

Winter 2019

Course Number: SOWK 657	Classroom: 3-282
Course Name: Clinical Social Work Applications	
Day & Time: January 12 th , 10-4pm; March 29 th & 30 th ; April 5 th & 6 th 9-4	
Instructors: A.M. Mclaughlin & R. Bodor	Office Hours: as needed
Telephone:	Email: amclaugh@ucalgary.ca ; rcbodor@ucalgary.ca

COURSE OUTLINE**Syllabus Statement**

This course provides supervision support to students who are undertaking their final MSW project. For course-based students, the project comprises a case study paper and an oral presentation that demonstrate their mastery of the curriculum. Thesis-based students will complete a paper related to their research topic. The focus of each thesis student's paper will be appropriate to her or his stage in the research process.

Course Description

Students will be assigned to a faculty member/Project Advisor who will work with them in small groups throughout the term. Project Advisors will provide guidance to students in writing their papers and preparing their oral presentations.

In Winter, 2019, the first class will be held on Saturday, January 12th, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Faculty offices.

Also, in Winter 2019, student groups will meet face-to-face with their advisors on January 26th and at least one other time to be determined in consultation between the Project Advisors and their respective groups. Individual consultations will be at the discretion of the faculty member and negotiated with students. The focus of the group meetings will be on both technical/writing and substantive issues related to the final paper and presentation. Project Advisors may use Desire2Learn for discussion of issues related to students' final projects. Project Advisors will work with students and develop timelines for the preparation of successive paper drafts, which will be reviewed by the Project Advisors. It is recommended that students should exchange a minimum of two drafts with their Project Advisor for input. Students should receive feedback on their final draft no later than March 18th, with the final deadline for all papers on March 24st.

Presentations for students will be held on four full days (Friday and Saturday) on March 29/30th and April 5/6th. Students are strongly encouraged to attend not just their own presentation, but also the presentations of other students in order to provide a supportive audience for other presenters.

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this course students will demonstrate:

1. The ability to integrate theory and practice including
 - specialized knowledge in at least one approach to clinical social work practice;
 - specialized knowledge of a particular substantive area of interest in social work;
 - the application of the social work approach to address the clinical problem;
 - an understanding of how this specialized knowledge or problem area relates to a recognized social work frame of reference or theory (e.g., Ecosystems Theory, Anti-Opressive Practice Theory, Social Justice Theory).
2. The capacity for critical and reflective thinking including:
 - the ability to analyze clinical situations and professional 'knowledge' relative to anti-oppressive or social justice goals;
 - the ability to reflect on their own social location and impact on the clinical situation.
3. Competence in written and oral communication including:
 - the ability to organize material logically and communicate ideas clearly;
 - the ability to synthesize material from a variety of sources;
 - the effective use of rules for proper referencing and citation of material (using APA style).

Relationship to Other Courses

SOWK 657 is the capstone of the core curriculum for the MSW clinical specialization. The content of SOWK 657 draws from across the curriculum including practice issues, research, and other core courses. This course focuses on integrating course elements through an in-depth analysis and presentation of a practice situation.

Assignments

There are two assignments. The following focuses primarily on assignments for course-based students. Some notes are provided for thesis students; paper and oral parameters and criteria will be developed in class.

Assignment One – Course-based Students: Final Integrative Paper (Value: 70%)

The 25-30 page paper should present an actual 'case study' if consent (or equivalent) was obtained, or a fictionalized composite in the absence of consent, involving a clinical situation the student encountered either in recent work or during the Advanced Practicum. The clinical situation should involve a substantive area in which the student has developed specialized knowledge during the MSW program and should allow the student to demonstrate and rationalize the application of a particular clinical approach. The paper may include a description of both how the student worked with the client/group (this may include a family, a group or an organization/population) and how s/he might work differently in hindsight. The paper may include an analysis that contrasts more than one clinical approach. The student's knowledge of the problem area and application of clinical approach should typically be critiqued from a social justice/anti-oppressive perspective including reflection on the impact of self in clinical work.

The following are suggested as *guidelines* for the paper. Students, working with Project Advisors, may choose to adapt these guidelines to suit individual circumstances. Students are also able to adjust the number of pages devoted to each area (indicated in parentheses).

1. Introduce the paper by briefly describing the clinical context, particular client situation, your approach to it in practice, and why you selected the situation for your integrative paper (1 page).
2. Provide a full description of the client/clinical situation. Discuss why the profession of social work should be concerned with this kind of client situation (2-3 pages).
3. Describe and analyze the knowledge base related to the substantive area(s) associated with the client situation, perhaps including (and critiquing) more than one theoretical perspective. Apply the knowledge to your particular client situation (7-9 pages).
4. Describe and analyze one (or more) option(s) for intervention. Rationalize and critique your choice of intervention. Describe and critique your use of the intervention with the specific client situation and case, and problem or practice situation. Reflect on your own challenges/strengths during your work with this client situation (9-11 pages).
5. Conclude the paper by discussing what you have learned from this client/group situation and your work in this situation and how you will apply this learning to your future clinical practice (2-3 pages).

