

University
of Regina



COURSE OUTLINE

SW 437
SOCIAL WORK WITH FAMILIES

3 CREDITS

PREPARED BY: Janice Wiens, BSW Instructor/Coordinator
DATE: March 31, 2020

APPROVED BY: Dr. Andrew Richardson, Dean Applied Arts
APPROVED BY: University of Regina
DATE: March, 2020

APPROVED BY SENATE:
RENEWED BY SENATE:



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SOCIAL WORK WITH FAMILIES

INSTRUCTOR: Janice Wiens	OFFICE HOURS: Thurs. 4:00 pm- 5:00 pm
OFFICE LOCATION: A2511	CLASSROOM: Online via Zoom
E-MAIL: jwiens@yukonu.ca	TIME: 1:00pm – 3:55pm
TELEPHONE: 867.668.8846	DATES: Wed. Sept. 2nd- Wed. Dec. 2nd, 2020

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to understanding and working with families. Emphasis is on the family as a system progressing through the family life cycle. Several dimensions of family functioning will be discussed. Students will be exposed to various approaches to family practice.

Note: There will be a strong focus on Yukon experiences and realities.

PREREQUISITES

Admission to the Yukon University BSW Program.
Social Work 390 and Social Work 346 are strongly recommended

RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

It is highly recommended that all students have access to a computer or other device and Internet to do their studies. The minimum specifications for a student device are as follows:

Requirement	Windows-based PC	Apple Mac/macOS-based PC
Operating System	Windows 10	macOS X
Web Browser	Firefox, Edge or Google Chrome	Firefox, Edge or Google Chrome
RAM/Memory	4 GB	4 GB
Storage	5 GB of available space	5 GB of available space

This course will include a total of 45 hours activity. A combination of synchronous (virtual real-time class meetings through Zoom) and asynchronous (web-based via Moodle)

learning activities are provided. Learning activities may include but are not limited to facilitator-led learning, projects, in-class and on-line exercises.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

This is a University of Regina course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Identify more clearly how their own individual family history and culture influences their perception of and work with families.
2. Recognize the importance of the family's social context.
3. Identify family life cycle processes and when social workers are more likely to become involved.
4. Identify significant theories, principles and concepts relating to family social work interventions.
5. Identify concepts relating to family strength and resilience
6. Identify common challenges that families in the Yukon face that can impair their ability to function well. Special attention will be given to Yukon social issues (poverty, violence, mental health, substance abuse, oppression).
7. Identify, select and apply evidence-based assessment and intervention strategies for supporting families.
8. Become familiar with a wide range of services, supports and resources for families.

COURSE FORMAT

Students will be engaged in many experiential activities such as discussion, role-playing, scenario creation, presentations, case conferencing and collaboration. Students will have the opportunity to practice skills required in the field. A variety of instructional techniques will be used - lectures, discussions, guest speakers, experiential exercises and individual assignments.

This course will include a total of 45 hours activity. A combination of synchronous (virtual real-time class meetings through Zoom) and asynchronous (web-based via Moodle) learning activities are provided. Learning activities may include but are not limited to facilitator-led learning, projects, in-class and on-line exercises.

ASSESSMENTS:

Attendance & Participation

Professional social work conduct and maturity is to be demonstrated within class and beyond.

Part of professional conduct involves being punctual, prepared and self aware. Being present in class, prepared for class (by completing the readings and assignments on the dates due) and participating in class activities is expected. Students must understand and uphold the CASW Code of Ethics.

This course deals with sensitive issues and personal matters relating to family of origin. It is expected that all members of the class will be respectful of and keep confidential any information that they hear, while keeping in mind any Duties to Report as it pertains to safety. We will discuss issues relating to boundaries, safety, sharing and limits.

Students who miss more than 2 classes will have 5% of their final grade deducted for each additional class missed, or portion thereof. If a student misses more than two classes, they may choose to speak with the instructor and ask for an additional assignment to complete in lieu of this missed class, thereby avoiding a deduction in their term grade. The instructor has discretion over a) whether to grant this option to the student and b) the content and format of the assignment. Without exception this additional assignment must be completed satisfactorily prior to the end of term

Assignments

General Information about Assignments:

Due dates: Assignments are to be submitted to the instructor in person on the due date, unless otherwise stated in class.

Penalties: Five (5) % of the assignment's value will be deducted for every day late, up to a maximum of five days, after which it will not be accepted.

Writing Competence: Competence in writing is expected. Wherever possible, instructors are expected to conduct their courses in such a way as to obtain evidence of student writing skills, in term papers, essays, reports, or other written work, and to demand competence in writing for a passing grade. (University of Regina policy)

Style: Assignments must be typed and written using appropriate language. Carefully proof your work. Use APA format.

Rewrites: The instructor is under no obligation to provide opportunities to re-submit your work after it has been marked. If you are given an opportunity to rewrite an assignment, the highest grade that will be provided is 70%.

Assignment Descriptions will be provided on the first day of class.

EVALUATION:

Assignments	90%
Final Exam	10%
Total	100%

Grading Criteria: University of Regina grading criteria will be followed. Please note that final grade approval rests with the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Regina.

GRADING DESCRIPTIONS (University of Regina Calendar)

90-99 An outstanding performance with very strong evidence of:

- an insightful and comprehensive grasp of the subject matter;
- a clear ability to make sound and original critical evaluation of the material given;
- outstanding capacity for original creative and/or logical thought;
- an excellent ability to organize, to analyze, to synthesize, to integrate ideas, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

80-89 Very good performance with strong evidence of:

- a comprehensive grasp of the subject matter;
- an ability to make sound critical evaluation of the material given;
- a good capacity for original, creative, and/or logical thinking;
- a very good ability to organize, to analyze, to synthesize, to integrate ideas, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

70-79 Above average performance with evidence of:

- a substantial knowledge of the subject matter;
- a good understanding of the relevant issues and a good familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- some capacity for original, creative, and/or logical thinking;
- an above-average ability to organize, to analyze and to examine the subject material in a critical and constructive manner, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

60-69 A generally satisfactory and intellectually adequate performance with evidence of:

- an acceptable basic grasp of the subject material;
- a fair understanding of the relevant issues;
- a general familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- an ability to develop solutions to moderately difficult problems related to the subject material;
- a moderate ability to examine the material in a critical and analytical manner, and to express thoughts in writing.

50-59 A barely acceptable performance with evidence of:

- a familiarity with the subject material;
- some evidence that analytical skills have been developed;
- some understanding of relevant issues;
- some familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- partially successful attempts to solve moderately difficult problems related material and to examine the material in a critical and analytical manner;
- basic competence in writing.

0-49 An unacceptable performance.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIAL

Collins, D., Jordan.,& Coleman, H. (2012) *An Introduction to Family Social Work (4th ed)*. Thomson Brooks/Cole. Belmont, CA.

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXT – DON'T PURCHASE. ON RESERVE IN LIBRARY

Janzen, C., Harris, O., Jordan, C., and Franklin, C. (2006) *Family Treatment. Evidence-Based Practice with Populations at Risk (4th ed)*. Brooks/Cole: Belmont, CA.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the University.

Do not jeopardize your academic future with plagiarism. It is dishonest, unprofessional and has serious consequences.

Please refer to the University of Regina calendar for other forms of academic misconduct. Students are bound by University academic integrity policies. Please review online calendar for further information.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon University recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon University

program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): lac@yukonu.ca.