PRSW 1400: Introduction to Social Work

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

Social work is a dynamic profession that strives to support, empower, and improve the lives of others. This course provides an overview of professional social work including its history, core values, code of ethics, fields of practice, levels of practice, major interventional methods, and the generalist approach. Students will develop skills in critical thinking, professional communication, self-awareness, and advocacy to prepare them for work in a diverse society.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/24/2020 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Discuss the historical evolution of the social work profession.
2. Identify major fields of practice in the social work profession.
3. Explain generalist social work as a profession.
4. Describe the roles and responsibilities of the social work profession within the social welfare system.
5. Differentiate among professional social workers’ responsibility and other service providers’ responsibilities.
6. Discuss perspectives on human diversity, oppression, and privilege held by social workers.
7. Discuss the values of the profession and recognize the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics as the practice framework for generalist social work practice.
8. Demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior; appearance; and oral, written, and electronic communication.
9. Identify student’s personal comfort level to work with persons different from themselves.
10. Identify selected social problems, social welfare agencies’ responses to these issues, and the role that social workers play in these various settings.
11. Identify socioeconomic and related issues affecting populations at risk, including issues of social justice and systems of oppression.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Students will develop knowledge of the Social work profession.
2. Students will develop knowledge of the knowledge, skills, values, and ethics involved in the practice of Social work.
3. Students will develop knowledge of the many settings in which social workers practice and to the diverse client groups whom social workers serve.
4. Students will develop knowledge of the professional NASW Code of Ethics.

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

None
F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   None noted