Bemidji State University

SOWK 3340: Anti-Oppressive Social Work

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 0
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
MnTC Goals: None

The purpose of this course is to critically examine societal issues generated by systemic discrimination and explore methods for reducing discrimination. Particular focus is on social work practice with a variety of diverse populations, and strategies that generalist practitioners can employ to decrease oppression on all system levels. The course is designed to provide students with the skills required for culturally competent practice with diverse communities. Theories of oppression and discrimination will be reviewed. Historical forms of oppression will be analyzed with a connection to present-day forms of discrimination and oppression. Students will learn a process of career-long learning about culture and difference, including strategies to address systemic issues of oppression. Finally, emphasis will be placed on personal values and the complexities of integrating social work values, as well as ethical practice in working with diverse populations. Prerequisite(s): Junior and Senior Standing or instructor consent

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/11/2021 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Ethical framework for practice with diverse populations
2. Defining racism and oppression
3. White and racial/minority/ethnic identity development
4. Social work practice with First Nations peoples, African American/Caribbean Islanders, Latino Americans, Asian Americans, and immigrants/refugees, LGBTQ2 people, persons with disabilities, older adults, women of color, people with religious and spiritual diversity, and low socioeconomic status

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

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 with, assess, intervene, and evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus
G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted