



**Course Outline**

**UNIVERSITY STUDIES PROGRAM**

**SOWK 201E**  
**Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Work**  
**Fall Term, 2013**

**3 CREDITS**  
**3 HOURS PER WEEK**

**INSTRUCTOR: Melissa MacDonald**



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Fall 2013

UNIVERSITY STUDIES PROGRAM  
SOWK 201E

## **INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL WELFARE**

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

**Instructor:** Melissa MacDonald BSW, MSW, RSW  
**Office Number:** S113D  
**Phone:** 780-791-4976  
**Fax:** 780-791-4991  
**Email:** Melissa.Macdonald@keyano.ca  
**Office Hours:** M: 5:15 – 6:15 pm

**HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:** Mondays 6:30-9:30

**LOCATION:** S233

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will provide an opportunity for students to gain an understanding of social welfare in its broadest terms and the profession of social work within this realm. This course will introduce students to the professional values, ethics, knowledge bases, roles, responsibilities, fields of practice, and practice settings of social work; encourage students to critically examine their beliefs, values, and attitudes in relation to society of which they are members; and enable students to explore their individual interests within the profession of social work. The complexity of social issues and the concepts of diversity, empowerment, and advocacy will also be emphasized.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

This course is designed to facilitate critical thinking and provide a broad general knowledge base of social work practice. It will provide opportunities for collaboration and peer learning in order to facilitate a student orientated learning process. Activities will include class discussions, small group work, peer discussions and consultations, and student small group discussion presentations. Students will be expected to complete the weekly assigned background readings as class time will be focused on these activities to enhance the reading materials and conceptual learning.



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## REQUIRED RESOURCES

### Textbooks

Hick, Steven F. (2010). *Social work in Canada: An introduction*. Toronto: Thompson Educational Publishing, Inc.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

On the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the historical development, values, ethics, theories, foundations, and approaches to social work practices. Particular attention will be paid to the Strengths, Aboriginal, Structural and Feminist models of practice
- Understand Generalist Social Work Practice
- Understand and apply the Ecosystems theory, Person-in-the-Environment Perspective and the Problem Solving approaches to Social Work practice.
- Understand how Social Welfare policies have shaped the fabric of society.
- Critically examine and reflect on their own beliefs and values about social welfare and how it has impacted the social work profession.
- Developed critical thinking skills required in order to understand the complexity of the social work profession and its contribution to social justice, anti oppressive practices, advocacy, and activism.
- Learn collaboratively with peers and instructors



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## EVALUATION

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| In class Examination (2hrs) | 30%         |
| Essay                       | 30%         |
| Presentation                | 30%         |
| In Class Assignments        | 10%         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>100%</b> |

**Mid-term Examination- 30%:** Multiple choice; true or false; short answer; essay question. Content: handout, lectures, Chapters 1-7, inclusive, in the required text (Hick). **October 21<sup>st</sup> 2013.**

**Essay- 30%** Format: Annotated 2000 word essay catalogued in the American Psychological Association (APA) format. Essay will critique a current social problem/issue or policy utilizing the following guidelines:

- Description and significance of social problem/issue/policy
- Historical development
- Factual information on the issue
- Impact on society and population affected
- Ideological and theoretical orientations
- Relevance to social work
- Implications for social work practice at the micro, mezzo and macro levels
- Closing remarks
- **Essay is due on December 6th, 2013**

**Group Presentations-30%:** Select an issue related to the topic of the week that you are scheduled to present on (please consult with your instructor to avoid duplication of issues) and introduce colleagues to the issue; impacts on society and population affected and implications for social work. Each group will have 45 minutes for presentation and 15 minutes for question/answer. **Group Presentations scheduled from November 4<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>.**



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**In Class Assignments-10%:** This course is designed to be interactive in nature and your interest and involvement will serve not only to enhance your own personal learning but will assist others in the quest for insight into social work. Small, in class assignments will be assigned periodically to provide enhanced opportunities for critical thinking. In class assignments may be delegated as individual or group tasks.

