CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
Foundations of Social Work Lab - SOWK 2005 01

Fall 2015

Lecture Hours: No Lecture   Lab Hours: Student will arrange hours of volunteer assignment

Credit Hours: 1

Class Time: To be determined by supervisor of volunteer agency

Instructor: Leon Chamberlain MSW LCSW/Agency Supervisor

Instructor's Office/Cell: 307-359-2430
Email: oldsoldierleon@gmail.com – late calls need to use home number

College Office Hours: Prior to or after class: 7 PM - Mondays

College Office Hours: Prior to or after class: 7 p.m. Mondays, Instructor will be available on request

Course Description

This course introduces social work and social welfare through volunteer placement with an agency providing services to individual and groups.

Enrollment in this course can be in conjunction with Foundations of Social Work 2000 01, or after completing the classroom course.

Introduction:
The generalist practitioner operates within the ethical guidelines prescribed by the NASW Code of Ethics. The social worker utilizes the problem-solving model to intervene with all levels of client systems (individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities and institutions). Assessment using the generalist social work practice model is grounded in a systems and person-in-environment framework with the goal of identifying multiple potential points of intervention. Interventions using the generalist social work practice model attempt to prevent or help solve difficulties within the functioning of the client system as well as enhancing and strengthening the inherent capacities of a wide range of diverse client systems. The generalist practitioner advance problem-solving methods, which are infinitely flexible in their application. The concepts of the generalist social work practice model guide the curriculum plan and student learning objectives.

Foundations of Social Work is the introductory course for the Bachelor of Social Work degree, providing the student with an overview of social work ethics and values, history, the person-in-environment perspective, systems theory, the problem-solving process, cultural diversity and fields of practice. This knowledge prepares the student to learn more in depth theory in the

Human Behavior and Social Environment course sequence. Knowledge about fields of practice helps the student understand the context for the skills taught in the practice courses. History, philosophy, and ethics of social work introduce the student to policy issues, which are covered in depth in the Policy course. Students are introduced to research as a method of practice evaluation, prior to the more in depth preparation in Research Methods course work. In addition, research is presented as a guide for practice and the optional volunteer experience in this course helps the student begin thinking about the area in which they wish to complete their field practicum and to understand the role of social work in human service organizations.

Goal:
Students completing this course will be given the opportunity to experience practical social work:

1. Apply critical thinking skills within the context of social work theory, principles and practice.

2. Understand and appreciate the social work values and ethics and have an understanding of and respect for the positive value of diversity.

3. Understand the concept of the professional use of self.

4. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and the importance of change that advances social and economic justice.

5. Understand the distinct circumstances of population-at-risk, women, people of color, and people who are gay and lesbian, and populations at-risk unique to this region, such as Native Americans living on reservations, isolated farm and ranch families, and isolated minority groups scattered throughout the state.

6. Understand the history of the social work profession and its current structures and issues.

7. Understand the knowledge and skills of generalist social work practice with systems of all sizes.

8. Understand the importance of bio-psycho-social variables that affect individual development and behavior, and the use of theoretical frameworks, such as systems theory.

9. Appreciate the value of research to understand behavior of client systems at all levels.

10. Appreciate the impact and role of social policies on client systems, workers, and agencies.

11. Use supervision as a volunteer in a human service organization.

12. Demonstrate skill in functioning within the structure of a human service organization as a volunteer.

Outcomes: The class will include:
        Completion of a Twenty (20) hours placement with an agency providing social services.

Methodology: Student will be under the supervision of an agency representative, completing agency requirements. Supervisor will determine success of student.

Evaluation Criteria:
    Weekly journals - Twenty (25 points)
    Student Self-Evaluation Paper - Twenty Five (50) points
    Oral presentation - Twenty Five (25) points

Course grading scheme:	90-100	A
	80-89	B
	70-79	C
	60-69	D
	Below 60	F

Required Text:
    There is no text required for this class.

Class Policies:
Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade: November 12, 2015. All exams and homework will be expected by the date indicated on the course calendar. All students are expected to attend scheduled classes, unless prior arrangements have been made. Make-up assignments will be due the following class period. Your attendance is critical to your learning. I assume you will attend class unless you have an emergency. If you must miss class, I appreciate your letting me know, not so I can approve or disapprove the absence, but as a courtesy. Missing more than 20% of the class (includes accumulated tardiness) may result in failure of the class.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty - Cheating & Plagiarism: Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct.

ADA Accommodation Policy: It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodations in this course, please make an appointment to see me at your earliest convenience.

Calendar:

August 24 - Classes begin - course overview - NASW Code of Conduct

September 07 – Labor Day - N0 CLASS - Campus closed

October 19 -20 – FALL BREAK – No Class

December 14 - Oral Presentations – Final Class

******** Any Changes To This Schedule Will Be Made in Advance With Written Notice