



Spring 2021

Course & Session Number	SOWK 411 S01	Classroom	Online
Course Name	Integrative Seminar I		
Day(s) & Time	Thursdays from 6-8pm MST on the following dates: May 5, 13, 27, June 10, 17. Optional office hours Thursdays 6-8pm MST on May 20 and June 3.		
Instructor	Dr. Jessica Shaw		
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SYLLABUS STATEMENT

Integration of theory and practice within the context of the field practicum.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides students with an opportunity to integrate theory and practice – that is, to link knowledge, skills and values derived from BSW social work courses and past experiences with the ongoing practice experiences in the field placement setting. The course provides students with opportunities to foster professional development and make connections between thinking, feeling, and doing in relation to being a social worker.

Students will be expected to: 1) present and discuss practice experiences from their field placement settings using knowledge about various aspects of social work theory and practice; 2) critically reflect upon their own and others' practice experience; 3) engage in a collaborative learning process; and 4) demonstrate competence in their ability to identify, apply, critique, and evaluate theories and conceptual frameworks while in their practice setting. Students participate in collaborative discussions regarding professional issues, practice situations, and ethical dilemmas. While critically reflecting on experiences in practicum, students are encouraged to integrate knowledge and skills into their own developing practice framework.

This course is taken concurrently with Practicum I (SOWK 410).

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify, apply and reflect on their developing social work knowledge, values, and skills in the areas of generalist practice, reflective practice, competence with diversity, social policy and social justice, and professional identity/ethics;
2. Critically assess social work practice experiences through reflection, peer review, constructive feedback and consultation;
3. Have an enhanced ability to identify the linkages between the personal experiences of individuals and issues of social structures, and to act appropriately in relation to these insights;

4. Examine, critically reflect on and discuss the applications of theory in practice and the suitability of various practice methods;
5. Demonstrate entry-level social work intervention/response skills in specific area(s) of focus;
6. Consider and apply the CASW Code of Ethics in their social work practice and discussions, and
7. Actively participate in class discussions and work collaboratively and collectively with other students in furthering learning and professional development.

LEARNING RESOURCES

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND/OR READINGS

Profitt, N. J. (2008). Who cares for us? Opening paths to a critical, collective notion of self-care. *Canadian Social Work Review*, 25(2), 147-168.

Reynolds, V. (2009). Collective ethics as a path to resisting burnout. *Insights: BC's Clinical Counsellor's Magazine and News*, 6-7. Retrieved from <http://www.vikkireynolds.ca>

Teater, B. (2010). Introduction to theories and methods. In B. Teater (Ed.), *Introduction to Applying Social Work Theories and Methods* (pp. 1-15). McGraw-Hill Education.

Vayda, E., & Bogo, M. (1991). A teaching model to unite classroom and field. *Journal of Social Work Education*, 27(3), 271-278.

Readings listed above will be available online. Other readings may be assigned by the instructor and/or shared among students. As a seminar course that is directly related to practicum, all students are also expected to be familiar with and abide by the following professional documents:

Alberta College of Social Workers. (2019). *Standards of practice*. Alberta College of Social Workers. https://acsw.in1touch.org/document/2672/DOC_FINALACSWStandardsOfPractice_V1_1_20200304.pdf

Canadian Association of Social Workers. (2005). *Code of ethics*. Canadian Association of Social Workers. https://www.casw-acts.ca/files/documents/casw_code_of_ethics.pdf

Canadian Association of Social Workers. (2005). *Guidelines for ethical practice*. Canadian Association of Social Workers. https://www.casw-acts.ca/files/attachements/casw_guidelines_for_ethical_practice_e.pdf

Canadian Association of Social Workers. (2014). *Social media use and social work practice*. Canadian Association of Social Workers. https://www.casw-acts.ca/files/policy_statements/social_media_use_and_social_work_practice.pdf

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

Web Delivery

This course is entirely web-based, delivered through Desire2Learn (D2L) and Zoom Meeting platforms.

Desire2Learn

D2L is a course management system that will allow us to share resources, complete related learning activities, and connect with each other via the discussion board and Zoom.

