SOCW 5325  
Advanced Generalist Practice I  
Fall 2020  

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Office Hours: By Appointment Only  

Prerequisites: Completion of generalist practice courses  
Co-requisites: SOCW 5317, SOCW 5335, SOCW 5358, SOCW 5320, SOCW 5549 (part-time) and elective  

COURSE SYLLABUS  

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION  
SOCW 5325 is required during the first semester of the specialized practice. It builds on all courses taken during the generalist practice and focuses on obtaining depth and breadth of knowledge across complex problem areas, populations at risk and practice settings impacted by rural life styles. Greater skill and autonomy in a wider selection of problem solving, assessment, intervention and evaluation strategies with groups is learned. Greater depth in awareness, sensitivity and professional response to issues of ethics, values, diversity, social and economic justice and populations at risk is achieved. The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, values, skills and cognitive and affective processes, to work with individuals and families on an advanced level.  

Linking with SOCW 5335 - focusing on organizations and communities and SOCW 5358 - focusing on groups, that is taught concurrently, students gain integration and mastery across advanced generalist levels of practice. Horizontal integration also occurs with concurrent advanced policy and research courses. Students will develop a holistic view and will be able to demonstrate competence of knowledge, values, skills and cognitive and affective processes specific to groups. This includes the application of critical thinking, identification of affective reactions and ability to exercise judgement.  

REQUIRED TEXTS:  


II. CURRICULUM DESCRIPTION

The MSW program of SFASU features the generalist practice and a single specialization: Advanced Generalist Practice in a Rural Context. Both are defined below.

It is important to note here that the BSW program and the MSW program have developed a shared definition of generalist practice, given below.

Generalist practice is grounded in the liberal arts and the person-in-environment framework. To promote human and social well-being, generalist practitioners use a range of prevention and intervention methods in their practice with diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities based on scientific inquiry and best practices. The generalist practitioner identifies with the social work profession and applies ethical principles and critical thinking in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Generalist practitioners engage diversity in their practice and advocate for human rights and social and economic justice. They recognize, support, and build on the strengths and resiliency of all human beings. They engage in research-informed practice and are proactive in responding to the impact of context on professional practice.

Briefly, generalist social work practice:
- Is multi-level to include individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.
- Is multi-theory, allowing for the free selection of theories as appropriate.
- Utilizes problem identification and solving focus that follows a problem-solving framework.
- Addresses the complexity of individual, family, group, organizational and community system interactions.
- Requires and integration of awareness, competence, and professional response to issues of values, ethics, diversity, culture, social justice and populations-at-risk.

Advanced generalist practice builds on the generalist practice, incorporating the elements listed above, but characterized by a greater depth, breadth, and autonomy as demonstrated through specialized knowledge across problem areas, populations-at-risk and practice settings, with a greater selection of diverse interactions across practice levels.

Briefly, advanced generalist practice requires:
- The ability to engage and differentially assess complex problems with systems of all sizes, with a variety of advanced assessment skills.
- Specialized evidence-based interventions with systems of all sizes.
• Differential evaluation techniques with systems of all sizes.
• Strategies to advocate for clients and constituencies influenced by rural lifestyles.
• Readiness for leadership in a variety of areas including: program development, coordination and administration; clinical and organizational supervision; policy creation, reform and implementation; leadership in research development and utilization, particularly in interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary practice settings; professional development.

The specialized practice for the MSW program is advanced generalist practice for rural contexts. Theories that describe and predict rural ecological systems and rural strengths, including the incredibly rich interactions, simple and complex, formal and informal, wholesome and debilitating are emphasized. On this basis, the curriculum of the MSW Program emphasizes the ecological systems approach, the strengths perspective, and the social capital and social exchange theories.

Rural context refers to social work practice with people with rural lifestyles and systems of all sizes within and outside of rural communities. There is no single accepted definition of rural. In fact, just as generalist practice in social work draws on multiple theories, generalist practice in rural contexts recognizes the many definitions currently in use and their advantages and disadvantages for research, practice, and advocacy. The School of Social Work at SFA utilizes several of these definitions within the United States and globally including:

The United States Census Bureau (urbanized areas, urban clusters, and rural populations); Office of Management and Budget (metropolitan, micropolitan, and non-core), Economic Research Service (rural urban continuum codes); and the United Nations that defines urban and rural according to the census definition for each nation, but suggests a definition of rural areas as having a population of less than 2,000 for international comparisons.

III. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (CSWE CORE COMPETENCIES)

1. Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
2. Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice
3. Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
4. Engage In Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
5. Engage in Policy Practice
6. Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
7. Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
8. Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
9. Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

IV. STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES (SLO) CSWE BEHAVIORS

1. Students will apply ethical decision-making and critical thinking to analyze and implement multiple codes of ethics with the purpose to enhance advanced generalist practice with rural people and communities. (Competency 1)

2. Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize and manage personal and professional values in order to engage in advanced rural practice with multiple systems. (Competency 1)

3. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify, analyze and apply social constructions of rurality within and across diverse groups (e.g. gender, ethnicity/race, age, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation) and across multiple system levels. (Competency 2)

4. Students will demonstrate the ability to supervise the integration of awareness, self-regulation, sensitivity and professional response to issues of values, ethics, diversity, social justice and populations at risk. (Competency 2)

5. Students will demonstrate leadership skills to promote social, economic and environmental justice to systems of all sizes within and outside of rural communities. (Competency 3)

6. Students will provide leadership in specialized practices related to oppression and human rights violations at multiple levels advancing social, economic and environmental justice in rural environments. (Competency 3)

7. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify, evaluate, and implement multi-disciplinary research and practice strategies with rural systems and social networks. (Competency 4)

8. Students will demonstrate leadership skills to design, develop and implement research and technological advances to enhance social work practice in a rural context. (Competency 4)

9. Students will demonstrate the ability to develop, prepare, implement, analyze and evaluate social welfare and economic policies to improve the well-being of rural populations and communities. (Competency 5)

10. Students will demonstrate leadership skills specific to advocacy with the purpose to advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice to deliver services to multiple systems in rural areas. (Competency 5)

11. Students will demonstrate leadership skills to engage multiple systems (individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations) and constituencies in rural environments. (Competency 6)
12. Students will demonstrate their ability to supervise the integration of knowledge, skills and values specific to human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment and appropriate theoretical frameworks. (Competency 6)

13. Students will select, implement and evaluate appropriate assessment instruments to assess diverse client systems on multiple levels in a rural context. (Competency 7)

14. Students will provide leadership to adapt, modify, develop, and implement differential assessment strategies, tools and approaches with diverse client systems and constituencies on multiple levels in a rural context. (Competency 7)

15. Students will design, identify, analyze, and implement advanced intervention strategies based on appropriate theories, models, and research across multiple system levels in a rural context. (Competency 8)

16. Students will demonstrate the ability to manage, supervise, monitor, coordinate and improve human service networks and service agencies in delivering services to rural clients. (Competency 8)

17. Students will apply leadership skills to supervise the design and implementation of advanced intervention strategies. (Competency 8)

18. Students will apply leadership skills to enhance interventions through interdisciplinary, inter-professional, and inter-organizational strategies. (Competency 8)

19. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify, develop, apply and monitor differential evaluation strategies in advanced social work interventions with systems of all sizes in rural communities. (Competency 9)

20. Students will develop leadership in the communication and dissemination of evaluation results to advance practice, policy, and service delivery effectiveness. (Competency 9)

V. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

The course will be taught as a face to face or a hybrid course. It will incorporate the following instructional strategies: lecture, extensive class discussion, group exercises, online activities, assigned readings, and individual projects. You are encouraged to actively participate in activities, ask questions, and contribute comments for discussion. You are also encouraged to offer input regarding instructional strategies and assignments. Most importantly, you are expected to be an active learner and to ask for clarification when you have questions. To be successful in the class, it is important that you attend regularly, sign in to D2L, read the assigned material, and come to class prepared to discuss what you have read. You will be expected to not only know the material presented, but to be able to apply it in experiential activities. Lectures will not duplicate the reading material except to clarify or to expand upon it and to review material covered in prerequisite courses. The goal of this approach is to develop a safe learning environment that addresses a variety of learning styles, promotes critical thinking, and fosters creativity.
VI. COVID-19 MASK POLICY
Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


VII. COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS (per SFA Office of Instructional Technology)

This course will utilize D2L to support the delivery of course content. You will need computer skills for example to use a web browser, develop a PowerPoint presentation and use Excel. You must have access to a computer that meets the university’s minimum computer system requirements (for specific details go to SFA Online). Computers are available to you through a number of labs across campus, School of Social Work student lounge and Ralph W. Steen Library/Lone Star College library.

