

SOWK 201 – Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Work*3 credits, 3 hours*

This course will provide an opportunity for students to gain an understanding of social welfare in its broadest terms and the profession of social work within this realm. This course will introduce students to the professional values, ethics, knowledge bases, roles, responsibilities, fields of practice, and practice settings of social work; encourage students to critically examine their beliefs, values, and attitudes in relation to society of which they are members; and enable students to explore their individual interests within the profession of social work. The complexity of social issues and the concepts of diversity, empowerment, and advocacy will also be emphasized.

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Office Hours

Monday 9:00 – 10:00
Friday 12:00 – 1:00

Or by appointment

Hours of Instruction

Thursday 6:30 PM - 9:20 PM
Room: CC273

Required Resources

Hick, S., & Stokes, J. (2017). *Social Work in Canada: An Introduction*. (4th ed). Ontario, Canada: Thompson Educational Publishing Inc.

Course Outcomes

This course is designed to facilitate critical thinking and provide a broad general knowledge base of social work practice. It will provide opportunities for collaboration and peer learning in order to facilitate a student orientated learning process. Activities will include class discussions, small group work, peer discussions and consultations, and student small group presentations. Students will be expected to complete the weekly assigned background readings as class time will be focused on these activities to enhance the reading materials and conceptual learning.

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

- Understand the historical development, values, ethics, theories, foundations, and approaches to social work practices. Particular attention will be paid to the Strengths Perspective, Indigenous Perspective, Feminist Perspective, and Structural Perspective.
- Understand Generalist Social Work Practice
- Demonstrate an application of Ecosystems Theory, Person-in-Environment Perspective, and Problem Solving Approaches to social work practice.
- Analyze how social welfare policies have shaped the fabric of society.
- Critically examine and reflect on their own beliefs and values about social welfare and how it has impacted the social work profession.
- Develop critical thinking skills required to understand the complexity of the social work profession and its contribution to social justice, anti-oppressive practices, advocacy, and activism.
- Learn collaboratively with peers and instructors.

Evaluation

Test 1	25%
Test 2	25%
Individual Presentation	50%
TOTAL	100%

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

Tests – Tests will consist of multiple choice, true or false and short answer questions. Content will include handouts, readings and lectures. Each in class test will be one hour in duration and will begin at the start of class. If you are late, you will still have to finish at the same time as the rest of the class that started their exams on time.

Individual Presentations – You will select a social issue that you mutually agree is important. You will research the issue and educate the class on why it is an important issue in society. The presentation will be 45 minutes long and must include time for questions from your peers and instructor. You may be creative as you like and use music, videos, power point slides, handouts, poems, etc. to facilitate learning. You must discuss your social issue with your instructor to prevent duplication. You need to answer the following questions:

1. *Why is it a problem?*
2. *How many people does it affect?*
3. *How does it affect them?*
4. *What causes the problem? (you may have multiple causes or theories)*
5. *What can be done to fix it?*
6. *Why is this an important issue for Social Workers?*

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 Progression	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	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor Minimum Pass	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.
	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

Proposed Schedule of Topics

Week	Activity
January 9	Review of course outline and introduction: Social Work & Social Welfare (Chapter1)
January 16	History of Social Work (Chapter2)
January 23	Theories and Practice Models (Chapter3), Individuals, Groups, and Communities (Chapter4)
January 30	Test 1 – 25% covers Chapters 1-4
February 6	Child Welfare (Chapter 5), Health Care (Chapter 6)
February 13	Mental Health (Chapter 7), Social Work with Women (Chapter 8)
February 20	Reading Week – No Class
February 27	Test 2- 25% covers Chapters 5-8
March 5	Social Work and Indigenous Peoples (Chapter 9) Racialized Canadians and Immigrants (Chapter 10)
March 12	Social Work with Older Canadians (Chapter 11) Social Work and Sexual and Gender Diversity (Chapter 12)
March 19	Social Work and Persons with Disabilities (Chapter 13) International Social Work (Chapter 14)
March 26	Group Presentations in class 50%
April 2	Group Presentations in class 50%
April 9	Discussion Board Wrap Up

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. 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, Wellness Services and Student Life Department 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 8:30 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.

Student Life Department (CC210) is a place for students to go when they don't know who else can answer their questions. The staff will help students navigate barriers to success and if they don't know the answer, they will find it out. Student success is directly affected by how connected a student feels to their college. The student life department is there to help students get connected.

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