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SO 21010 - Introduction To Social Services
Chaminade University of Honolulu
12:30 pm - 4:40 pm Saturday

Fall Term 2000
Ft. Shafter
Oct 7 - Dec 9, 2000

Instructor: Geri Boyd, MSW
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Required Text: H. Wayne Johnson and Contributors, *The Social Services: An Introduction*. Fifth 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 attendance and participation. 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: Five quizzes and two exams will combine multiple choice, short answer and essay formats. A short quiz will be given at the beginning of the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 7th class meetings and will cover the reading assignment for the week. No make-up quizzes will be provided. Exams will be given at the beginning of the 4th 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 and all readings assigned prior to the exam. Make-up exams are not automatically given. Permission must be granted in advance by the instructor to take a make-up exam. At the discretion of the instructor, make-up exams may 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 the instructor. Total points for make-up assignments may be reduced.

Oral presentations will be made at the final class meeting and classroom time will be provided for field work and preparation. The details of this assignment will be discussed in class and will incorporate the reading and learning that occurs throughout the course.

Your final grade will be determined by a point system:

Quizzes	10 (@ quiz = 2 pt)
Class participation	10
Exam #1	30
Exam #2	30
Oral Presentations	<u>20</u>
Total	100

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

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

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 and I'll return your call as soon as possible.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING ASSIGNMENT</u>
Oct 7	Introductions Background Income & Poverty	Ch. 1 - 3 Ch. 4
Oct 14	Research Families & Children School Social Work Medical Social Work	Ch. 21 Ch. 5 & 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 8
Oct 21	Mental Health Disabilities Substance Abuse Criminal Justice	Ch. 9 Ch. 10 Ch. 11 Ch. 12
Oct 28	1st Exam & Preparation for Research Project and Oral Presentations	
Nov 4	Aging Occupational Social Work Other Social Work Contexts Social Work Practice Individuals & Families	Ch. 13 Ch. 14 Ch. 15 Ch. 16 Ch. 17
Nov 11	Group Work Communities Organizations & Leadership Diversity & Empowerment	Ch. 18 Ch. 19 Ch. 20 Ch. 22
Nov 18	Gender Issues Housing & Homelessness Social Development Professionalism The Future	Ch. 23 Ch. 24 Ch. 25 Ch. 26 Ch. 27
Nov 25	Field Work for Research project	
Dec 2	2nd Exam & Preparation for Presentations	
Dec 9	Oral Presentations	