Zoom Sessions

Zoom meeting is an audio-visual, web-based program that will allow us to meet at a specific time for a “live” web conference, so that we can have the opportunity to see and talk to each other virtually and discuss relevant issues. In the Zoom sessions, students can expect to share ideas, give feedback and raise issues as they relate to their own practicum experience and that of their peers, and have the opportunity to process experiences from the field in a safe and instructional environment.

Discussion Board

Online discussion in D2L is a key aspect of our learning in this course. The advantage of the discussion board is that it is asynchronous, that is, we can all contribute at a time that is convenient to each of us.

Confidentiality in Class and Course Assignments

As professionals, students and the instructor will respect the guidelines of confidentiality outlined in the CASW Code of Ethics (2005). We will take care that no information that could identify a client of any service system be used in class meetings or in assignments. We will adhere to the policy that issues introduced in the seminar will be discussed in only general, and not particular ways outside the classroom.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COURSES

The emphasis of SOWK 411 is on practice, that is, social work in action. Because students are expected to apply knowledge, skills and values to specific situations, this course can be related to all other BSW courses. The seminar is taken concurrently with and is directly linked to Practicum I (SOWK 410).

CLASS SCHEDULE

Please note important dates for Spring 2021:

- Start of Classes: Wednesday, May 5, 2021
- Victoria Day: Monday, May 24, 2021
- End of Classes: Thursday, June 17, 2021
- Add/Drop/Swap and Withdraw deadlines: Check the Student Centre

Date	Topic	Readings/Assignments Due
May 6, 2021	Practicum and seminar overview	Attend and participate in Zoom session A1,P1 due (May 7)
May 13, 2021	Social work theory and methods	Read Teater (2010) Attend and participate in Zoom session
May 20, 2021	*Optional* office hours	Read Vayda & Bogo (1991) Drop in to Zoom session to meet with instructor as needed (optional) A2 due (May 21)
May 27, 2021	Self-care, collective care, and workplace wellness	Read Profitt (2008) and Reynolds (2009) Attend and participate in Zoom session
June 3, 2021	*Optional* office hours	Drop in to Zoom session to meet with instructor as needed (optional)

June 10, 2021	Integration of Theory and Practice (ITP) Loops	Attend and participate in Zoom session A3 due (June 11)
June 17, 2021	Final integration	Attend and participate in Zoom session A1,P3 (June 18)

*A = Assignment; P = Part. For example, "A1,P1" refers to Assignment 1, Part I.

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT AND RELATED INFORMATION

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Faculty of Social Work acknowledges the inequities experienced by racialized people, Indigenous people, and other marginalized populations. We aim to foster an environment that recognizes and celebrates diverse perspectives. Therefore, we are committed to eradicating all forms of injustices based on race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status, religion, and disability.

GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS IN ONLINE CLASSES

Students are expected to participate actively in all Zoom sessions. If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected, if they are able, to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.). All students are expected to behave in a professional manner during the session.

MEDIA RECORDING FOR ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

ZOOM RECORDINGS OF ONLINE CLASSES

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

1. Assignment 1: Seminar Engagement – 50% of total course grade

Seminar engagement marks award you for your dedication to being an active learner in the different components of the course. The grade will be allocated based on the following elements:

Part I: An introductory discussion board post (worth 15%) – due 11:59pm on May 7

Aligned Course Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 7

You will compose an introductory post in the D2L discussion board of approximately 750 words that includes all of the following elements:

Brief introduction of self: Including your name, pronouns, where you live currently, where you call home, one thing that sustains you (physically, emotionally, spiritually, etc.), and anything else about yourself that you would like to share.

Your practicum setting: Including where you are completing practicum, what the mission of the agency is, how it is funded, who works there, what type of clients/communities/issues you will be working with, what supervisory arrangements look like, and a link to the agency's website (if possible).

First impressions of practicum: Including how you are adjusting to the new environment, your initial impressions, questions, goals, challenges, and desired successes.

