

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith

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General Syllabus:

SOWK 3413 Diversity and Social Economic Justice

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory: None

Prerequisite: Admission to BSW and junior standing, or departmental permission.

Effective Catalog: 2015-2016

I. Course Information:

A. Catalog Description

Increase awareness, knowledge, and understanding of issues related to diversity, human rights, social and economic justice. Examines social identity, difference and dominance theories of social justice and oppression, coalition building across differences and its applications in multicultural social work settings. Direct development of skills in working with, and on behalf of, diverse populations will be emphasized.

B. Additional Information - None

II. Student Learning Outcomes:

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice. (Competency 2.1.2)*
2. Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments. (Competency 2.1.3)*
3. Engage diversity and difference in practice. (Competency 2.1.4)*
4. Advance human rights and social and economic justice. (Competency 2.1.5)*
5. Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services. (Competency 2.1.8)*
6. Respond to contexts that shape practice. (Competency 2.1.9)*
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the Workers Code of Ethics
<http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/CODE/Default.asp>.
8. Demonstrate Generalist Practice and core competencies. (Competency 2.2)*

**The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) requires 10 Core Competencies, a Code of Ethics, and Generalist Practice requirements*

A. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Technological Skills

Students will use the library and internet resources to research literature to complete research papers, written assignments, and to prepare for class discussions. The use of a variety of technological resources will be a graded component of these written and verbal activities.

Communication Skills

Students will demonstrate appropriate written and verbal communication skills through papers and oral presentations concerning course focus and in accordance with instructions.

Ethics

Students will be able to weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of social work (nationally and internationally) as a discipline, and as a profession. Standard ethical conduct reflected by the CSWE and related international Social Work associations will be addressed.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will be introduced to global and cultural perspectives with respect to the social work profession and in accordance with the CSWE core competency requirements. Written and verbal activities will require that students demonstrate an understanding of these global and cultural perspectives.

III. Major Course Topics:

- A. Americans with Disabilities Act
- B. Social and Economic Justice
- C. Diversity and differences in social work practice
- D. Advancing human rights
- E. Social identity and ally development models
- F. Difference and dominance theories of social justice and oppression
- G. Power, privilege, and oppression
- H. Conflict/Resolution understanding
- I. Coalition building across differences
- J. Multiculturalism in social work settings