

SW790, Section 006 - Working with Self-Help, Support, and Advocacy Groups

This course presents advanced topics in interpersonal practice. The topics may include emerging practice methods, advanced application of methods covered in other required methods courses, and applications of methods in specific populations.

Topic Description

The course will review studies showing self-help groups including 12-step groups provide a huge amount of service and involve nearly as many people as professional services. Studies related to the benefits and risks of self-help groups will also be reviewed. Special attention will be given to how providers and their agencies can coordinate their activities with self-help groups. Specific strategies that add value to professional services will be discussed. The focus will be on how self-help can enhance professional services, and in turn how professional services can enhance the self-help experience. Ethical issues related to the autonomy of self-help groups and the propriety of professional involvement will be explored in relation to a variety of groups including 12-step groups. Similarities and differences between online and in person groups will be discussed. Patterns of self-help use by various cultural groups will be examined with a view toward mitigating existing discrepancies. Patterns of self-help use will be examined by age, class, color, ethnicity, family structure, gender, race, religion or spirituality, immigrant or refugee status, and sexual orientation. Presentations by individuals and panels involved with self-help groups will be featured in the course.

SW799, Section 001 – Social Entrepreneurship

This course presents advanced topics in macro social work practice. The topics may include emerging macro practice issues and advanced application of specific methods.

Topic Description

Social Enterprise is a rapidly growing field/discipline which employs entrepreneurial skills to craft innovative responses to social needs. This course explores current trends which are creating space for innovation and opportunities for individuals with management skills and a commitment to social justice to drive positive and large scale social change. We will explore the major opportunities and challenges presented by social enterprise through examining a variety of models ranging from social purpose business to nonprofits launching and running revenue generating enterprises. We will look at both domestic and international examples. This course will be beneficial for students who aim to be involved in the social sector (both in the international and domestic context) as nonprofit managers, service providers, business leaders, consultants, board members, philanthropists, foundation leaders, or social entrepreneurs.

SW799, Section 002 – Managerial Supervision in the Human Services

This course presents advanced topics in macro social work practice. The topics may include emerging macro practice issues and advanced application of specific methods.

Topic Description

This mini-course, offered over two days, will focus on three or four key skills in the area of Managerial Supervision in the Human Services. Day 1 begins with an introduction to Managerial Supervision and the differences between managerial supervision and clinical supervision. We also focus on the tensions between these two work modalities and the conflicts they can create. Issues of power, fatefulness, working to standard, and evaluation are considered as well. Supervisory role playing in triads, with a supervisor, a direct report, and an observer will be used. In the afternoon of Day 1, the focus will be on Supervision for Retention, especially stressing areas, such as child protective service, where the supervisor and the supervisee are involved in fateful decision making but are not geographically proximate. Day 2 will stress the effective Supervisory meeting, both dyadic and group based. The second day concludes with a discussion of decision making within the supervisory context. Learning Objectives are as follows: 1. Acquaint the participants with the differences between managerial and clinical supervision; 2. Assist in establishing role clarity between the two, and provide experience in handling common managerial issues; 3. Provide specific techniques for dealing with supervision in retention; 4. Provide specific techniques for dealing with managerial supervisory meetings; 5. Provide specific techniques for managerial; supervisory decision making.

SW799, Section 003- Understanding Diversity and Social Justice Through Dialogue

This course presents advanced topics in macro social work practice. The topics may include emerging macro practice issues and advanced application of specific methods.

Topic Description

This course is designed to increase students' awareness, knowledge, and understanding of issues related to diversity and social justice, including race, ethnicity, class, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, ability status, and the intersections between these social identity groups. Additionally, students will gain an understanding of dialogue as a method for peacefully resolving conflict that may emerge due to cultural misunderstandings or oppressive dynamics, as well as skills for effectively engaging in dialogue. The topics of this course include social identity development; difference and dominance and the nature of social oppression; our personal and interpersonal connections to power, privilege, and oppression; understanding and resolving conflicts or resistance; the process of dialogue and coalition building across differences; and its applications in multicultural social work settings.

SW799, Section 005 – Using Photovoice for Individual and Community Empowerment

This course presents advanced topics in macro social work practice. The topics may include emerging macro practice issues and advanced application of specific methods.

Topic Description

Photovoice is a process in which people – typically those with limited power due to poverty, language barriers, race, class, ethnicity, gender, culture, or other circumstances – use video or photo images to document their environment and experiences and share them with others. It uses visual methods to communicate lived experience and to create a basis for discussion and action. The images are often used, with captions composed by the photographers, to bring the realities of the photographers' lives home to the public and policy makers and to spur change. However, photovoice can also be a method used direct practice, evaluation, and management settings. This mini-course will cover basic methods for using Photovoice methods with individuals, groups, and communities. The course will provide an overview of the method and its application in different contexts, both domestic and international, and how visual images can be a powerful form for communication. This section of the class will include a visit to the UM Museum of Art to view their collection of documentary photography. The ethical dimensions of this method will also be covered. The remainder of the class will teach methods for photovoice and engage students in their own photovoice project. We will end with an exhibit of photos from the course that will take place in our School of Social Work. Relevant core competencies: Values & Ethics: Demonstrates how value base, ethical standards, and principles of the social work profession are applied to practice. Critical Thinking: Actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, and/or evaluating information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication. Assessment: Applying assessment strategies and other data collection methods.

SW799, Section 007 – Immigration Enforcement, Human Rights, and Social Justice

This course presents advanced topics in macro social work practice. The topics may include emerging macro practice issues and advanced application of specific methods.

Topic Description

This mini-course focuses on the real community and personal impact of a public policy with sweeping national controversy, many deaths, and significant questions about social justice, racial discrimination, and even intent in the constitution. Because it is a mini-course, rather than a full course, this course will concentrate on one aspect of immigration policy? undocumented immigrants and the public policy strategy of enforcement for undocumented immigrants at the border and in the interior of the country. Along with discussion of the policies and practices of enforcement, we will bring local enforcement activities to the table and examine their impact on people, families, and Michigan communities. The discussion will have a global, national, state, and a local component. Students in this course will acquire the skills to critically analyze this aspect of immigration policy and its controversies. and about community and organization responses and activism.