Part II: Active engagement in Zoom meetings (worth 5% for each meeting; 25% total)

Aligned Course Learning Outcomes: 2, 4, 5, 6, 7

You are required to be present at each of the five Zoom meetings, on time, and for the entire duration of the meeting. You will be expected to contribute to the discussion orally (a working microphone and reliable internet connection will be essential, and a working video camera is strongly encouraged), and you will hold yourself personally responsible to ensure that you actively participate in each session. Absences from Zoom meetings should be discussed with the instructor in advance, when possible. Participation marks for students who miss a meeting may be made up through a short essay on the topic of the week, as negotiated with the instructor.

Part III: A final reflective post (worth 15%)

Aligned Course Learning Outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6

You will compose a final reflective post in the D2L discussion board of approximately 750 words that includes all of the following:

Biggest learnings: Describe 1-2 of the most important learnings of your practicum thus far, and discuss how you have changed as an emerging social worker because of the experience(s) (4 marks).

Emerging strengths: Identify what you believe some of your emerging strengths to be, and justify your assessment with examples from practicum (3 marks).

Areas for growth: Identify what areas of social work practice you still need to develop (3 marks).

Ongoing professional development: Identify 1-2 ways that you might begin to address your need to develop the areas of growth that you have identified above, and your plan to gain new knowledges (ex. attend a conference, read a book on a particular topic, etc. Each example should be specific, meaning that you should write the name and author of the book that you intend to read, and not just say that you will read a book on a certain topic) (3 marks).

Concluding thoughts: Reflecting back on what you have learned thus far in the BSW program and what you have learned throughout practicum, complete the following sentences (2 marks):

- a) "If I could go back in time and offer one piece of advice to myself as I start the first day of the BSW program, I would say..."
- b) "In order to sustain myself both personally and professionally, one self-care/collective-care commitment that I will make to myself is..."

2. Social Work Theories and Methods – 20% of total course grade

Due 11:59pm May 21

Aligned Course Learning Outcomes: 1, 4

After reading the Teater (2010) chapter and having done your own research into various social work theories and methods that are relevant to your developing practice, answer the following questions (approximately 250 words/question) and submit your responses via Dropbox:

- a) In your own words, what is the different between a social work theory and a social work method? (5 marks)
- b) What is one method that you have utilized or seen utilized in practice? Describe the method and how it was utilized. Use at least one scholarly reference (cited in APA) to support your description. (5 marks)
- c) What was the theory that informed this method? Describe the theory and explain how it informed the method described above. Use at least one scholarly reference (cited in APA) to support your description (5 marks)
- d) Why is theory important for social work practice? How might theory inform practice, and practice inform theory? (5 marks)

3. Integrating Theory and Practice (ITP Loop) – 30% of total course grade

Presentation due in class on June 10; Written submission due 11:59pm June 11

Aligned Course Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

The intent of this assignment is to engage in reflective, collaborative social work practice using a combination of the ITP Loop and Peer Consultation. The ITP Loop is a model that allows social workers to deconstruct their practice and break it down into its component parts. At first glance, our practice appears holistic and intuitive, but it can be unraveled and articulated with much greater detail. Practice itself is a combination of listening, feeling, thinking, and acting in which all these processes occur simultaneously. The ITP loop allows us to take a closer look at these processes with the goal of integrating social work theory and the field education experience. The ITP Loop consists of the following phases: retrieval (remembering a practicum situation), reflection, linkage, and professional response. Each student will complete the ITP Loop process twice.

Step 1: ITP Loop Process: Students will apply the ITP loop (see steps below) to a practicum experience.

The submission should be made up of the following sections (total of 3-4 pages, double spaced):

- 1. Retrieval** - Recall salient facts of a recent practice experience. In a paragraph or two, briefly describe a significant experience that has taken place in your practicum setting. In telling the story, position yourself as the author using the first person. Things to share may include: interactions with significant others, links between present and past experiences, feelings, ideas or meaning making that occurred. As relevant, include the intellectual, spiritual, social, physical, and aesthetic dimensions in the telling of the story. (4 marks)
- 2. Reflections** - Recall your thoughts and feelings about the situation. Focus on the subjective beliefs and attitudes, personal experiences, and cultural world views that are relevant to the situation. Identify how these factors influenced your interaction. (4 marks)
- 3. Linkage** - Identify the key actions you took and explain how you chose those actions. Which practice models, practice wisdom, learned techniques or skills did you consider/use? (4 marks)
- 4. Professional Response** – consider whether your response was selected through deliberate or intuitive use of reflection and linkage. Do you feel that your response was effective, appropriate, or sufficient? What could you have done differently? How may that have impacted your work? What did you learn about social work practice? (4 marks)
- 5. Questions to Peers** – What (2 – 4) questions do you have for your peers about this practice experience? (4 marks)

