **Cheating** - to take an examination in a dishonest way, as by having improper access to answers or allowing another person to provide answers or impersonate the student. **Plagiarism** – for a definition, click on <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plagiarism> and read the “Academia” section. Any student caught plagiarizing or cheating shall receive a zero score grade for the assignment or exam in question AND their name shall be given to the Dean of Students for administrative counseling. A second offense shall result in an automatic failing grade.

Conflicts/Drops/Academic Accommodations: If you have an unresolved conflict during the class, you must first contact the course instructor in an attempt to resolve the problem. If the results are unsatisfactory, you should next contact the Department Chairperson. If the results are still unsatisfactory, next contact the School Dean. It is your responsibility to ***add, drop or withdraw*** from classes before the announced deadlines. If you decide to drop the course, you must do so by the announced deadline, or you will receive a letter grade for the course. Students who may need academic accommodations should discuss options with the professor the first week of class.

Schedule: *Note: The following schedule is tentative and subject to change. Changes will be announced in class early enough to complete assignments. However, it is your responsibility to keep up with the schedule changes. The topics presented below will generally be covered in the same order. Exams will occur only after the dates the topics are presented in class but may not be on the dates indicated.*

August

27 – Introductions, Social Work overview

September

3 – Ecosystems; micro, mezzo, macro

10 – Macro; Clinical Process

17 – Individuals; Needs Assessment (Quiz, in-class)

24 – Interventions (Quiz)

October

1 – Evaluation

8 – Groups, Communities (Quiz)

15 – Review

22 - **MIDTERM (Chpts 1 -7)**

29 – Admin, Research

November

5 – Mental Health (Quiz)

12 – Fields of Service (10-16)

19 – Fields of Service (10-16)

26 – Diversity (Quiz)

December

3 - Case Management

10 - **Review**

17 – **FINAL (Chpts 11-20 plus comprehensive) Essay Due**

Do Not Schedule Airplane Flights prior to the Final Exam date above!

NOTE: Under very special circumstances, students may be allowed to make up a missed examination no later than one class meeting after the actual test date. A late test score will include a reduction of the total possible test points ***regardless of the reason for missing the original test date.*** Late quizzes are also subject to reduction in points.

Important Dates:

October 22 - Midterm

December 17 - Essay Due

December 17 - Final