## A. Description of Course Content

Theories and methodologies of social work assessment, case management, and other generalist intervention at the individual, family, and group levels in diverse settings. This course is required for Social Work Field Instruction I (SOCW 4451). Prerequisite: SOCW 2311, SOCW 2313, SOCW 3301, and SOCW 3302. BSW majors only.

### B. Student Learning Outcomes

#### Educational Policy 2.1.1 - Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly.

Social workers serve as representatives of the profession, its mission, and its core values. They know the profession’s history. Social workers commit themselves to the profession’s enhancement and to their own professional conduct and growth. Social workers

- advocate for client access to the services of social work;
- practice personal reflection and self-correction to assure continual professional development;
- attend to professional roles and boundaries;
- demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and communication;
- engage in career-long learning; and
- use supervision and consultation

#### Educational Policy 2.1.3 - Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments.

Social workers are knowledgeable about the principles of logic, scientific inquiry, and reasoned discernment. They use critical thinking augmented by creativity and curiosity. Critical thinking also requires the synthesis and communication of relevant information. Social workers
• distinguish, appraise, and integrate multiple sources of knowledge, including research-based knowledge, and practice wisdom;
• analyze models of assessment, prevention, intervention, and evaluation; and
• demonstrate effective oral and written communication in working with individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and colleagues.

Educational Policy 2.1.5 - Advance human rights and social and economic justice. Each person, regardless of position in society, has basic human rights, such as freedom, safety, privacy, an adequate standard of living, health care, and education. Social workers recognize the global interconnections of oppression and are knowledgeable about theories of justice and strategies to promote human and civil rights. Social work incorporates social justice practices in organizations, institutions, and society to ensure that these basic human rights are distributed equitably and without prejudice. Social workers

• understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination;
• advocate for human rights and social and economic justice; and
• engage in practices that advance social and economic justice.

Educational Policy 2.1.6 - Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research. Social workers use practice experience to inform research, employ evidence-based interventions, evaluate their own practice, and use research findings to improve practice, policy, and social service delivery. Social workers comprehend quantitative and qualitative research and understand scientific and ethical approaches to building knowledge. Social workers

• use practice experience to inform scientific inquiry and
• use research evidence to inform practice.

Educational Policy 2.1.7 - Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment. Social workers are knowledgeable about human behavior across the life course; the range of social systems in which people live; and the ways social systems promote or deter people in maintaining or achieving health and well-being. Social workers apply theories and knowledge from the liberal arts to understand biological, social, cultural, psychological, and spiritual development. Social workers

• utilize conceptual frameworks to guide the processes of assessment, intervention, and evaluation; and
• critique and apply knowledge to understand person and environment

Educational Policy 2.1.10(a-d) - Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Professional practice involves the dynamic and interactive processes of engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation at multiple levels. Social workers have the knowledge and skills to practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Practice knowledge includes identifying, analyzing, and implementing evidence-based interventions designed to achieve client goals; using research and technological advances; evaluating program outcomes and practice effectiveness; developing, analyzing, advocating, and providing leadership for policies and services; and promoting social and economic justice.

Educational Policy 2.1.10(a) - Engagement Social workers

• substantively and affectively prepare for action with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities;
• use empathy and other interpersonal skills; and
• develop a mutually agreed-on focus of work and desired outcomes.

Educational Policy 2.1.10(b) - Assessment Social workers

• collect, organize, and interpret client data;
• assess client strengths and challenges;
• develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives; and
• select appropriate intervention strategies.

**Educational Policy 2.1.10(c) - Intervention** Social workers

• initiate actions to achieve organizational goals;
• implement prevention interventions that enhance client capacities;
• help clients resolve problems;
• negotiate, mediate, and advocate for clients; and
• facilitate transitions and endings.

**Educational Policy 2.1.10(d) - Evaluation** Social workers

• critically analyze;
• monitor; and
• evaluate interventions.

**C. Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials**


*Please note because these texts cover information pertinent to the social work licensing exam, we strongly encourage you to keep your textbooks.*

**D. Additional Recommended Textbooks and Other Course Materials**

N/A

**E. Descriptions of Major Assignments and Examinations**

**A. Magazine Subscription and Discussion Board - 10%**

Students will subscribe to the online, free magazine *The New Social Worker*. Students will choose an article from this magazine for a discussion post on Blackboard. In addition, students will also be required to comment on at least two (2) of their classmates’ postings. Additional information on the content, style, and grading of this assignment will be provided in class and posted on Blackboard in the *Assignments* folder.

