SWRK 4200/4300 FIELD/FOCUS OF SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE: MENTAL HEALTH

COURSE SYLLABUS

Welcome to the social work field/fo...
COURSE MATERIALS

REQUIRED

Bookstore

The following required materials are available for purchase from the University of Manitoba Bookstore. Please order your materials immediately, if you have not already done so. See your Distance and Online Education Student Handbook for instructions on how to order your materials.

There are three textbooks for the course with identified Text readings for specific units. As well, there is a readings package available at the University of Manitoba bookstore.

Textbooks


Readings Package

Distance and Online Education Readings Package. SWRK 4200, Field of Focus of Social Work Practice: Mental Health, Online Study.

Required hardware and software

You require the following items for your computer for this course:

A headset with attached microphone for the web conferencing sessions.

OPTIONAL

*Mental health resource books that you might find helpful:*


COURSE OVERVIEW

TOPICS

Unit I – Weeks 1 - 5

Introduction, course overview and intro to Unit 1

1. History of mental illness treatment
   a. History of Mental Illness Treatment – causes & impacts of Psychiatric Disorders
   b. Websites
   c. Reflection

2. Policy in mental health
   a. Explanatory Models of Mental Health
   b. Mental Health Policy
   c. Websites
   d. Reflection
3. Housing and Employment: Two Determinants of Mental Health
   a. Housing and Employment
   b. Websites
   c. Reflection
4. Mental Health or Mental Illness?
   a. Mental Health: The New Way of Thinking
   b. Websites
   c. Reflection
5. Employment
   a. Working in Interdisciplinary Teams
   b. Websites

Unit 2 – Weeks 6 - 12

Introduction, course overview and intro to Unit 2
6. Diagnosis and Assessment
   a. Diagnosis and Social Work Practice
   b. Assessment Considerations
   c. Websites
   d. Reflection
7. Suicide Assessment and Intervention
   a. Assessing Suicide
   b. Characteristics of People who consider suicide
   c. Suicide Intervention and Postvention
   d. References
8. Serious Mental Illnesses
   a. Serious Mental Illnesses
   b. Websites
   c. References
9. Medical management and two Social Work Roles
   a. Two Social Work Roles and Medical Treatment
10. Case Management and Social Work Roles
   a. Case Management and Social Work Roles
   b. Program of Assertive Community Treatment
   c. Strengths-based Case Management
   d. Psychoeducation & Skills Acquisition
   e. References
11. Stigma and self-stigma
   a. Stigma
   b. Websites
   c. References
12. Ethics in the Treatment of Mental Illness
   a. Ethics and Ethical Dilemmas in Mental Health

Unit 3 – Weeks 14 - 19

Introduction to Unit 3
14. Community Interventions for Mentally Ill People
   a. Social support in mental health
   b. Websites
   c. Reflection
15. Early intervention in psychosis
16. Models of Working
   a. Medical model
   b. Strengths model
   c. Psychosocial rehabilitation

17. The Recovery Approach
   a. Recovery
   b. Websites
   c. Reflection

18. Cognitive Behavioural Therapy
   a. Behavioural & Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
   b. Websites
   c. Reflection

19. Working with Trauma
   a. Working with Trauma
   b. Reflection

Unit 4 – Weeks 20 - 24

Introduction to Unit 4

20. Special Populations – Child & Adolescent Mental Health
    a. Special Populations - Child & Adolescent Mental Health
    b. Websites

21. Special Populations – Aboriginal Peoples
    a. Special Populations – Aboriginal Peoples
    b. Websites

22. Special Populations – Child Welfare – Parents with Mental Illness
    a. Child Welfare – Parents with Mental Illness
    b. Websites
    c. Reflection

23. Self-Care & Well-Being of the Mental Health Social Worker
    a. Self-Care & Well-Being of the Mental Health Social Worker
    b. Websites
    c. Reflection

24. The Future of Mental Health
    a. The Future of Mental Health
    b. Websites
    c. Reflection

LEARNING ACTIVITIES
The main learning activities will include readings, live virtual classroom sessions (or web conferencing sessions), reflection questions, videos, several written assignments and discussion posts.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

DISTRIBUTION OF MARKS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Policy Brief</td>
<td>18%</td>
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Understanding the context of mental health and treatment of mental illness is necessary. In this assignment you are to select a current mental health policy issue and then write a brief to argue your position as to how to address this issue.

