

Course Descriptions for Traditional Students

Course (name/number)	Course Description
SWK 500 Foundational SWK Field Work & Seminar	This course is the first course in the three-part field practicum sequence. Students are required to complete 300 hours in an approved social services agency under the supervision of a professional social worker. The practicum experience introduces students to the role of a professional social worker. Students demonstrate skills in maintaining boundaries and ethics while interacting professionally with clients. They also participate in a weekly hour-long seminar with their instructor and peers, demonstrating their integration of classroom knowledge with professional practice skills.
SWK 510 Crisis Intervention	This course provides a comprehensive, interdisciplinary exploration of crisis intervention within the context of social work and clinical practice. Students will develop the knowledge, skills, and ethical frameworks necessary to effectively respond to crises across various populations and settings. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the dynamics of crisis situations, assessing risk and safety, implementing evidence-based interventions, and promoting resilience and empowerment among individuals, families, groups, and communities.
SWK 517 Interdisciplinary Approach to Diversity and Social Justice	This course serves as an introduction to diversity and social justice in the context of social work practice. The course aims to enhance cultural competence by raising students' awareness of their own values, assumptions, and biases, as well as their relationships and styles of interaction and communication with people from cultures different than their own. Competence is considered in dimensions of values, knowledge, skills, and cognitive and affective processes. This course will examine social justice issues through an interdisciplinary lens.
SWK 523 Social Policy and Issues	A problem-focused analysis of past and current social policies: income maintenance, family, educational, social service, environmental, and civil rights. Political analysis includes factors which influence policy development, policy implementation. Attention is given to local, state and federal policies.
SWK 527 Interviewing and Assessment	Assessment, relationship-building and problem-solving with individuals, groups and organizational systems with the emphasis on work with individuals. Students learn how to integrate knowledge and values of social work as they learn interviewing techniques and the skills of assessment, goal setting and intervention. Students are expected to participate in practice exercises and observational activities outside of class meeting time.
SWK 536 Theory-Informed Practice with Groups	This course overviews ten major group counseling theories and their application to social work practice. Students explore group dynamics and develop skills to implement these frameworks in diverse settings, synthesizing theoretical perspectives for a culturally responsive approach. The course integrates ethics and cultural sensitivity with theory and provides a basis for group practice. Multimedia resources, including a video series, illustrate theories in action. After completing this course, students will have the knowledge to design, lead, and evaluate group interventions.

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SWK 538 Clinical Skills I: Assessment & Treatment Planning	This course provides a foundation in assessment and treatment planning for social work practice, emphasizing diagnostic and treatment tools. Grounded in the DSM-5-TR, it explores the interplay between assessment, case conceptualization, and treatment planning through diverse case illustrations. The course fosters critical thinking, cultural humility, and ethical decision-making, preparing students to address client complexities and provide personalized interventions. By the end, students will be able to conduct assessments, formulate treatment plans, and navigate social work practice in diverse environments.
SWK 610 Research Methods	This course teaches students evidence-based social work practice through research methodology. Using realistic scenarios, it illustrates designing and evaluating social work programs, emphasizing ethical decisions, operationalizing variables, and utilizing valid measurement tools. Key topics include comparison groups, instrument development, sampling techniques, and single-system designs. Students will analyze research from social work journals and apply findings to complex social issues.
SWK 622 HBSE Micro – individuals & families	This course is designed to provide the student with a descriptive overview of the theoretical and conceptual diversity framework that is used to understand the complexities of interactions of human behavior within the social environment. The course provides an in-depth description of the intervention approaches which impact the human condition and the dynamic developmental components that creates unique relationship and adaptations to their environment. The course will also describe the systems which create, shape, and influence the social structures, organizations and communities in which we live. The course provides a particular emphasis on the generalist approach, (systems), while also providing information regarding the theories and/or models that identify the biological, psychological, sociological, and ecological influences that influence
SWK 623 HBSE Macro – systems & theories	This course addresses foundation-level components of theory, practice, and evaluation related to generalist social work practice with families and groups. Students will explore key explanatory theories about family and group dynamics and learn evidence-based practice models for effective intervention. The course emphasizes Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) principles, preparing students to engage with diverse populations through culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and anti-oppressive approaches. Students will also learn how to evaluate practice outcomes with families and groups, integrating theories and research to advance effective, ethical social work practice.