

**SOWK 201E: Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Work**

*3 credits, 3 hours lecture*

This course will provide an opportunity for students to gain an understanding of social welfare in its broadest terms and the professional values, ethics, knowledge base, 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.

*Prerequisites and/or co-requisites: None*

**Instructor**

Nicole Downie  
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**Office Hours**

Monday	5:00-6:00pm
Tuesday	1:00-2:00pm
Wednesday	1:00-2:00pm
Thursday	1:00-2:00pm
Friday	10:00-11:00am

**Hours of Instruction**

Mondays 6:30pm – 9:30pm

**Required Resources**

Hick, S., & Stokes, J. (2017). *Social Work in Canada: An Introduction*. (4<sup>th</sup> ed). Ontario, Canada: Thompson Educational Publishing Inc.

**Course Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- Discuss the historical development, values, ethics, theories, foundations, and approaches to social work practices. Particular attention will be paid to the Strengths Perspective, Indigenous Perspective, Feminist Perspective, and Structural Perspective.
- Describe Generalist Social Work Practice
- Demonstrate an application of Ecosystems Theory, Person-in-Environment Perspective, and Problem Solving Approaches to social work practice.
- Analyze 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.
- Develop critical thinking skills required to understand the complexity of the social work profession and its contribution to social justice, anti-oppressive practices, advocacy, and activism.
- Learn collaboratively with peer and instructor.

### Evaluation

Task	Learning Outcome(s)	Weight
Quizzes (4 x 5%)		20%
Discussions	2, 7	10%
Reflections (10 x 2%)	5, 6	20%
Assignment	1, 3, 4, 6	25%
Final Exam		25%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100%</b>

*A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.*

*Late assignments will be subject to penalty of 5% per day.*

**Quizzes:** Quizzes may be a combination of multiple choice and True/False – although quizzes are open book, due to the restrictive time allowed to complete each quiz, it will be imperative that you know the content. Quizzes will be available online through Moodle during the dates listed on your outline. Weight is 20% of overall grade (4 quizzes x 5% each).

**Discussions:** During each week, students are responsible for reading the assigned text chapter(s) and attending lecture. Students are expected to actively engage in discussions and group activities, and ask questions to facilitate own their learning. Weight is 10% of overall grade.

**Reflections:** Are to be completed at the end of each class, or shortly thereafter, and submitted at the end of the term. Reflections may be hand-written, typed, or recorded in an audio file. Length should be approximately 1-page typed, or the equivalent hand-written, or 1-2 minute recorded. Please note that this requires reflection on lecture content and assigned readings, not simply summarization. Late submissions will be subject to deductions. Weight is 20% of overall grade.

**Assignment:** Students will have the option to complete an academic paper, or a presentation with audio for this assignment. Throughout the term, students will gain insight into generalist social work practice, and will be required to examine a social issue in Canada. Peer reviews/critiques will occur prior to final submission. Late submission will be subject to deductions. Weight is 25% of overall grade.

**Final Exam:** Multiple choice; short answer; long answer. Will cover all content, class discussion, and assigned readings. Weight is 25% of overall grade.

**Grading System**

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory <b>Progression</b>	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor <b>Minimum Pass</b>	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

**Proposed Schedule of Topics**

Wk	Date	Topic	Readings	Assessments
1	Sept 11	Introduction: Social Work & Social Welfare	Chapter 1	
2	Sept 18	Toward a History of Social Work in Canada	Chapter 2	
	Sept 19-24			Quiz #1 (CH 1,2)
3	Sept 25	Social Work Theories and Practice Models	Chapter 3	
4	Oct 2	Individuals, Groups, and Communities	Chapter 4	
	Oct 3-8			Quiz #2 (CH 3,4)
5	Oct 9	<i>No Class – Thanksgiving</i>		
6	Oct 16	Social Work and Child Welfare in Canada	Chapter 5	
7	Oct 23	Social Work and the Health of Canadians	Chapter 6	
	Oct 24-29			Quiz #3 (CH 5,6)
8	Oct 30	Mental Health and Social Work Practice	Chapter 7	
9	Nov 6	Social Work with Women in Canada Racialized Canadians and Immigrants	Chapters 8, 10	
	Nov 7-12			Quiz #4 (CH 7,8,10)
10	Nov 13	<i>No Class – Remembrance Day</i>		
11	Nov 20	Social Work with Indigenous Peoples	Chapter 9	
	Nov 24			Peer Review Due
12	Nov 27	Social Work with Older Canadians Social Work with Persons with Disabilities	Chapters 11, 13	
13	Dec 4	Social Work and Sexual/Gender Diversity International Social Work Practice	Chapters 12, 14	Reflections Due
	Dec 10			Assignment Due
14	TBD			Final Exam

**Please Note:** Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

## Performance Requirements

### Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar.

More specific details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

### Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a students' learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to 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.

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 (cheating)
- Collusion or the 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
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on [ilearn.keyano.ca](http://ilearn.keyano.ca). Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

**Specialized Supports****Counselling and Accessibility Services**

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

**SKILL Centre**

The SKILL Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus at Keyano College where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The SKILL Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to Keyano students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors. Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.

**Authorization**

This course outline has been reviewed and approved by the Program Chair.

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Nicole Downie, Instructor

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Stephanie Brake, Chair

Date Authorized

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Vincella Thompson, Dean

Date Authorized

**Signed copies to be delivered to:**

Instructor

Registrar's Office