



Course Outline

SOCIAL WORK DIPLOMA PROGRAM

**SOWK 220
SOCIAL WORK WITH FAMILIES**

Fall, 2013

**3 CREDITS
3 HOURS PER WEEK**

INSTRUCTOR: Stephanie Brake MSW, RSW



INSTRUCTOR: Stephanie Brake
PHONE NUMBER: (780) 791-4993
E-MAIL: Stephanie.brake@keyano.ca
OFFICE NUMBER: S113B

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday	11:00 – 11:50 AM
Tuesday	1:00 – 1:50 PM
Wednesday	11:00 – 11:50 AM
Thursday	11:00 – 11:50 AM
Friday	11:00 – 11:50 AM

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:

Tuesday	10:00AM –12:50 PM	Room 224
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will explore theories and trends in family practice. Students will obtain an understanding of family dynamics, family development and assessment and will learn how to apply these concepts to their own culture and social systems. In addition, students will explore the role of the family social worker and how to apply the various theories and concepts to practice.

PRE-REQUISITE(S):

There are no pre-requisites for this course.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

This course will give students the basic understanding of family dynamics and the necessary generalist skills to enable them to practice in a culturally, ethical, and competent manner. It will also explore how to work effectively within organizational structures, the utilization of a wide range of roles for effective family support and the empowerment of the family system. Through class assignments and exercises, students will engage in self-awareness and the application of theory.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an awareness of own family experiences and values and understands its implications on direct client work.
- Understand the assumptions and core concepts of the systems theory and the ecological perspective.
- Understand the family as a structurally complex system with multiple subsystems.
- Examine the importance of utilizing family system tools: genogram and eco-map when working with intergenerational family of origin issues.
- Understand interventions with selected family situations.
- Examine the importance of understanding multicultural family functioning from a contextual model (culture, values, customs).
- Examine professional ethics.

REQUIRED RESOURCES:

Collins, D., Jordan, C., & Coleman, H. (2010). *An introduction to family social work*. (4th ed.). Belmont, CA.: Brooks & Cole.

Richardson, R. (2011). *Family ties that bind: A self-help guide to change through family of origin therapy*. (4th ed.). Vancouver, B.C.: Self-Counsel Press.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

Week	Activity
Week 01-Sept 10	Review of course outline and introduction to the course and textbooks. Course assignment review and class participation expectations discussed.
Week 02- Sept 17	Chapters 1 & 2 The Field of Family Social Work; What is Family
Week 03- Sept 24	Chapters 3 & 4 Family Systems; Family Development and the Life Cycle
Week 04 – October 1	Chapters 5 & 6 Family Strengths and Resilience; Practical Aspects of Family Social Work
Week 05- October 8	Chapter 7 The Beginning Phase; Midterm Exam Review (Chapters 1-7)
Week 06 October 15	Midterm Exam 25% - Full Class
Week 07- October 22	Chapters 8 & 9 Qualitative Family Assessment; Quantitative Assessment
Week 08 – October 29	Class Activity - Full Class Participation Required 2.5%
Week 09- November 5	Class Activity - Full Class Participation Required 2.5%
Week 10- November 12	Group Activity - Full Class Participation Required 25% (group mark)
Week 11 – November 19	Chapters 10 & 11 Family Systems Interventions; The Intervention Phase
Week 12- November 26	Chapters 12 & 13 Interventions at the Child and Parental Levels; Interventions with couples and Gender-Sensitive Intervention; written group assignment due 20%
Week 13 – December 3	Chapter 14 The Termination Phase; Course wrap-up and Final Exam Review (Chapters 8 -14)
Week 14 – Dec 9-18	Final Exam 25% (scheduled sometime during the week of December 9th - 18th) Final Exam will cover Chapters 8 - 14.

Evaluation

Class activities October 29 and November 5 – Full class participation required (5%)

Midterm Exam (25%) October 15th, 2013 covering Chapters 1 – 7. Exam will cover topics covered in class and in the assigned readings.

Final Exam (25%) Week of December 9 - 18, 2013 covering Chapters 8 – 14. Exam will cover topics covered in class and in the assigned readings.

Group Activity (25%) “The First Family Interview” November 12, 2013 – presented during class.

Break into groups of six. One student will be the family social worker and another student will be the observer. Formulate a problem and create a family. Role-play the first family interview. Take ten minutes for each stage: a) Make contact with every family member, b) Define the problem to include perceptions of all members of the family, c) Encourage family members to interact with each other, d) Establish goals and clarify an intervention process, e) Contract with the family. Report back to the class on how the interview went, including what went right and what difficulties were in this first interview. At the end of the discussion, brainstorm with the class how to overcome some of the obstacles that were encountered in the role-play.

Written Group Assignment (20%) November 26, 2013 (it is suggested that groups use both the textbook and the “Family ties that bind” book when working through this

assignment). Students will form into their group and create family situations based on the family profile that is provided by the instructor. Each 'family' will add to the profile description and create a genogram that depicts the family situation. A copy of the genogram as well as the expanded family profile description will be provided to the instructor. Part two of the assignment involves answering five questions related to family work that will be provided to each group by the instructor.

GRADING SYSTEM:

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

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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

September 4	First Day of Classes
September 10	Last day to add for academic programs
September 17	Last day to drop courses for academic programs.
October 14	Thanksgiving Day - College Closed
October 25	Last day to withdraw without academic penalty.
November 11	No Classes - Remembrance Day
December 6	Last day of classes for students in Certificate, Diploma, and University Programs
December 9 - 18	FINAL EXAM PERIOD.

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 Credit Calendar for more information.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

The College will provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities in order to promote academic success. If you require accommodation, contact Counselling Services to initiate the process for documenting, assessing and implementing your individual accommodation needs. In addition, tutoring services are available at the Skill Centre.

Student Rights and Responsibilities:

Students should consult the Keyano College Credit Calendar or online information.



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Stephanie Brake, Instructor

Date

Reviewed and approved by:

Vincella Thompson, Chairperson

Date

Guy Harmer, Dean

Date