



South Central College

## SOWK 100 Introduction to Social Work

### Course Outcome Summary

#### Course Information

<b>Description</b>	This course provides students with an introduction to the profession of social work using a generalist model to practice in a diverse society. Students will learn about the history of the profession, values and ethics, roles and tasks, and theories required for social work practice along with various fields of practice. Students will experience group work learning to develop critical thinking skills and professional communication. (Prerequisites: Must have a score of 78 or higher on the Reading portion of the Accuplacer test or completion of READ 0090 with a grade of C or higher AND a score of 86 or higher on the Sentence Skills portion of the Accuplacer test or completion of ENGL 0090 with a grade of C or higher) (MnTC Goal Areas 5, 7)
<b>Total Credits</b>	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	48

#### Types of Instruction

Instruction Type	Credits/Hours
Lecture	3/48

#### Pre/Corequisites

Must have a score of 78 or higher on the Reading portion of the Accuplacer test or completion of READ 0090 with a grade of C or higher.

Must have a score of 86 or higher on the Sentence Skills portion of the Accuplacer test or completion of ENGL 0090 with a grade of C or higher.

#### Institutional Core Competencies

Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility - Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to engage in the social responsibilities expected of a community member.

Critical and Creative Thinking - Students will be able to demonstrate purposeful thinking with the goal of using a creative process for developing and building upon ideas and/or the goal of using a critical process for the analyzing and evaluating of ideas.

Cultural Competence - Students will be able to demonstrate an attitude of personal curiosity, a rising knowledge of cultures, and an evolving range of skills for living and working among others with other worldviews and ways of life.

## Course Competencies

### 1. Explore the history of social work as a profession.

#### Learning Objectives

Examine how society's view of dependency influenced the responsibility of social welfare.  
Compare and contrast the Charity Organization Society Movement and the Settlement House Movement approaches to dependency.  
Identify elements that constitute social work as a profession.

### 2. Explain the Generalist Model of social work practice.

#### Learning Objectives

Examine generalist systems theory on all levels: micro, mezzo, and macro.  
Explore the ecosystem theory.  
Articulate the dual focus of social work - individual in the physical and social environment - and how this differs from other professions.  
Identify various roles of a social worker in all three systems levels.

### 3. Explore the current social service delivery system.

#### Learning Objectives

Discuss social welfare as an institution.  
Examine the role of stigma related to "welfare".  
Compare and contrast private vs public services.  
Identify various funding streams in service delivery.

### 4. Explore social justice issues in society and implications of injustice in social work practice.

#### Learning Objectives

Discuss diversity issues as related to the social environment.  
Understand the history of oppression and society's treatment of various populations.  
Examine personal views of diversity.  
Explore theories that explain social injustice and power differential.  
Discuss practice strategies for addressing social justice issues.

### 5. Explore the meaning of diversity and implications of power differentials among minority groups.

#### Learning Objectives

Describe responses to dominance.  
Discuss impact of religion on beliefs and culture.  
Explore various theories of societal responses to social problems.

### 6. Illustrate an empowerment approach in social work practice.

#### Learning Objectives

Review social work code of ethics as stated in the National Association of Social Work (NASW) Code of Ethics Handbook.  
Discuss ethical dilemmas when working with at risk populations.  
Explore possible solutions to ethical dilemmas.  
Identify how individual values affect ethical decisions.  
Explore the strengths-based perspective and interpersonal skills that are elements of the professional relationship.

### 7. Discuss social policy as a process and a product.

#### Learning Objectives

Identify steps in creating and evaluating social policy to alleviate a social problem.  
Identify steps in evaluating the effectiveness of social policy in addressing needs.  
Illustrate how social policy has shaped social work practice through history.

### 8. Examine the issue of poverty in the United States and intersectionality with other social issues.

#### Learning Objectives

Explore data about the characteristics of who is living in poverty today.  
Explore the effects of wealth inequality.

Discuss the many social issues related to poverty and why this is such a complex issue.  
Explore theories that explain poverty and dependence.  
Illustrate ways society has attempted to deal with poverty past and present.

**9. Explore the role of the social worker within various fields of practice.**

**Learning Objectives**

Examine social work practice within a specific field of practice.  
Identify possible value and ethical dilemmas in a practice setting.  
Examine the fit of personal values and interpersonal characteristics to specific fields of practice.

**10. Demonstrate professional oral and written communication.**

**Learning Objectives**

Locate and evaluate information about social issues from a variety of sources and viewpoints.  
Apply correct use of APA formatting to written assignments.  
Demonstrate professional use of oral communication in a class presentation.

**11. Identify how social workers act to facilitate social change.**

**Learning Objectives**

Discover factors associated with social change.  
Identify obstacles to social change.  
Define the role of advocacy in social change.

**SCC Accessibility Statement**

South Central College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you have a disability and need accommodations for access to this class, contact the Academic Support Center to request and discuss accommodations. North Mankato: Room B-132, (507) 389-7222; Faribault: Room A-116, (507) 332-7222.

Additional information and forms can be found at: [www.southcentral.edu/disability](http://www.southcentral.edu/disability)

This material can be made available in alternative formats by contacting the Academic Support Center at 507-389-7222.