VIII. COURSE SCHEDULE *subject to change as needed

Week 1 Introduction and Overview of course
- Review syllabus
- Review - defining advanced generalist practice in a rural context
- Review - transitioning from generalist to advanced generalist specific to individuals and families
- Knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive and affective processes
- Therapeutic relationships in the rural context (managing dual relationships, ethical dilemmas, confidentiality, and respect)
- Rural oppression and poverty, self-determination and informed consent, tension of empathy and boundaries
- Diversity and difference in working with individuals and families
- Social, economic and environmental justice specific to individuals and families
- Ethical dilemmas and case studies, the changing rural environment and people
- National and International Codes of Ethics and policies guiding social work practice with individuals and families
- Grand challenges for social work
- Human rights issues specific to individuals and families
- Collaboration on inter-professional teams

Readings:
Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 1, 2, 3, 4, 17 and 21
**Week 2 Populations at Risk**

Populations at risk in a rural environment (including LGBTQ and PLWHA)
- Quality of life
- Overview of the problem-solving process - engagement, assessment, intervention, evaluation and termination
- Evidence-based practice in working with groups
- Theoretical Frameworks
- Telemedicine conferencing and therapy on-line

**Readings:**
- Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 1, 2, 3, 4, 17 and 21
- Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 1, 2, 10 and 11
- NASW- Code of Ethics
- Green, Gregory & Mason (2006)
- Reamer (2014)

**Week 3 Engagement**

Process of engaging clients
- Specific tasks in the engagement process (identifying presenting problems, following up on referrals, contracting and planning)
- Advanced skills to engage
- Techniques to engage
- Engagement strategies specific to children and adolescents, families’ couples and individuals (including elderly)
- Supervision tasks related to engagement
- Case study examples
- Stereotyping (i.e. physical appearances, disabilities, mental health…etc.) and microaggressions

**Readings:**
- Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 3 and 4
- Kim (2010)
- Oliphant and Holtzhausen (2010)
- Drumm, Popescu, Cooper, Trecatin, Seifer, Foster and Kilcher

* Tentative guest speakers and movie “Bless Me Ultima”
* Additional material announced in class/ placed on D2L

**Podcasts:**

Week 4 Engagement (continued)
Process of engaging clients
Specific tasks in the engagement process (identifying presenting problems, following up on referrals, contracting and planning)
Advanced skills to engage
Techniques to engage
Engagement strategies specific to children and adolescents, families, couples and individuals (including elderly)
Supervision tasks related to engagement
Case study examples
Stereotyping (i.e. physical appearances, disabilities, mental health…etc.) and microaggressions
Readings:
Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 3 and 4
Kim (2010)
Oliphant and Holtzhausen (2010)
Drumm, Popescu, Cooper, Trecatin, Seifer, Foster and Kilcher
* Tentative guest speakers and movie “Bless Me Ultima”
* Additional material announced in class/ placed on D2L

Podcasts:

Human Migration in the 21st Century: Implications for the Social Work Profession

Week 5 Assessment
Diagnosis and assessment in advanced generalist practice
Differences between diagnosis and assessment
Legal issues related to diagnosis and assessment (Title 22 Texas Administrative Code)
The purpose of assessment
The role of the advanced generalist practitioner in assessment
Readings:
Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 6 -11
Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 5 and 6
Carbajal and Aguirre, Chapter on Traumatic Stress Response and Development
Córdova, Cooper and Avant (2011)
Dupuis (2010)
Oliphant & Pavlic (2011)
Oliphant & Roestenburg (2007) – Assessment section
Week 6 Assessment (continued)
Frameworks to understand and assess individuals, families, couples and children
Theoretical frameworks
Systems theory (context, relationship dynamics)
Life Span Development
Behavioral Theory (Behaviorism)
Cognitive Theory
Social Learning Theory
Psychodynamic Theory
Empowerment theory
The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-V)

Readings:
Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 6 -11
Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 5 and 6
Carbajal and Aguirre, Chapter on Traumatic Stress Response and Development
Córdova, Cooper and Avant (2011)
Dupuis (2010)
Oliphant & Pavlic (2011)
Oliphant & Roestenbu (2007) – Assessment section
Corcoran & Fischer (2006) – available from Professor
Additional material announced in class/ placed on D2L
Straussner and Calnan, (2014)
Cummings and Kropf (2015)
Lee and Casado, (2015)

