

**Social Work**

Winter, 2019

## **SOWK 220A – Practice with Families**

*3 credits, 3 hours*

This course will explore theories and trends in family practice from a generalist approach. Students will obtain an understanding of family assessment, dynamics, development, and evaluation and how these concepts apply to different cultures and social systems. In addition, students will also explore the role of the social worker and how to apply various theories and concepts to practice.

### **Instructor**

Instructor Name: Alexis Laird  
Office location: CC205K  
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### **Office Hours**

Monday: 12:00 – 1:00 PM  
Tuesday: 2:00 – 3:00 PM  
Wednesday: 9:00 – 10:00 AM  
Thursday: 3:00 – 4:00 PM  
Friday: 10:00 – 11:00 AM

### **Hours of Instruction**

Monday 9:00 AM - 11:50 AM  
Room: S205

### **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, BC: Self-Counsel Press.

### **Course Outcomes**

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

- Demonstrate an awareness of own family experiences and values, and understand 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 systems tools: Genogram and Eco-maps 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

### Evaluation

Genogram/Timeline Assignment	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Written Assignment	30%
Final Exam	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

**Genogram/Timeline Assignment:** Students will produce a genogram of their family of origin as well as a timeline charting significant events in their lives. Written instructions will be provided in class. Weight is 20% of overall grade. **Due February 4, 2019.**

**Midterm Exam:** This exam will cover all content, class discussion and assigned readings from weeks 1-8. Weight is 20% of overall grade. **March 4, 2019.**

**Written Assignment:** Students will be provided with a family case study and will be required to complete an intake/assessment/intervention package. Students will discuss their choice of intervention and how it has impacted the family as a system. As most work with families is done in professional teams, students will work in pairs. Written instructions will be provided in class. Weight is 30% of overall grade. **Due April 8, 2019.**

**Final Exam:** In class review for the final exam will be April 8, 2019. Exam date TBA (final exam period).

### 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	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	
	<b>Progression</b>	C-	1.7	
Poor	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.
	<b>Minimum Pass</b>	D	1.0	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

**Proposed Schedule of Topics**

<b>Wk</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assigned Readings</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
1	Jan 7	<i>Class Introduction</i> Introduction to Family Dynamics and Differences	Richardson CH 1, 2, 3, 4	
2	Jan 14	Thoughts, Feelings, and Relationships	Richardson CH 5, 6	
3	Jan 21	Birth Order and Family Intervention Work	Richardson CH 7, 8	
4	Jan 28	<i>Guest Speaker</i>		
5	Feb 4	The Field of Family Social Work	Collins et al. CH 1	<b>Genogram Assignment</b>
6	Feb11	What is Family?	Collins et al. CH 2	
7	Feb18	Family Day – No Classes		
8	Feb 25	Family Systems, Life Cycle, and Development Midterm Exam Review	Collins et al. CH 3, 4	
9	Mar 4	Midterm Exam		<b>Midterm Exam</b>
10	Mar 11	Family Strengths and Resilience Practical Social Work with Families	Collins et al. CH 5 Collins et al. CH 6, 7	
11	Mar 18	Qualitative and Quantitative Family Assessment	Collins et al. CH 8, 9	
12	Mar 25	Family Systems Intervention	Collins et al. CH 10, 11	
13	Apr 1	Interventions: Child and Parent; Couples	Collins et al. CH 12, 13	
14	Apr 8	The Termination Phase <i>Final Exam Preparation</i>	Collins et al. CH 14	<b>Written Assignment</b>
	TBD			<b>Final Exam</b>

**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**

The Student Academic Support Services (SASS) department: Accessibility Services, Skill Centre and Wellness Services, work together to support student success at Keyano College.

**Accessibility Services (CC167)** supports student success through group and individualized instruction of learning, study and test taking strategies, and adaptive technologies. Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with the Learning Strategists to discuss accommodation of the learning barriers that they may be experiencing. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to visit our office at their earliest opportunity to discuss the availability of accommodations in their current courses. Individual appointments can be made by calling 780-791-8934

**Skill Centre (CC119)** provides a learning space where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff. Students visiting the centre have access to one-to-one or group tutoring, facilitated study groups, and assistance in academic writing. The Skill Centre's Peer Tutor program provides paid employment opportunities for students who have demonstrated academic success and want to share what they have learned. Tutoring is available free to any students registered at Keyano College on a drop in basis, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Additional evening hours are subject to tutor availability and are posted in the Skill Centre.

**Wellness Services (CC260)** offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. The Mindfulness Room in CC260 is available as a quiet space for students to relax during regular office hours. Wellness Service welcomes students to participate in any of the group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing such topics as Mindfulness and Test Anxiety. Individual appointments can be made by calling 780-791-8934.

**Please watch your Keyano email for workshop announcements from our Student Academic Support Services team.**