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY THE SPECIFIED DATE AND A LATE PENALTY OF 5% PER DAY WILL BE APPLIED TO LATE SUBMISSIONS.**

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

| <b>Letter Grade</b> | <b>Description</b> | <b>Grade Points</b> |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>A+</b>           |                    | <b>4</b>            |
| <b>A</b>            | Excellent          | <b>4</b>            |
| <b>A-</b>           |                    | <b>3.7</b>          |
| <b>B+</b>           |                    | <b>3.3</b>          |
| <b>B</b>            | Good               | <b>3</b>            |
| <b>B-</b>           |                    | <b>2.7</b>          |
| <b>C+</b>           |                    | <b>2.3</b>          |
| <b>C</b>            | Satisfactory       | <b>2</b>            |
| <b>C-</b>           |                    | <b>1.7</b>          |
| <b>D+</b>           |                    | <b>1.3</b>          |
| <b>D</b>            | Minimal Pass       | <b>1</b>            |
| <b>F</b>            | Failure            | <b>0</b>            |

Students intending to transfer to other institutions require a 'C-' as a minimum grade. Transfer information on each course is available at the [Alberta Council on Admission and Transfers](#).

Students who do not complete all the required work should not expect to pass the course. Students should consult:

[http://www.keyano.ca/current\\_students/examinations/index.htm](http://www.keyano.ca/current_students/examinations/index.htm)



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## PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

### Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course. Please refer to the 2013-2014 Credit Calendar.

### Late Assignments

Assignment are due on dates as assigned throughout the semester. Late assignments may not be accepted dependent on the nature of the work or may be subject to a 5% late penalty per day. **If a student expects that an assignment will be late, he or she is urged to consult with the course instructor prior to the due date.**

### Student Preparation

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and/or notes that may be due.

### Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations
- Unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person

Penalties for academic offences may range from a verbal reprimand to dismissal from the College, and in certain circumstances may involve legal action. Please refer to the 2013-2014



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Credit Calendar for more information:

[http://www.keyano.ca/Portals/0/Documents/Academic%20Calendar/creditcalendar2013-14\\_book.pdf](http://www.keyano.ca/Portals/0/Documents/Academic%20Calendar/creditcalendar2013-14_book.pdf)

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism means submitting someone else's work as your own. For example, copying material from the Internet, a book or other source without acknowledging that the words or ideas are someone else's and not your own is plagiarism. If you copy an author's words, exactly, treat the passage as a direct quotation and supply the appropriate citation. If you use someone else's ideas, even if you paraphrase the wording, appropriate credit should be given. You have committed plagiarism if you purchase a term paper or submit a paper as your own that you did not write. Please see the Student Rights and Responsibilities document, regarding Academic Misconduct:

[http://www.keyano.ca/Portals/0/Documents/Academic%20Calendar/creditcalendar2013-14\\_book.pdf](http://www.keyano.ca/Portals/0/Documents/Academic%20Calendar/creditcalendar2013-14_book.pdf)

## **COLLEGE POLICIES**

### **Equality, Equity and Respect**

The Keyano College is committed to providing an environment of equality, equity and respect for all people within the College community. All members of this community are considered partners in developing teaching and learning contexts that are welcoming to all. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to use inclusive language to create a classroom atmosphere in which students' experiences and views are treated with equal respect and valued in relation to their gender, ethnic and cultural background, and sexual orientation.

*Students should consult:*

[http://www.keyano.ca/Committees/IRA/Individual\\_Rights\\_Policy.asp](http://www.keyano.ca/Committees/IRA/Individual_Rights_Policy.asp)

### **Plagiarism and Cheating**

Every student expects to be treated and evaluated fairly in a course. Plagiarism and cheating robs everyone of this right.

No student may submit words, ideas or data of another student or person as his or her own in any writing, project, assignment, quiz, electronic presentation, exam etc. Any work used that is not the student's own must be clearly cited as belonging to someone else. There are penalties for using other's work and not citing it. The Student's Rights & Responsibilities document clearly outlines these penalties and the appeal process.

- No learner can obtain information from another student during an exam.
- No learner can bring unauthorized information (paper or electronic) into an exam or quiz.



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- No student can submit work done in another course for grading in this course without the written prior approval of the course instructor.
- No student can submit copyright protected or commercially produced materials as part or all of an assignment without proper citation & permission.