Step 2: Providing Feedback to Others: In class on June 10, students will be asked to share their ITP loops in a small group. Students are expected to offer helpful, supportive, and resourceful consultation and feedback to their peers. Each student will prepare a summary of the peer feedback that they received

(max 2 pages double-spaced; 5 marks), and a reflective response to peer feedback (max 1 page double-spaced; 5 marks).

Assignment Submission (due June 10 at 11:59pm):

Submit the following components of the assignment **as one document** via Dropbox:

-ITP Loop write-up (Step 1)

-Summary of peer feedback from Step 2 (max 2 pages double spaced; 5 marks)

-Reflective response to peer feedback (max 1 page double spaced; 5 marks)

Students who are unable to participate in the peer consultation portion in class can achieve a maximum of 20/30 for their ITP Loop assignment.

ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be fully present and engaged in class activities and discussions. These are part of the participation grade, as outlined in the assessment components section above. Attending Zoom sessions is strongly encouraged. Your attendance and participate in all of the Zoom sessions for the course benefit your learning experience as well as understanding full the content of this course. If any reasons, you must miss a session, please contact the instructor prior to the session to notify them. For your best learning purpose, you can contact the instructor for an assignment to allow you to catch up the materials of the missing class(es). That assignment will not be counted in the overall grade of this course. It is for your own learning purpose. And there is no penalty if you do not ask for the assignment for a missing class.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

Please submit all assignments electronically through their respective dropbox in D2L. Assignments may be submitted in Word or PDF format. Assignments should have a file name as follows: "Full name and assignment number" (e.g., Jane Smith Assignment 2). Assignments are due before midnight on their due date. Please note that it is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor.

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

All writing is expected to be written to social work professional standards. If you need writing support, please connect with the Student Success Centre, at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

It is expected that all work submitted in assignments is the student's own work, written expressly by the student for this particular course. Students are reminded that academic misconduct, including plagiarism, has serious consequences, as set out in the University Calendar:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

GRADING

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.

The University of Calgary **Undergraduate Grading System** and Faculty of Social Work Percentage Conversion will be used.

Grade	Grade Point	Description	Percentage Range
A+	4.0	Outstanding	95 - 100
A	4.0	Excellent – superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter	95 – 100
A-	3.7		90 – 94
B+	3.3		85 – 89
B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete	80 – 84
B-	2.7		75 – 79
C+	2.3		70 – 74
C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of subject matter	65 – 69
C-	1.7		60 – 64
D+	1.3		55 – 59
D	1.0	Minimal Pass – marginal performance	50 – 54
F	0.0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements	Below 50

COURSE EVALUATION

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University and Faculty of Social Work course evaluation forms. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED READINGS

Additional required course readings and links to resources will be posted on D2L.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

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.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 and the University of Calgary, all students and staff are expected to respect, appreciate, and encourage expression of diverse world views and perspectives; to offer their fellow community members unconditional respect and constructive feedback; and to contribute to building learning communities that promote individual and collective professional and personal growth. While critical thought and debate is valued in response to concepts and opinions shared in class, feedback must always be focused on the ideas or opinions shared and not on the person who has stated them.

Students and staff are expected to model behaviour in class that is consistent with our professional values and ethics, as outlined in the Canadian Association for Social Workers, Code of Ethics (2005) and the Alberta College of Social Work Standards of Practice (2019). Both can be found online at:

<https://acsw.ab.ca/site/practice-resources?nav=sidebar>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS). SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available <https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>

RESEARCH ETHICS

"If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they 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.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is

prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

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, or 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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Sexual-Violence-Policy.pdf>

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- **Wellness and Mental Health Resources**
- **Student Success**
- **Student Ombuds Office**
- **Student Union (SU) Information**
- **Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information**