

SO 21010 - Introduction To Social Services
Chaminade University of Honolulu
4:45 pm - 8:45 pm Tuesday

Summer Term 1999
Pearl Harbor, Bldg 679
July 6 - Sept 7, 1999

Instructor: Geri Boyd, MSW, LSW, ACSW
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Required Text: H. Wayne Johnson and Contributors, *The Social Services: An Introduction*. Fourth Edition, Itasca, Illinois: F.E. Peacock Publishers.

Course Description: This course provides an examination and orientation to the field and range of contemporary American Social Services. The field of Social Services, also called Social Welfare and Social Work, is derived from the discipline of Sociology. Sociology - the study of the social, symbolic, and material worlds which human beings experience - and the sociological perspective emphasize the influence of social groups, processes, and institutions upon human behavior and perception. Sociology, while concerned with human behavior, is primarily interested in observing, investigating, and explaining human phenomena. In contrast, the field of social work, and the delivery of social services, is concerned with the direct application of sociological theory to human and social problems through practical approaches. Whether these approaches involve individual case management, therapeutic work in clinical settings, or community organizations, the common thread is a commitment to bring about social change and enhance social justice through the reduction of social inequality and social problems. The primary goal of this course, therefore, is to expose the student to the range of social problems in America (and, in some degree, in the world) and evaluate the effectiveness by which social workers and other social services professionals address these issues through their daily practice. This course will promote the development of a critical perspective toward understanding social workers, ourselves, and our interactions with others - through analysis of social problems.

Objectives: Students are expected to acquire a basic understanding of the range of social problems, understand current approaches used to address these problems, understand the basic values influencing contemporary American social services, and utilize this understanding to analyze social issues/services in order to develop a futures perspective.

Attendance: Regular attendance and participation in class are important to your success in the course. Your grade in the course will depend, in part, on your presence in class and your participation in classroom discussions. You are responsible for all lecture material. If you are not able to be present, you are responsible for getting the material from another student. Being prepared for class is equally important. The success of the course depends upon all class members sharing information and ideas, and deciding what it's all worth through classroom discussions. It is expected that students will read all assignments prior to class and be able to listen and participate in class discussions with understanding.

Grades: Six quizzes and two exams will combine multiple choice, short answer and essay formats. A quiz will be given at the beginning of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, and 8th class meetings and will cover the reading assignment for the previous week. No make-up quizzes will be provided. Exams will be given at the beginning of the 5th and 9th class meetings. Exams are non-cumulative. That is, students are responsible only for that material covered since the previous exam. Exams will cover the material presented in class as well as all reading assignments prior to the exam. Make-up exams are not automatically provided. Permission must be granted (in advance) by the instructor to take a make-up exam. At the discretion of the instructor, make-up exams will be more difficult (reflecting that the student had extra preparation time), or may be replaced with a research paper assignment, and are provided at the convenience of instructor. At the discretion of the instructor, total point value for make-up assignments may be reduced.

Presentations will be made at the final class meeting and classroom time will be provided for preparation/collaboration. The details of this assignment will be discussed in class and will incorporate the readings and learning that occur throughout the course. No make-up assignments will be provided for presentations.

Your final grade will be determined by a point system:

Quizzes	10	(@ quiz = 2 pt; best 5 out of 6 will be counted)
Presentation	10	
Exam #1	40	
Exam #2	<u>40</u>	
Total	100	

Your final letter grade will be based on the following system:

100 points = A+ // 99-90 = A // 89-80 = B // 79-70 = C // 69-60 = D

* I will not hold formal office hours but will try to be available for meeting with students prior to the start of class meetings. I encourage students to use e-mail to contact me if possible. I will be glad to respond to any questions you may have and I will be pleased to hear from you about how the course is affecting you. If e-mail is not available to you, leave a voice message on my home phone. I will return your call as soon as possible.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENT</u>
July 6	Introductions Background Income & Poverty	Ch. 1 - 3 Ch. 4
July 13	Families & Children School Social Work Medical Social Work Mental Health	Ch. 5 & 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 8 Ch. 9
July 20	Disabilities Substance Abuse Criminal Justice Aging	Ch. 10 Ch. 11 Ch. 12 Ch. 13
July 27	Occupational Social Work Other Social Work Contexts Review for Exam	Ch. 14 Ch. 15
Aug 3	1st Exam Social Work Practice Individuals & Families	Ch. 16 Ch. 17
Aug 10	Group Work Communities Organizations & Leadership Research	Ch. 18 Ch. 19 Ch. 20 Ch. 21
Aug 17	Diversity & Empowerment Gender Issues Housing & Homelessness Social Development	Ch. 22 Ch. 23 Ch. 24 Ch. 25
Aug 24	Professionalism The Future Review for Exam	Ch. 26 Ch. 27
Aug 31	2nd Exam & Preparation for Presentations	
Sept 7	Presentations	