SOCW 2361.021 INTRODUCTORY TO SOCIAL WORK
Course Syllabus: Spring 2024

"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed."

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Perferred Communication: Microsoft Teams

Office Hours

Monday:	By appointment
Tuesday:	9:30-12:30
	3:00-4:00
Wednesday:	9:00-12:30
	1:30-4:00
Thursday:	9:30-12:30
	3:00-4:00
Friday:	By appointment

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description: Examines the historical development and current characteristics of the social welfare institution, the nature of professional social work practice, and the educational preparation for generalist social work practice; and clarifies the individual student's interest in and potential for social work practice. 3 semester hours: (3 semester hours).

Prerequisite(s): None

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Discuss the historical development of social work in the United States.
2. Distinguish the profession of social work from other helping professions
3. Identify core values of social work as stated in the National Association of Social Worker (NASW) Code of Ethics.
4. Identify the primary roles and functions of social workers (advocate, broker, facilitator, etc.).
5. Identify practice settings where social workers function and articulate how these settings influence the roles of social workers.
6. Describe the Generalist Intervention Model.
7. Describe how the Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners Code of Conduct guides social work practice.
8. Describe how the NASW Code of Ethics guides social work practice.

9. Describe social work's goal of advancing human rights and justice.
10. Describe social work's obligation to serve diverse populations.
11. Articulate the importance of self-care to prevent burnout, compassion fatigue, and secondary trauma

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Interview with Social Worker	100 points
Discussion Boards	100 points
Numia Labs	100 points
Mid-term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points

Total Possible Points	500 points

Grading and evaluation--In general, a course grade of a "C" represents an acceptable level of work. A course grade of "B" represents a substantial effort and achievement. It is clearly a grade for the better than average product and effort. An "A" is awarded only in the case of both outstanding efforts and quality in the required products. The grades will be awarded on the following basis:

A = 90% to 100% of possible points
B = 80% to 89% of possible points
C = 70% to 79% of possible points
D = 60% to 69% of possible points
F = 59% and below of possible points

Tests/Exams: There will be two tests (100 points each). Everyone must take the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching or definitions, and short essay questions. Make-up examinations, as a rule, will not be permitted, unless the student's absence is excused in advance. A grade of incomplete ("X") will not be given unless the student contacts the instructor to make special arrangements for making up required work. Only emergency situation that prohibit the student from completing the course as planned will warrant consideration of the grade of "X". Mid-term: October 8th Final: December 10th

Required Textbook(s): Zastrow, C (2008). Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare: An empowering people, 11th Ed. Belmont, CA: Thomson-Brooks/Cole Higher Education Publisher: Cengage

ISBN Number: 0538760249

Recommended Reading(s): None

Minimum Technology Requirements:

Below are some technical requirements for using Blackboard that will help your experience in this course. You will see the NTCC Tech Support email address and phone number below. Please contact them if you run into any technical problems during the semester. Please let your instructor know you are having difficulties as well.   If you need further NTCC technical support services please contact IT at IT@ntcc.edu or 903.434.8140.

Blackboard will work on both a Mac and a PC. (Chrome Books are known to have issues with Blackboard.) It is best to access Blackboard through Fire-Fox or Chrome as your web browser. If you have trouble with any of the activities working improperly, you might change your web browser as your first solution. The Default Browser in Windows 10 in Edge. This browser does not do well with

Blackboard! If you will go to Windows Accessories you will find Internet Explorer still on your computer, but is not your default browser. If you have any difficulties navigating with Edge, close it and go to Internet Explorer. You can download Blackboard Student for your smart phone from the Play store or the App store. More information is available for Technology Requirements and Support under the Student Resources – Technical Support Tab in Blackboard.

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

As an online student you will have a much different "classroom" experience than a traditional student. In order to ensure that you are fully prepared for your online courses, following is a list of expectations and requirements: Students in a hybrid and/or on-line program should be comfortable with and possess the following skill sets: 1. Self-discipline 2. Problem solving skills 3. Critical thinking skills 4. Enjoy communication in the written word

 Example
As part of your online experience, you can expect to utilize a variety of technology mediums as part of your curriculum:

1. Communicate via email including sending attachments 2. Navigate the World Wide Web using a Web browser such as Internet Explorer 3. Use office applications such as Microsoft Office (or similar) to create documents 4. Be willing to learn how to communicate using a discussion board and upload assignments to a   classroom Web site 5. Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files 6. Have easy access to the Internet 7. Navigate Blackboard, including using the email component within Blackboard. Instructions and tutorials for this are provided in your course.

For more information or technical assistance on using the Learning Management System, please refer to the Home Page, Orientation Module, in the important technical requirement, information and support folder in Blackboard.

