



GRACE ABBOTT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

SOCIAL WORK CAREER PREP

SOWK 4450 | 3 credit hours

Class Meetings: Totally Online, Asynchronously

Instructor: TBA
Office: TBA
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Office Hours: TBA

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COURSE INFORMATION

Description

This course is an integrative senior seminar designed to be taken concurrently with practicum. It facilitates the transition from BSSW student to professional social worker. To achieve this, students will reflect on how to prepare for a job interview, personal financial planning, continuing education, and licensure and will also demonstrate their knowledge and application of the nine CSWE social work competencies.

Rationale/Overview

This course helps students review, integrate, and apply course content from all BSSW courses. Through course content and written assignments, students prepare for the transition of becoming a professional social worker.

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

1. Integrate BSSW knowledge, skills, and values, including the priority for advancement of human rights, into a professional identity.
2. Articulate how local, state, and federal policies and anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion (ADEI) impact social work practice.
3. Display social work job readiness through a demonstration of the generalist practice model, the use of research in practice, and job readiness skills like interviewing, resume creation, and personal financial planning.
4. Understand licensure procedures for professional social work practice.



REQUIRED TEXT(S)/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Required Text(s)

All readings will be made available in Canvas; no textbook is required

COURSE STRUCTURE/FORMAT

Lecture, experiential learning experiences, video and Internet resources, and reflective assignments

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Module 1 August 26 th – September 15 th	<i>Professional Objective:</i> Your Professional Social Work Identity <i>Competency Objective:</i> Competencies 1, 2, and 3 Due: Social Work Identity Reflection Due: Competency Reflection #1
Module 2 September 16 th - October 6 th	<i>Professional Objective:</i> Resumes and Interviewing <i>Competency Objective:</i> Competencies 4 and 5 Due: Resume Due: Competency Reflection #2
Module 3 October 7 th – October 27 th	<i>Professional Objective:</i> Finances and Financial Planning <i>Competency Objective:</i> Competencies 6 and 7 Due: Personal Monthly Budget Due: Competency Reflection #3
Module 4 October 28 th – November 17 th	<i>Professional Objective:</i> Licensure, Being Managed, and Being Supervised <i>Competency Objective:</i> Competencies 8 and 9 Due: Social Work Statement of Purpose Due: Competency Reflection #4

ASSESSMENTS (ACTIVITIES, ASSIGNMENTS, AND EXAMS)

Module Assignments (Identity Reflection, Resume, Budget and Statement of Purpose):

Each of these assignments is designed to help prepare you for work in the social work field after graduation. While feedback will be offered as needed on these assignments, they are personal in nature and, therefore, will be graded on a credit/no credit basis. To receive full credit, there should be evidence of thoughtfulness and intentionality.

Four Assignments at 50 points each = 200 points Total



CSWE Competency Reflections

Preparing to enter the social work field requires a command of all nine Educational Standards outlined by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). These four reflection assignments will allow you to demonstrate your understanding of each of these competencies and discuss how this knowledge will impact your future practice. The grading rubric for these assignments will be in two parts: 1). You will receive a grade for each competency behavior that will be based on how well you demonstrate your knowledge and plan for use in your practice. This portion of the rubric will count toward your assignment grade, and 2). You will be assessed on your overall understanding and command of the competency. This score WILL NOT count towards your grade and will be used only for Grace Abbott School of Social Work reaccreditation purposes.

Four Assignments, each worth between 60 and 105 points = 285 Points Total

Course = 485 Total Points

GRADING SCALE

Percent	Final Grade	Quality Points
98–100%	A+	4.00
94–97.9%	A	4.00
91–93.9%	A-	3.67
88–90.9%	B+	3.33
84–87.9%	B	3.00
81–83.9%	B-	2.67
78–80.9%	C+	2.33
77–77.9%	C	2.00
71–73.9%	C-	1.67
68–70.9%	D+	1.33
64–67.9%	D	1.00
61–63.9%	D-	0.67
Below 60.9%	F	0.00

OUTCOMES MAP AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Competencies

The student learning outcomes for this course are built upon the following nine social work core competencies set forth by the CSWE's 2022 Educational Policies and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) which is required for all accredited social work programs.

1. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior.
2. Advance human rights and social, racial, economic, and environmental justice.
3. Engage anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion (ADEI) in practice.
4. Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice.
5. Engage in policy practice.



6. Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
7. Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
8. Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
9. Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

This map is intended to show how course topics, content, and activities align to the student learning outcomes outlined above. The CSWE 2022 EPAS core competencies are identified in the first column and mapped to the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), the field practicum learning contract assignments and the CSWE 2022 EPAS Dimensions.

EPAS Competency*	Course Objective/Student Learning Outcome	Assignment	Dimension *
1 = Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior	SLO 1 - Integrate BSSW knowledge, skills, and values, including the priority for advancement of human rights, into a professional identity. SLO 4 - Understand licensure procedures for professional social work practice.		
2 = Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice	SLO 1 - Integrate BSSW knowledge, skills, and values, including the priority for advancement of human rights, into a professional identity.		
3 = Engage Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) in Practice	SLO 2 - Articulate how local, state, and federal policies and anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion (ADEI) impact social work practice.		
4 = Engage in Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice	SLO 3 - Display social work job readiness through a demonstration of the generalist practice model, the use of research in practice, and job readiness skills like interviewing,		



EPAS Competency*	Course Objective/Student Learning Outcome	Assignment	Dimension *
	resume creation, and personal financial planning		
5 = Engage in Policy Practice	SLO 2 - Articulate how local, state, and federal policies and anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion (A DEI) impact social work practice.		
6 = Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	SLO 3 - Display social work job readiness through a demonstration of the generalist practice model, the use of research in practice, and job readiness skills like interviewing, resume creation, and personal financial planning		
7 = Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	SLO 3 - Display social work job readiness through a demonstration of the generalist practice model, the use of research in practice, and job readiness skills like interviewing, resume creation, and personal financial planning		
8 = Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	SLO 3 - Display social work job readiness through a demonstration of the generalist practice model, the use of research in practice, and job readiness skills like interviewing, resume creation, and personal financial planning		
9 = Evaluate Practice with Individuals,	SLO 3 - Display social work job readiness through a demonstration of the		



EPAS Competency*	Course Objective/Student Learning Outcome	Assignment	Dimension *
Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities	generalist practice model, the use of research in practice, and job readiness skills like interviewing, resume creation, and personal financial planning		

*Dimensions Key:

K = Knowledge

S = Skills

V = Value

CAP = Cognitive and Affective Processing



REFERENCES AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

References

- Bird, M. (2019). *Sage guide to social work careers: Your journey to advocacy*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage Publications.
- Choi, M., Urbanski, P., Fortune, A., & Rogers, C. (2015). Early career patterns for social work graduates. *Journal of Social Work Education, 51*(3), 475-493.
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- Cuartero, M., & Campos-Vidal, J. (2019). Self-care behaviours and their relationship with satisfaction and compassion fatigue levels among social workers. *Social Work in Health Care, 58*(3), 274-290.
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