**Addresses the following Core Competencies (Skills and Behaviors):** Educational Objectives 2.1.3 subpoints 1,2,3

**B. Practice Model Group Presentation - 30%**

Students will work together in small groups to create a comprehensive demonstration of a practice model studied this semester. Additional information on the content, style, and grading of this assignment will be provided in class and posted on Blackboard in the *Assignments* folder.

**Addresses the following Core Competencies (Skills and Behaviors):** Educational Policy Objectives 2.1.7 subpoints 1 and 2; Educational Policy Objectives 2.2.10 b subpoints 1-4; Educational Policy Objectives 2.2.10 c subpoints 1-5; Educational Policy Objectives 2.1.6 subpoints 2; Educational Policy Objectives 2.1.5, subpoint 3

**C. Exams (2) - 25% Each**

Two examinations will be given during the semester. Exam material will come from lectures, assigned
readings, and any handouts given in class. Make-up exams will be provided at my discretion and subject to a 10 point penalty. If you must miss an exam for an unavoidable reason, you must contact me by email before the time of the scheduled exam. All exams will be administered via Blackboard.

**Addresses the following Core Competencies (Skills and Behaviors):** Educational Policy 2.1.1(a, b)  
Educational Policy 2.1.2(a, b, c, and d) Educational Policy 2.1.3(a, b, and c) Educational Policy 2.1.6(a)  
Educational Policy 2.1.7(a) Educational Policy 2.1.10(a)-(i, ii, iii, iv, and v) Educational Policy 2.1.10(b)-(i, ii, iii, iv, v) Educational Policy 2.1.10(c)-(i, ii, iii, iv, and v) Educational Policy 2.1.10(d)-(i, ii, iii, iv, v)

**D. PARTICIPATION AND IN-CLASS EXERCISES- 10%**

On a number of occasions throughout the semester, you will meet in small groups to practice skills learned in class and in assigned readings. You will take turns being the social worker, the client and the observer. Students are expected to participate fully as part of their class participation. The goal of these exercises is for you to become increasingly comfortable with yourself, to improve your skills and to learn from others. As an observer, I want you to gain insight into what is NOT said as much as what is said, and to notice when the body language of the role players does not match what they are saying. Also, there will be in-class exercises practicing self-reflection. Student are encouraged to gain insight as they prepare to work with diverse client populations. *The in-class exercises, including role-plays, will not be individually graded; however, participation in the exercises is required as part of your class participation grade.*

In addition, each student is allowed up to three (3) absences without grade reduction penalty. Each absence after the third (3rd) absence will result in a 5 point reduction in participation grade per absence. (e.g. absence #4 = 95, absence #5=90, etc.) In addition, it is important for students to come to class prepared to take part in class discussions. Participation grades will reflect accordingly.

**Addresses the following Core Competencies (Skills and Behaviors):** Educational Policy Objectives 2.1.1; Educational Policy Objectives 2.1.3; Educational Policy Objectives 2.1.6(a) Educational Policy Objectives 2.1.7(a) Educational Policy Objectives 2.1.10(a)-(subpoints i, ii, iii) Educational Policy 2.1.10(b)-(subpoints i, ii, iii, iv)

**F. Grading**

All written assignments must be grammatically correct using APA style. Assignments with many grammatical errors and misspellings will not receive a satisfactory grade. All written assignments will be due on the date listed on the Course Schedule. **Ten points will be deducted for late assignments (including Discussion Boards). No assignment will be accepted after five days late.**

**Grading:**

90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, Below 60 = F. **A grade of incomplete will not be given for this class.**

**Note:** Grades will be posted to the campus MyMav system at course completion and made available on the University Schedule for posting of grades. Grades cannot be given by email or individually by the instructor, per University Policy.

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” below.

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G. Make-Up Exams

There will be no makeup exams unless the student can provide a written request and receives approval from the professor prior to the exam date. Make-up exams and their format will be provided at instructor's discretion. All written assignments will be due on the date listed on the Course Schedule (see below). Ten points will be deducted for late assignments. No assignment will be accepted after 5 days late.

H. Attendance

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients. As the instructor of this section,

Due to the format and content of this course, regular and punctual attendance is imperative and expected. Attendance is part of your final grade. As a matter of fairness and equity, anyone missing more than three (3) scheduled class sessions will lose 5 points off of his/her participation grade per day absent. Additionally, it is expected for students to be on time and not leave early.

