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SO 21060 - Introduction To Social Services
Chaminade University of Honolulu
4:45 - 8:55 pm, Tuesday

Fall Term 2001
Pearl Harbor
Oct 2 - Dec 4, 2001

Instructor: Geri Boyd, MSW
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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: 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, to 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. The course will promote the development of a critical perspective toward understanding social workers, ourselves, and our interactions with others - through analysis of social problems.

Class Objectives:

- * to survey the universal and particular aspects of social work/social welfare
- * to acquire a basic understanding of the range of social problems
- * to understand historical/current approaches used to address these problems
- * to understand basic values influencing contemporary American social services
- * to utilize this understanding to analyze social issues and social services in order to develop a futures perspective.
- * to help students to be informed taxpayers, voters, and citizens

Class Format: The class will be an interactive, cooperative learning experience. The format integrates lectures, class discussions, student presentations, and debates. Students are expected to come to class with intensive reading to contribute to discussion of the basic textbook and relevant handouts and to actively participate in class activities. Controversial issues will be critically analyzed from all points of view to help students gain a better understanding of the field of professional social work and social welfare.

Attendance: Regular attendance is important to your success in the course. Your grade in the course will depend, in part, on your presence in class and 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.

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. The best 5 of 6 quizzes will be counted. No make-up quizzes will be provided. Exams will be given at the beginning of 5th and 10th class meetings. Exams are non-cumulative; 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 may be more difficult (reflecting that student had extra preparation time) and will be provided at the convenience of instructor.

Oral presentation of research project will be made at ninth class meeting. Details of this assignment will be discussed in class and will incorporate learning that occurs throughout the course. No make-up assignment will be provided for the oral presentation. Submission of research paper without oral presentation will result in a minimum 10 pt loss.

Your final grade will be determined by a point system:

Quizzes	10	(@ quiz = 2 pt)
Oral Presentation of Research Project	30	(paper + oral)
Exam #1	25	
Exam #2	25	
Classroom participation	<u>10</u>	
Total	100	

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

100-90 pts = A / 89-80 pts = B / 79-70 pts = C / 69-60 pts = D / 59-0 pts = F

Learning Outcome Assessment: All students work will be evaluated for the following:

- * knowledge of subject matter from text, handouts, lectures, discussions and research
- * ability to apply the knowledge to understand social welfare/social services in society
- * ability to provide relevant examples to support viewpoints
- * ability understand the subject matter from opposing viewpoints
- * clarity and logical presentation of research topics
- * ability to analyze, critically review, and compare issues cross-culturally

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING (Chapter)</u>
Oct 2	Background	1 - 3
Oct 9	Income & Poverty	4
	Families & Children in The Home	5
	Families & Children Outside Home	6
	Social Work Research	21
Oct 16	School Social Work	7
	Medical Social Work	8
	Mental Health	9
	Disabilities	10
Oct 23	Substance Abuse	11
	Criminal Justice	12
	Aging	13
	Occupational Social Work	14
Oct 30	1st Exam & preparation for presentations	
Nov 6	Other Social Contexts	15
	Social Work Practice	16
	Individuals & Families	17
	Group Work	18
Nov 13	Communities	19
	Organizations & Leadership	20
	Diversity & Empowerment	22
	Gender Issues	23
Nov 20	Housing & Homelessness	24
	Social Development	25
	Professionalism	26
	The Future	27
Nov 27	Oral presentations	
Dec 4	Final Exam	