### **Student Rights & Responsibilities**

Students should consult the Keyano College Credit Calendar or online at:

<http://www.keyano.ca/Media/Collections/Calendars/Keyano.Calendar1112-10-full.pdf>

### **Specialized Supports and Duty to Accommodate**

#### *Disability Support Services: Learner Assistance Program*

If you have a documented disability or you think that you would benefit from some assistance from a Disabilities Counsellor, please call or visit the Disability Supports Office 780-792-5608 to book an appointment (across from the library). Services and accommodations are intended to assist you in your program of study, while maintaining the academic standards of Keyano College. We can be of assistance to you in disclosing your disability to your instructor, providing accommodations, and supporting your overall success at Keyano College.

#### *Specialized Supports and Duty to Accommodate*

Specialized Support and Duty to Accommodate are aligned with the office of Disability Support Services: Learner Assistance Program (LAP) guided by federal and provincial human rights legislation, and defined by a number of Keyano College policies. Keyano College is obligated by legislation to provide disability-related accommodations to students with identified disabilities to the point of undue hardship.

### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>September 2</b>  | <b>College closed (Labour Day)</b>   |
| <b>September 3</b>  | <b>Orientation Day</b>   |
| <b>September 4</b>  | <b>Fall semester begins for academic programs</b>                            |
| <b>September 10</b> | <b>Last day to add for academic programs<br/>Fall semester fees due</b>      |
| <b>September 11</b> | <b>Fall late fee applied</b>   |
| <b>September 17</b> | <b>Last day to drop for academic programs</b>                                |
| <b>October 14</b>   | <b>College closed (Thanksgiving Day)</b>                                     |
| <b>October 25</b>   | <b>Last day to withdraw without academic penalty</b>                         |
| <b>November 5</b>   | <b>Fall Awards Celebration</b>   |
| <b>November 11</b>  | <b>No classes (Remembrance Day)</b>  |
| <b>December 6</b>   | <b>Last day of classes for Certificate, Diploma, and University programs</b> |



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## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>WEEK 1:</b><br>Sept. 9  | <b>Student and Course Introductions</b>  |
| <b>WEEK 2:</b><br>Sept. 16 | <b>The Context of Social Welfare, Income Security and Social Work Practice</b><br>Hick- Chapter 1 & 2                                    |
| <b>WEEK 3:</b><br>Sept. 23 | <b>The History of Social Work</b><br>Hick- Chapter 3<br><b>Theory and Approaches to Social Work</b><br>Hick- Chapter 4                   |
| <b>WEEK 4:</b><br>Sept. 30 | <b>Ethics, Ideology and Social Work Roles</b><br>Hick- Chapter 5<br>Exam Review  |
| <b>WEEK 5:</b><br>Oct. 7   | <b>Social Work with Individuals and Families</b><br>Hick- Chapter 6<br><b>Social Work with Groups and Communities</b><br>Hick- Chapter 7 |
| <b>WEEK 6:</b><br>Oct. 14  | <b>Thanksgiving weekend College Closed</b>   |
| <b>WEEK 7:</b><br>Oct. 21  | <b>MID-TERM EXAMINATION – 2 HRS.</b>   |
| <b>WEEK 8:</b><br>Oct. 28  | <b>Social Work and the Health of Canadians</b><br>Hick-Chapter 9<br>Essay Review   |
| <b>WEEK 9:</b><br>Nov.4    | <b>Social Work with Children and Youth</b><br>Hick-Chapter 8<br>Student Presentation   |



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|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>WEEK 10:</b><br><b>Nov. 11</b> | <b>Remembrance Day College Closed</b>  |
| <b>WEEK 11:</b><br><b>Nov. 18</b> | <b>Social Work with Women</b><br>Hick-Chapter 10<br><b>Social Work and Sexual and Gender Diversity</b><br>Hick-Chapter 14<br>Student Presentation                        |
| <b>WEEK 12:</b><br><b>Nov. 25</b> | <b>Social Work with the Elderly</b><br>Hick-Chapter 13<br><b>Social Work with Persons with Disabilities</b><br>Hick-Chapter 15<br>Student Presentation                   |
| <b>WEEK 13:</b><br><b>Dec. 2</b>  | <b>Social Work with Racialized Canadians and Immigrants</b><br>Hick- Chapter 12<br><b>Social Work and Aboriginal Peoples</b><br>Hick- Chapter 11<br>Student Presentation |
| <b>Dec. 6</b>                     | <b>Essay Due</b>   |



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\_\_\_\_\_  
**Melissa MacDonald, Instructor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Reviewed and approved by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Vincella Thompson, Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

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**Guy Harmer, Dean**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**