Course Structure and Overview:

This is a Hybrid class which means class meets once a week and all other instruction is done online via the learning management system BLACKBOARD. In class meetings will be reserved for lecture, speaking activities/drills and speech presentations. Students are expected to complete all the readings of the required e-book chapters, watch the instructional videos and complete the online chapter activities. You will see that the course is divided into 16 weeks in the Blackboard portion. Each week you will be expected to complete certain online assignments for the chapters found in that week's folder. This course requires daily computer and internet access. You should expect to spend no less than 3-6 hours a week in this course. Pay close attention to deadlines for all assignments. Assignments will not be accepted late! Technical difficulties are no excuse for late assignments. YOU CANNOT PASS THIS COURSE WITH OUT COMPLETING THE ONLINE PORTION! In class participation is an essential element in this course. Each student will be expected to participate in speaking drills/activities which will occur during class time. These activities will allow students to sharpen their presentations and enhance delivery skills.

Tests/Exams:

Mid-term: MARCH 6TH
Final: MAY 4TH

There will be two tests (100 points each). Everyone must take the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching or definitions, and short essay questions. Make-up examinations, as a rule, will

not be permitted, unless the student's absence is excused in advance. A grade of incomplete ("X") will not be given unless the student contacts the instructor to make special arrangements for making up required work. Only emergency situation that prohibit the student from completing the course as planned will warrant consideration of the grade of "X".

Assignments:

All written assignments should be typed (12-point font), double-spaced, with one inch margins, a title page and stapled. Students are encouraged to submit written work that has been spell-checked and is free of grammatical errors. Students are expected to use APA style when citing reference materials. Students are advised that points will be deducted if these criteria are not met.

DISCUSSION BOARDS/ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION (SLO 1, 2, 3, 4 &6)
GRADING: 100 POINTS
DUE: SEE COURSE SCHEDULE

Discussions/Activities is where we will assess your participation, whether you are an online or face-to-face learner. You are expected to be an active and engaged class member throughout the semester. Discussions/Activities are a way to exchange ideas and learn from your peers. Each student is expected to participate in the discussions/activities fully. It could involve summarizing articles, responding to questions from the text, or viewing and commenting on streaming videos.   There will be a minimum of 5 discussions at 20 points each.

ONLINE LEARNERS:

To receive credit, you must post your response to the posted discussion board questions by Thursday at midnight. In addition, you must post a response to another peer's post by Sunday at midnight.
Your grade on the discussion board is based on participation. **However, to receive full credit for these posts, you must fulfill some basic requirements: - After posting your answer to the question, you are expected to respond to at least one other peer in the class. Initial posts should be at least 75 words, and a response at least 50 words.** All posts should be relevant to the topic being discussed but should also attempt to introduce a new point of view or piece of information or otherwise further the discussion. Posts should use correct grammar, punctuation, and vocabulary appropriate for a college-level course. Misuse of the discussion boards will not be accepted.

NUMIA LABS (SLO 7,8, 9, 10, &11)
GRADING: 100 POINTS
DUE: SEE COURSE SCHEDULE

Numia labs are an immersive Learning Experience that bridges concepts and skills in Real-World scenarios, an innovative approach to education beyond traditional classroom learning. It allows students to engage in hands-on, experiential learning within real-world settings, resulting in increased student engagement, learning, and reflection on practice. This immersive learning experience allows students to acquire and apply knowledge in practical, real-world scenarios. These immersive experiences include roleplaying, scenarios, field immersion, service learning projects, case studies, gamification, experimental workshops, reflective journals and/or blogs, multimedia presentations, interdisciplinary collaboration, and cultural immersion. There will be a minimum of 5 labs at 20 points each.

INTERVIEW WITH SOCIAL WORKER (SLO 4)
GRADING: 100 POINTS
DUE: APRIL 15TH

This assignment aims to allow the student to experience the role of helper through a face-to-face interview with a social worker in a service field. Select a field of social work services such as poverty, homelessness, health care, mental health, children and families, adolescents, minorities, immigrants and other oppressed populations, substance abuse and addiction, and the elderly for an in-depth study. Identify the population or field of service that interests you as a future social worker. Once you have identified the population, identify a BSW or MSW practitioner in the community who works with this population and arrange to interview her/him. The practitioner must be a social worker. The student will write a 3-4 page paper over the interview with the social worker—guidelines provided in class.