Week 7 Assessment (continued)
Advanced assessment methods and tools
Differential assessment tools
Protocols
Developmental assessment
Assessment interviews
Assessment instruments (including genograms, transgenerational trauma genograms, sociograms and culturagram).
Assessment plans
Biopsychosocial, cultural, spiritual assessments
Mental health exams
Tentative guest speaker

**Readings:**

* Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 6 -11
* Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 5 and 6
* Carbajal and Aguirre, Chapter on Traumatic Stress Response and Development
* Córdova, Cooper and Avant (2011)
* Dupuis (2010)
* Oliphant & Pavlic (2011)
* Oliphant & Roestenburg (2007) – Assessment section
* Corcoran & Fischer (2006) – available from Professor
* Additional material announced in class/ placed on D2L
* Straussner and Calnan, (2014)
* Cummings and Kropf (2015)

**Week 8 Assessment (continued)**

Case study examples:
- Child abuse and neglect
- Juvenile sex offenders (trauma cycle and risk assessment)
- Families with addiction (types, cycle, phases and impact on social functioning)
- Children and adolescents (individuals’ pharmacology issues)
- Individuals with mental illness
- Podcast on “Ted Talks” Brené Brown, Vulnerability

Tentative guest speaker

**Readings:**

* Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 6 -11
* Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 5 and 6
* Carbajal and Aguirre, Chapter on Traumatic Stress Response and Development
* Córdova, Cooper and Avant (2011)
* Dupuis (2010)
* Oliphant & Pavlic (2011)
* Oliphant & Roestenburg (2007) – Assessment section
* Corcoran & Fischer (2006) – available from Professor
* Additional material announced in class/ placed on D2L
* Straussner and Calnan, (2014)
* Cummings and Kropf (2015)

**Week 9 MIDTERM EXAM and Assignment I due**

**Week 10 Intervention**

International and national policies impacting intervention
Ethics specific to interventions (boundaries, technology, diversity)
Dealing with stress, coping and resilience
Role of social worker in transdisciplinary teams
Intervention strategies
Solution focused strategies
Strategies based on strengths perspective and family systems
Intervention plans and strategies
Tentative Guest Speakers

Readings:
Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 12 – 16, 18, 19, 20
Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 7, 8 and 9
Cox (2008)
Obiaja (2008)
Oliphant & Roestenburg (2007) – Intervention section
Rhodes (2012)
Smith and Hall (2008)
Kingery, Roblek, Suveg, Griver, Sherill and Bergman (2006)
Horesh, Cohen-Zrihen, Dor and Slolmon
Landes, Garovoy and Burkman (2013)
Anderson and Weber (2015)
Carbajal and Aguirre (in press) article on autism

Week 11 Intervention (continued)
Development of intervention plans
Implementation of treatment plans
Risk population specific intervention plans
Intervention techniques
Tools to support intervention
Art therapy to support clinical interventions (for example mask-making)
Therapeutic tools
Techniques (behavior change, self-reflection, empowerment, clinical)
Different types of counseling and interventions
Individual
Families (structural, strategic and communication approaches)
Children and youth (realities, characteristics of functioning, play therapy)
Bereavement counseling
Trauma counseling: techniques and strategies Crisis-intervention: techniques and strategies
Statutory interventions

Readings:
Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 12 – 16, 18, 19, 20
Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 7, 8 and 9
Cox (2008)
Obiaja (2008)
Oliphant & Roestenburg (2007) – Intervention section
Rhodes (2012)
Smith and Hall (2008)
Kingery, Roblek, Suveg, Griver, Sherill and Bergman (2006)
Week 12 Intervention (continued)
Case study examples:
Veterans (experiencing PTDS, family-related issues)
Adults/elderly in need of protective services
Individuals who are HIV positive (IPV, domestic violence)
Children and youth - interventions related to child welfare and protection
Individuals with disabilities
Ageing individuals

Readings:
Coady and Lehman (2008) – Chapter 12 – 16, 18, 19, 20
Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 7, 8 and 9
Cox (2008)
Obiajai (2008)
Oliphant & Roestenburg (2007) – Intervention section
Rhodes (2012)
Smith and Hall (2008)
Koingery, Roblek, Suveg, Griver, Sherill and Bergman (2006)
Horesh, Cohen-Zrihen, Dor and Srolmon
Landes, Garovoy and Burkman (2013)
Anderson and Weber (2015)
Córdova, Cooper and Avant (2012)
Carbajal and Aguirre (in press) article on autism
Wider (2017)