Criteria for evaluation of Final Integrative Paper:

1. Ability to integrate theory and practice (40 points)

Students should demonstrate:

- specialized knowledge in at least one approach to clinical social work practice, including its theoretical and empirical foundations(s);
- specialized knowledge of a particular substantive area of interest to social work, including its theoretical and empirical foundations;
- the ability to apply the social work approach to address the clinical (or equivalent) problem;
- an understanding of how this specialized knowledge or problem area relates to a recognized social work frame of reference or theory (e.g., Ecosystems Theory, Anti-Oppressive Practice Theory, Social Justice Theory).

2. Capacity for critical and reflexive thinking (20 points)

Students should demonstrate:

- the ability to critique theoretical and empirical literature related to the social work approach and substantive area on which their paper focuses;
- the ability to analyze clinical situations and professional knowledge relative to anti-oppressive or social justice goals;
- the ability to reflect on their own social location and impact on the clinical situation.

3. Competence in written communication (10 points)

Students should demonstrate:

- the ability to organize material logically and communicate ideas clearly;
- the ability to synthesize material from a variety of sources;
- an effective use of style and formatting rules (i.e., APA style).

Assignment One – Thesis Students: 25 – 30 page paper (Value: 70%)

Thesis students work with their permanent supervisors on the development of their thesis topic and methods. The SOWK 657 Project Advisor is available to thesis students for consultation on writing the research proposal, thesis chapter, and the processes involved in completing a Master's thesis at the University of Calgary. For example, thesis students' papers for SOWK 657 will reflect their stage in the thesis process. Students may be completing one or more of the thesis chapters for their paper – i.e., Introduction, Literature Review, or Methods. Alternatively, students may have a proposal approved by their supervisor and be working on an ethics application, which could form the 'paper' assignment. Specifics regarding the written assignment for SOWK 657 will be negotiated, in writing, with each student by February 17th, 2019.

Criteria for evaluation of Thesis Students' Final Paper:

Evaluative criteria for thesis students' final papers will be developed during the term and will reflect decisions made on focus, format and content of the paper.

Assignment Two – Course-based & Thesis Students: Oral Presentation (Value 30%)

Students will present in conference-style format over four full days, Friday and Saturday. (March 29/30 and April 5th/6th) Each student will be allotted 30 minutes and will be expected to present for 20 minutes and use 10 minutes to respond to questions/comments from audience members. Please see Faculty Guidelines on Final Integrative Projects for additional notes on presentations.

The following are suggested as *guidelines* for the presentation for course-based students. Students, working with Project Advisors, may choose to adapt these guidelines to suit individual circumstances. Students are also expected to adjust the number of minutes devoted to each area (indicated in parentheses). Thesis students are expected to work with advisors to develop the presentation focus.

- Introduce the presentation (3 minutes)
- Provide background on the case situation (3 minutes)
- Review substantive area associated with case – theoretical and empirical literature (6 minutes)
- Describe and rationalize your interventive approach and strategies (6 minutes)
- Conclude presentation and invite questions (2 minutes)

Criteria for evaluation of oral presentation (for course-based students; evaluation criteria will be adapted for thesis students):

1. Coverage of content (15 points)

Students should demonstrate:

- knowledge of a specific approach to clinical social work practice including theoretical and empirical foundation(s);
- knowledge of a substantive area of interest to social work including theoretical and empirical foundations;
- the ability to apply theory to practice;
- the ability to critically reflect on social work practice.

2. Communication and interaction skills (15 points)

Students should demonstrate:

- verbal skills including clarity, enthusiasm, eloquence;
- non-verbal skills including poise, timing, appropriate use of presentation aids (e.g., Power Point slides), minimal reference to notes;
- the ability to engage audience and respond to questions/comments appropriately;
- the ability to initiate and conclude presentation.

The final mark will be awarded based on the feedback from the audience and the course instructors. The instructors will take into consideration the feedback provided by the group when assigning the final mark.

Course Evaluation

Students are encouraged to complete the USRI course evaluation online at the end of term. In addition, student feedback will be sought through formative evaluations during the term.

Grading

University of Calgary Faculty of Social Work, Central and Northern Alberta Region MSW Grading System 2018-2019			
Grade	Grade Point	Description	Percentage
A+	4.0	Outstanding	95-100
A	4.0	Excellent – superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter	95-100
A-	3.7	Very Good Performance	90-94
B+	3.3	Good Performance	85-89
B	3.0	Satisfactory performance. Note: The grade point value (3.0) associated with this grade is the minimum acceptable average that a graduate student must maintain throughout the programme as computed at the end of each year of their program.	80-84
B-	2.7	Minimum pass for students in Graduate Studies. Note: Students who accumulate two grades of “B-” or lower can be required by the Faculty to withdraw from the programme regardless of the grade point average.	75-79
C+	2.3	All grades below “B-” are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted towards Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.	70-74
C	2.00		65-69
C-	1.70		60-64
D+	1.30		55-59
D	1.00		50-54
F	0.00		Below 50

A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course.

Withdrawal

No refunds for withdrawal from **winter session half-courses** after January 17, 2019. The last day to add or swap winter session half-courses is January 18, 2019. The last day to withdraw with permission from winter session half-courses is April 12, 2019.

The last day to drop **winter session block week courses** is January 2, 2019 or the last day to withdraw with permission from winter session block week courses is January 8, 2019. The Graduate Academic Schedule for 2018-2019 can be viewed at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/index.html>. The online version of the academic schedule supersedes the information on this course outline.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

As members of the University community, students and staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html>. Students and staff are also expected to demonstrate professional behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment.

Consistent with the aims of the Social Work Program, all students and staff are also expected to respect, appreciate, and encourage expression of diverse world views and perspectives. The University of Calgary also expects all to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity.

All members of the University community participating in the Social Work Program are expected to offer their fellow community members unconditional respect and constructive feedback. While critical thought, and debate, is valued in response to concepts and opinions shared in class, feedback must at all times be focused on the ideas or opinions shared and not on the person who has stated them. Where a breach of an above mentioned expectation occurs in class, the incident should be reported immediately to the Associate Dean or his/her designate. As stated in the University Calendar, students who seriously breach these guidelines may be subject to a range of penalties ranging from receiving a failing grade in an assignment to expulsion from the University.

Students and staff are expected to model behaviour in class that is consistent with our professional values and ethics. Students are expected to comply with professional standards for the Social Work profession as outlined by the Canadian Association for Social Workers, Code of Ethics (2005): <https://casw-acts.ca/en/Code-of-Ethics> and the Alberta College of Social Work Standards of Practice (2013): http://www.acsw.ab.ca/document/1327/final_standardsofpractice_20131104.pdf

Students are expected to ensure they are both familiar with, and comply with these standards.

RESEARCH ETHICS

"If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, he or she should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB ethics website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) *before* beginning the assignment."

WRITING EXPECTATIONS

It is expected that all work submitted in assignments should be the student's own work, written expressly by the student for this particular course. You are reminded that academic misconduct, including plagiarism, has extremely serious consequences, as set out in the University Calendar <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A number of services are available through the Wellness Centre to support students in distress or those needing wellness supports: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/resources>

Wellness Centre Phone Support (403) 210-9355 24 hours/day

If a student requires immediate or crisis support, they can also call the Mental Health Help Line 1-877-303-2642 (toll free within Alberta for mental health advice).

Each individual is responsible to ensure compliance with the University of Calgary copyright policy.

Individual questions and concerns should be directed to copyright@ucalgary.ca. Any research in which students are invited to participate will be explained in class and approved by the appropriate University Research Ethics Board.

Students must use their ucalgary email address as the preferred email for university communications.

The Social Work representative to the Students Union is to be determined (swsa@ucalgary.ca).

Appeals: If there is a concern with the course, academic matter, or a grade, first communicate with the instructor. If these concerns cannot be resolved, students can proceed with an academic appeal, and must follow the process in the Calendar. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

The Student Ombudsman's Office can be reached at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/> for assistance with any academic and non-academic misconduct concerns.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act indicates that assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your express permission. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. Discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation, please register with the Student Accessibility Services <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/> (403) 220-8237 or email: access@ucalgary.ca. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or to the Faculty of Social Work's Associate Dean (Teaching & Learning).

SUPPORTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available and the Campus Mental Health strategy website (ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth).

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence. Of those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence, it provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

SAFEWALK

Safewalk provides a safe and reliable alternative to walking alone at night around and on the U of A campus. Located at 0-22 SUB, phone (780) 492-5563 or 4-WALK-ME. In addition to the UofA's Safewalk program, security personnel at Enterprise Square will provide an escort from the main lobby between 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., any day that the building is open. Arrangements to be accompanied can be made at the security desk opposite the elevators on the main floor at the time the escort is required – reservations ahead of time are not possible. Security will escort you within a two-block radius of Enterprise Square.