Repetitive lateness (e.g., 15 minutes late), as well as leaving class early, may affect your final attendance-participation grade. Role will be taken at the beginning of each class. If it is necessary for you to be late or leave class early, please let me know in advance. Any in class assignment missed cannot be made up.

I. Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics/Readings</th>
<th>Assignment(s) Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/25(Thur)</td>
<td>Introductions; Syllabus and Course Overview</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8/30 - 9/1</td>
<td>Assessment: Problems and Strengths (H:8) Assessment: Intrapersonal (H:9)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>9/6 - 9/8</td>
<td>Assessing Family Functioning (H:10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9/20 - 9/22</td>
<td>Contracting (C:11) Developing Goals (H:12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>9/27 - 9/29</td>
<td>Contracting and Developing Goals, continued</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>10/4–10/6</td>
<td>Working and Evaluating (C:12)</td>
<td>10/6: Exam I Online - (Due: end of day, 11:59 p.m.) No In-Person Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10/11–10/13</td>
<td>Planning and Implementing Interventions (H:13)</td>
<td>Assign Practice Model Groups</td>
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<td>Class time for groups.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>10/18–10/20</td>
<td>Enhancing Family Functioning (H:15)</td>
<td>Class time for groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10/25–10/27</td>
<td>Developing Resources (H:14)</td>
<td>Homeless Shelter Article (Posted on Blackboard)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Class time for groups.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>11/1–11/3</td>
<td>Practice Model Presentations</td>
<td>Practice Model Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11/8–11/10</td>
<td>Practice Model Presentations</td>
<td>Practice Model Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>11/15–11/17</td>
<td>Additive Empathy (H:17)</td>
<td>11/17: Magazine Discussion Board (Due: end of day, 11:59 p.m.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>11/22–11/24</td>
<td>Managing Barriers (H18)</td>
<td>11/24: Thanksgiving Break – No class!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>11/29–12/1</td>
<td>Ending (C:13)</td>
<td>Termination/Evaluation (H:19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>12/6</td>
<td></td>
<td>12/6: Exam II Online - (Due: end of day, 11:59 p.m.) No In-Person Class</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.

J. Expectations for Out-of-Class Study

Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional three hours (for each hour of class or lecture per week) of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for assignments and exams, and reviewing online content, etc.

K. Grade Grievances

L. Student Support Services

UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with external pressures, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers free tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans, and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

The UT Arlington School of Social Work community is committed to and cares about all of our students. If you or someone you know feels overwhelmed, hopeless, depressed, and/or is thinking about dying by suicide or harming oneself or someone else, supportive services are available. For immediate, 24-hour help call MAVS Talk at 817-272-TALK (817-272-8255). For campus resources, contact Counseling and Psychological Services (817-272-3671 or visit http://www.uta.edu/caps/index.php) or UT Arlington Psychiatric Services (817-272-2771 or visit https://www.uta.edu/caps/services/psychiatric.php) for more information or to schedule an appointment. You can be seen by a counselor on a walk-in basis every day, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Ransom Hall, Suite 303. Getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do - for yourself and for those who care about you.

M. Librarian to Contact

The Social Sciences/Social Work Resource Librarian is John Dillard. His office is in the campus Central Library. He may also be contacted via E-mail: dillard@uta.edu or by Cell phone: (817) 675-8962, below are some commonly used resources needed by students in online or technology supported courses: http://www.uta.edu/library/services/distance.php

The following is a list, with links, of commonly used library resources:
Library Home Page..................... http://www.uta.edu/library
Subject Guides......................... http://libguides.uta.edu
Subject Librarians..................... http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php
Course Reserves......................... http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do
Connecting from Off-Campus........ http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus
Ask a Librarian......................... http://ask.uta.edu

N. Emergency Exit Procedures

Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exits, which are the stairwells located at either end of the adjacent hallway. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

O. Drop Policy

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend
after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

**P. Disability Accommodations**

UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA), *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act* (ADAAA), and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as to not discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a lettercertified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Q. Non-Discrimination Policy**

The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

**R. Title IX Policy**

The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

**S. Academic Integrity**

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work
submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at https://www.uta.edu/conduct/.

T. Electronic Communication

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

U. Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/

V. Student Feedback Survey

At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

W. Final Review Week

For semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.