

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith

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General Syllabus:

SOWK 3433 Unique Populations: Teens, Special Needs, and the Elderly

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

Covers specialized social work practices with targeted groups: teens, special needs, and aging clientele. Addressed social work theory (person-in-environment), practice principles, standards, and values to practice with these populations. Special attention is given to these populations in Arkansas.

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 critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments. (Competency 2.1.3)
2. Engage diversity and difference in practice. (Competency 2.1.4)
3. Advance human rights and social and economic justice. (Competency 2.1.5)
4. Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment. (Competency 2.1.7)
5. Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. (Competency 2.1.10 a,b,c,d)
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the Workers Code of Ethics
<http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/CODE/Default.asp>.
7. 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.*

B. 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. Social Welfare issues unique to teenagers, geriatrics, and special needs populations
- B. Advancing human rights in Arkansas
- C. Topics relevant to Americans with disabilities
- D. Macro Systems