Week 13 Termination
Termination characteristics
The termination process
Types of termination
Advanced skills to use in termination
Techniques to terminate effectively
Termination Strategies- children and adolescents, families, couples and individuals
(including elderly)
Supervising termination

Readings:
Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 12
Baum (2007)
Oliphant & Roestenburg (2007) – Evaluation section
Ledwith (2011)
Podcasts:

Social Work Policy Institute: Center for the Student and Prevention of Violence
http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/

Additional material announced in class/placed on D2L.

Week 14 Evaluation
Types of evaluation
Single-subject design for evaluating groups
Evaluation instruments
Evaluating effectiveness
Using evaluation to advocate for change
Research-informed practice as it relates to individuals and families
Tentative Guest Speaker

Readings:
Constable and Lee (2015) – Chapter 12
Baum (2007)
Oliphant & Roestenburg (2007) – Evaluation section
Ledwith (2011)

Podcasts:

Social Work Policy Institute: Center for the Student and Prevention of Violence
http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/

Additional material announced in class/placed on D2L.

Week 15 Review

Week 16 Final Exam

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Class Attendance and Participation: In order for the class to discuss the readings, it is essential for you to read assigned material before coming to class, to attend class regularly, and to participate in class discussion. You are responsible for all material covered in class and assigned in the syllabus, whether or not you have attended class.

Cell Phones/Pagers/Electronic Devices: Because such devices are disruptive to the classroom environment, I ask that you refrain from using them during class. I also ask
that you either place such devices on silent mode or turn them off during class. Repeated interruptions may result in a deduction of points from the final average. This includes texting and browsing the internet.

Due to the nature of the content and educational practice environment of the classroom, there will not be any picture-taking or recording allowed. Please communicate with your instructor if you have a disability that would require a special audio or video accommodation.

B. **Readings:** The course outline provides a list of required readings for each week. Since lectures and class discussions are designed to answer questions about the material and expand upon the basic concepts, you are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to class. Furthermore, you are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the information, as evidenced by active participation in class discussion. For example, you should present well formulated questions and comments that demonstrate prior preparation. Supplemental readings may be assigned.

C. **Exams:** There will be a midterm exam and a final exam. Students are required to take the exam at the scheduled time. Makeup exams will be scheduled according to university policy with a university-approved excuse.

D. **Quizzes/Exercises:** There will be unannounced and announced class or online exercises and quizzes. Students are required to participate in the exercises at the scheduled time. Makeup exercises will be scheduled according to university policy with a university-approved excuse.

E. **Assignments:** See Assignments for a listing of all assignments for this course. All assignments are due at the beginning of each class, unless the assignment is a class presentation which will be due in class. **For all late assignments, one letter grade will be deducted after the beginning of class when the assignment is due, with an additional letter grade deduction for each day for which the assignment is late.**
GRADING:

COURSE GRADES will be based on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes/mini assignments</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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Total 500

Grading Scale:

- 450-500 A
- 400-449 B
- 350-399 C
- 300-349 D*
- Below 300 F* *Not applicable as credit toward graduate degree

X. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members must promote the components of academic integrity in their instruction, and course syllabi are required to provide information about penalties for cheating and plagiarism, as well as the appeal process. Definition of Academic Dishonesty Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment;
- helping or attempting to help other student(s) in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source;
- Incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

Penalties for Academic Dishonesty Penalties may include, but are not limited to, reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, resubmission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university. Procedure for Addressing Student Academic Dishonesty a faculty member who has evidence and/or suspects that academic dishonesty has occurred will gather all pertinent information and initiate the following procedure:

1. The faculty member will discuss all evidence of cheating or plagiarism directly with the student(s) involved.
2. After consideration of the explanation provided by the student(s), the faculty member will determine whether academic dishonesty has occurred. The faculty member may consult with the academic unit head and/or dean in making a decision.

3. After a determination of academic dishonesty, the faculty member will inform the academic unit head and submit a Report of Academic Dishonesty with supporting documentation to the office of the dean of the student’s major. This report will become part of the student’s record and will remain on file with the dean’s office for at least four years even if the student withdraws prior to receiving a grade.