2. The recovery approach
This important approach is currently popular and nicely suited to social work practice. This assignment has 2 parts. In Part 1, explain and critique the recovery approach. In Part 2, apply the recovery approach to a case situation

3. Psychosocial Assessment
Assessment is a required skill to work in mental health settings. Many require a psychosocial assessment which is generally comparable with accepted social work practice. In this assignment, assess the case (Sam) using a psychosocial assessment.

4. Social Work Intervention
In this assignment you will develop an intervention plan based upon your Assignment 3 Assessment of the case (Sam).

5. Final Take Home
This paper will be an essay that should help you pull together your understanding of social work practice in mental health.

6. Web Conference Reports
Within 2 days after each web conference, you will write and submit a report of a few sentences or paragraphs on any topic relevant to the web conference. Value: 2 points per web conference.

For exact assignment due dates consult the "Assignment Due Dates" on the course website.

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<th>GRADING SCALE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Letter Grade</strong></td>
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<td>A+</td>
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<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
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Note: All final grades are subject to departmental review.

PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, AND EXAMINATION IMPERSONATION

You should acquaint yourself with the University’s policy on plagiarism, cheating, examination impersonation and duplicate submission by reading documentation provided at http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/cheating_plagiarism_fraud.html

Ignorance of the regulations and policies regarding academic integrity is not a valid excuse for violating them.

Note: These policies are also located in the BSW Student Handbook http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/social_work/media/BSW_Handbook_2013_2014_Updated_August_23_13.pdf

ASSIGNMENTS

As students and adult learners with experience and knowledge it is expected that you will contribute to the classroom learning and teaching through attendance and participation. Written assignments are expected to meet usual requirements of scholarship at the undergraduate level. In addition to the presence of content relevant to the course objectives, these will be among the criteria used in assigning the grade and include: appropriate use of the literature, coherence in the organization between and within sections, presentation of available evidence for your arguments and a logic to the steps taken towards conclusions. Assignments should use the APA reference style as outlined in the text:


GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE

All students MUST attend all web conferencing sessions (live virtual classroom sessions/classes). Regular attendance and punctuality is expected of all students in all web conferences. Students who miss 1/3 of the web conference sessions (classes) in this course may, at the discretion of the instructor, fail the course.

When absenteeism is unavoidable, students are required to communicate their absence to the instructor prior to the web conference session (class) if at all possible. Students are responsible for all course materials missed due to absence.


Exceptional circumstances such as prolonged illness which has a significant impact on overall attendance may be given special consideration upon a written request, with documentation, at the end of the term. The instructor has the right to set deadlines and to impose the grade of an ‘F’ for un-negotiated and/or unreasonable delays from students. In the normal course of events students are expected to meet deadlines and complete all course requirements within the regular academic session.
**STUDENT SERVICES**

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, or have a disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should discuss these issues with the instructor and/or one or more of the following Student Affairs offices as soon as possible:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Services</th>
<th>University Centre</th>
<th>Phone:</th>
<th>TTY:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Accessibility Services</td>
<td>520 University Centre</td>
<td>204-474-7423</td>
<td>204-474-9790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Affairs Counselling Centre</td>
<td>474 University Centre</td>
<td>204-474-8592</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Learning Centre</td>
<td>201 Tier Building</td>
<td>204-474-9251</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Integrity</td>
<td>520 University Centre</td>
<td>204-474-7423</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Affairs Career Centre</td>
<td>474 University Centre</td>
<td>204-474-9456</td>
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**STUDENT AND ACADEMIC STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

The University of Manitoba has expectations regarding student behaviour.

Policies concerning inappropriate or disruptive behaviour are online:

[http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/279.htm](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/279.htm)

And Policies regarding student discipline are online:

[http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/discipline/531.htm](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/discipline/531.htm)

In addition, Policies regarding academic staff’s responsibilities regarding students are available online:

[http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/278.htm](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/students/278.htm)

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Confidentiality is to be practiced and maintained whether in written assignments, in-class discussions, or in
discussions about the course outside of class.

Students and instructors will comply with applicable provincial privacy laws, including The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and The Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) and will respect the guidelines on confidentiality as outlined in the CASW Social Work Code of Ethics. All parties are responsible for ensuring that no personal information or personal health information that could identify a user of any service system be used in class meetings or in assignments. In addition, while it is acknowledged that the classroom is a public setting, instructors and students shall respect one another’s privacy, when discussing classroom activities outside of the classroom. Violations of privacy legislation or the policy may result in action related to student discipline or professional unsuitability.