4. For a serious first offense or subsequent offenses, the dean of the student’s major will determine a course of action, which may include dismissal from the university. The dean may refer the case to the college council for review and recommendations before making this determination.

A student's record of academic dishonesty will not be available to faculty members. The purpose of the record is for the dean to track a pattern of academic dishonesty during a student's academic career at Stephen F. Austin State University. Student Appeals A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3). [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf)

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (SFA Policy 5.5)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please read the complete policy on grades: [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/5.5_course-grades.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/5.5_course-grades.pdf)

**Acceptable Student Behavior**

The MSW Student Handbook and Academic and MSW Professional Integrity Code outline acceptable student behavior. Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct of Conduct (SFA Policy 10.4)). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, visits to agencies, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate or inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. Please see the following link for the complete policy: [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf)
XI. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic-accomodation-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf
Assignment 1

Due date: To Be Determined

Behavior Modification

You will be able to learn firsthand about behavior modification. For this exercise, you have to select a behavior you would like to change. You will be required to keep a behavior log provided to you in class. There will be opportunities for you to talk about the behavior change during class times. Your instructor will facilitate these discussions. For the assignment you have to reflect on the behavior modification, critically analyze the process and dynamics and apply a theoretical framework. This is a professional paper; it should be at least 10 - 12 pages in length (not including the cover page or references), typewritten, one and a half spacing and in APA style of writing. Please address the following sections:

1) Abstract
2) Introduction of the behavior
3) Short literature overview of the type of behavior you aim to change (use at least 10 articles)
4) Identify the theoretical framework and apply it to the behavior
5) Explain all aspects of behavior modification as relevant to your behavior change
6) Summary:
   a. Identify strengths and barriers to behavior change
   b. Discuss social work implications to behavior modification
7) Provide the completed behavior log
Assignment 2:  
Due date: To be Determined  
Case Study  
Engagement, Assessment, Intervention, Termination and Evaluation

This assignment will examine clinical strategies utilized in advanced social work practice with individuals and/or families. Your instructor will provide a case study. This is a professional paper; it should be at least 15-20 pages in length (not including the cover page or references), typewritten, one and a half spacing and in APA style of writing.

This assignment will address and/or discuss four sections based on your work in class and your additional readings and self-study:

1) Specialized assessments including a biopsychosocial-spiritual assessment, mental status exam, specific assessment tools utilized to help identify and define the problem/s, a description of the client’s interpersonal behavior and emotional processes, that either support or discredit your assumptions, discussion of cultural influences and DSM 5 diagnosis with qualifying examples.

2) Specialized intervention strategies, techniques and modalities including a behavior plan (with goals and objectives that are measurable and observable), cultural and human diversity issues impacting treatment.

3) Strategies and at least one instrument to evaluate the treatment program (beginning, middle, and end). The evaluation must identify how assessments are used to determine evaluation and goal attainment.

4) Identify indicators that treatment is in the termination stage and specific strategies how to terminate treatment. Include issues related to closure, celebration, follow-up plans, processing feelings and referrals.

This assignment will entail you to not only utilize the textbook and resources provided in class, but to also find at least ten (10) supporting articles that either discuss the clients problem, your proposed diagnosis, or choice of assessment tool.


Wilder, Ann Reed (2017). Book Chapter: *A sociological adaptation of the grandmother hypothesis or; Go ask your grandmother!* In After the Happily Ever After: Empowering Women and Mothers in Relationships. Ontario, Canada: New Demeter Press.

*Other relevant readings may be assigned throughout the semester.*

**Important Websites:**


International Federation of Social Workers - IASSW/IFSW – *Ethics in Social Work, Statement of Principles*  


Social Work Policy Institute

*Other relevant readings may be assigned throughout the semester.*

**Important Websites:**
Children: Overview and Recommendations


Social Work Policy Institute
http://www.socialworkpolicy.org/

Elderly Abuse and Neglect
http://www.helpguide.org/mental/elder_abuse_physical_emotional_sexual_neglect.htm

Possible websites /videos to use

Depression: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LD8iC4NqXM

Bipolar… https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m8eCH6NQfvg

Podcasts:

Traumatic brain injury and incarcerated youth


People with disabilities and parenting issues
- http://www.insocialwork.org/episode.asp?ep=121

Older adult caregivers of children with disabilities

Reducing Risk and Promoting Well-being for LGBTQ: The Critical Role of Family Support:
http://www.insocialwork.org/episode.asp?ep=33