You should acquaint yourself with the Faculty of Social Work Policy and Guidelines on Confidentiality, Appendix XIV, pages 61-62 in the BSW Student Handbook

PROFESSIONAL UNSUITABILITY

The Faculty of Social Work may require any student to withdraw from the Faculty pursuant to the procedures set out in the Professional Unsuitability By-Law when the student has been found unsuited, on considerations of competence or professional fitness, for the practice of Social Work.

For further information please refer to the BSW Student Handbook:

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Faculty of Social Work adheres to the CASW Code of Ethics, which outlines the core social work values as:

- Respect for the inherent dignity and worth of persons;
- Pursuit of Social justice;
- Service to humanity;
- Integrity of professional practice;
- Confidentiality of professional practice;
- Competence of professional practice.

The Faculty values academic freedom and freedom of inquiry and freedom of expression as pillars of social work education and also acknowledges the right of every individual to be free from harassment, discrimination and oppression. The Faculty of Social Work recognizes the growing importance of social media and is committed to supporting their ethical and responsible use. Members of the Faculty of Social Work Community, including students, faculty, sessional instructors and staff, are responsible and accountable for their actions and statements. The guidelines are intended to help in making appropriate professional decisions about communication in web conferencing sessions or classrooms and through blogs, websites, wikis, twitter and other forms of social media. The use of unfounded or derogatory statements or misrepresentation is prohibited by the Faculty of Social Work and associated field agencies and may be subject to examination under several University of Manitoba policies related to student discipline, professional unsuitability, sexual harassment, or respectful work and learning environments. These policies and guidelines refer to the Faculty of Social Work and its associated field agencies and are not intended to infringe upon your personal rights and freedoms.

The content of publicly accessible communications shall be consistent with the values specified in the CASW Code of Ethics and be in compliance with The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and The Personal Health Information Act (PHIA). The Faculty values and encourages freedom of expression and critical debate and does not support the use of inflammatory, libellous or disrespectful language. Further, harassment and behaviour that create a hostile work or learning environment run contrary to the University’s fundamental values, as reflected in the Respectful work and Learning Environment Policy (June 22, 2004).

The Faculty of Social Work encourages communication that is accurate and based on reasoned engagement with professional and scholarly knowledge. Postings should be treated as public documents and, therefore, professionalism is highly recommended. Always keep in mind that interaction through social media can result in anyone forming opinions about the Faculty, a field setting, employees, clients, students, or the author of the posting.
Communications that mention the Faculty of Social Work, field agencies, employees, students or clients must identify that the views expressed are those of the author and not the views of the Faculty of Social Work or other members of its community. Under no circumstances should information that is confidential, pertaining to the Faculty, practicum agency, clients or colleagues be shared. Keep in mind that many factors can lead to the identification of a client, especially to those who know her or him. Confidentiality must be strictly observed, as specified in the CASW Code of Ethics and the Faculty of Social Work’s Confidentiality Policy.

The following guidelines for social media interactions with current and past clients are based on general best practices. The Faculty recognizes that circumstances can vary and encourages consultation with your field instructor, advisor, or field liaison.

- Do not “friend” clients or accept requests to be “friended” from current or previous clients.
- Do not use messaging websites such as Twitter or Facebook to contact clients or to respond to clients.
- Use your professional email address to communicate with clients.
- Use caution when discussing your work or studies with clients.
- Remember that all email communication are retained in the logs of your and your clients’ internet providers.
- Remember that information that you provide about yourself on websites can be accessed by clients.

You should acquaint yourself with the Faculty of Social Work Social Media Policy and Guidelines, Appendix XV, pages 63-64, BSW Student Handbook

CONTACTING YOUR INSTRUCTOR

For information on contacting your instructor as well as other important information from your instructor see the Instructor Welcome Letter in your course website.

DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION (DE) STUDENT RESOURCES

In your course website there are links for the following:
- Contacting Distance and Online Education Staff
- Distance and Online Student Handbook
- Distance and Online Education Website

Classes will be held using AdobeConnect. Please see the Web Conferencing Schedule for the website address of the AdobeConnect classroom and the Web Conferencing Information & Assistance, in the course site. You will be emailed your password for logging into the AdobeConnect classroom.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CONTENT SPECIALIST: Brenda L. Bacon & Kathy Levine  
Faculty of Social Work  
University of Manitoba

Brenda Bacon spent 18 years as a community mental health worker in Saskatchewan working with a variety of populations including rural, child & youth, adult, and cognitively challenged adults. She received her BSW in 1975 from the University of Regina, MSW in 1980 from the University of Toronto, and Ph.D. in 1995 from The University of Texas at Austin, and has taught at the University of Manitoba since 1998. Her areas of research include mental health and domestic violence, as well as program evaluation.