Communications:

Emails will be responded to with 24 hours. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, then the email was not received.   Posts in the Discussion Forum "Questions, Comments, and/or Concerns?" will be monitored by the instructor. Responses by the instructor will be within 72 hours of post. The college's official means of communication is via your campus email address. I will use your campus email address and Blackboard to communicate with you outside of class. Make sure you keep your campus email cleaned out and below the limit so you can receive important messages.   In addition, I use the REMIND App to get information out to students quickly. This will enable you to receive important class announcements and reminders from me via text message so that you will not miss out on any assignment changes or important updates. Please continue to check your NTCC email daily. If you do not own a cell phone, you can receive these same reminders through your email... the instructions are also in the PDF.

Institutional/Course Policy:

No late work will be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. Students are always expected to be respectful toward classmates and professor! Review Student Conduct in the Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard for important information/announcements regarding the course. Students should be working on course material via Blackboard every week. Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit assignments in case of technology issues.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements
In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (http://www.ntcc.edu/) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:
NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect

and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

Artificial Intelligence Statement:
Individual instructors may allow or disallow any use of AI software for coursework. It is the student's responsibility to follow any AI classroom policy and the course's guidelines set forth by the instructor. Integrating AI into the course can undoubtedly bring numerous benefits and advancements. However, any use of AI software must be cited, or it could constitute academic dishonesty (plagiarism). Recognizing the potential risks and ensuring that AI technologies are implemented responsibly and ethically is crucial. Students are fully accountable and responsible for any content, AI or non-AI, used in an assignment that is submitted. If any student has any questions surrounding the use of AI, please reach out to the instructor.

ADA Statement:
It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Student Social Support Resources:
At Northeast Texas Community College, we understand that students often have concerns that could lead to barriers to success. If you are a student who needs support and/or guidance, NTCC offers EagleAssist. EagleAssist is a comprehensive hub for students to access resources beyond the classroom.   Some of those services include but are not limited to classroom accommodations, mental health counseling, tutoring, CARE Center, Financial Literacy, and Emergency Assistance.   NTCC supports alleviating barriers, enabling student value and success, regardless of lived experience. To access services, please email eagleassist@ntcc.edu. In addition, if you need additional community resources, please www.ntcc.edu/carecenter.

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK
TENTATIVE FALL SCHEDULE

Week #	Lecture Topic	Chapter	Student Responsibility
1	Module I Social Welfare: Its Business, History, and Future	Read Ch1	• Read Start Here Folder • Syllabus Acknowledgement • Complete Ch 1 Blackboard Content • **SELF INTRODUCTION DISCUSSION**
2	Module I Social Work as a Profession and a Career	Read Ch 2	• Complete Ch 2 Blackboard Content • **DISCUSSION #1 – HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT SW, 20 POINTS (SLO1)**
3	Module I Generalist Social Work Practice	Read Ch 3	• Complete Ch 3 Blackboard Content • **DISCUSSION #2 – SOCIAL WORK HELPING PROFESSION, 20 POINTS (SLO2)**
4	Module II Poverty and Public Welfare	Read Ch 4	• Complete Ch 4 Blackboard Content • Poverty Quiz • **DISCUSSION #3 – ROLES OF SOCIAL WORK, 20 points (SLO4)** •
5	Module II Emotional/Behavioral Problems in Counseling	Read Ch 5	• Complete Ch 5 Blackboard Content • **DISCUSSION #4 – GENERALIST APPROACH, 20 POINTS (SLO6)**
6	Module II Family Problems and Services to Families	Read Ch 6	• Complete Ch 6 Blackboard Content • **DISCUSSION #5– CORE VALUES OF SW, 20 POINTS (SLO3)**

7	Module II Sexual Identity, gender identity & services to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Questioning LGBTQ Individuals	Read Ch 7	• Complete Ch 7 Blackboard Content • **NUMIA LAB #1, ETHICS, 2O POINTS, (SLO8)** • Review for mid-term
8	Module III Drugs Abuse and Drug Treatment Programs EXAM WEEK	Read Ch 8	• Complete Ch 8 Blackboard Content • **MID-TERM 100 points**
	SPRING BREAK	**MARCH 11-15**	
9	Module III Crime, Juvenile Delinquencies, & Correctional Services	Read Ch 9	• Complete Ch 9 Blackboard Content • **NUMIA LAB #2, NASW PRACTICE, 20 POINTS (SLO7)**
10	Module III Problems in Education and School Social Work	Read Ch 10	• Complete Ch 10 Blackboard Content • Take Political Typology Quiz • Prepare to submit the Social Issue paper next week!
11	Module III Work-Related Problems and Social Work in the Workplace Racism, Ethnocentrism & Strategies for Advancing Social & Economic Justice.	Read Ch 11 Read Ch 12	• Complete Ch 11 and Ch 12 Blackboard Content • **NUMIA LAB #3, DIVERSITY, 20 POINTS (SLO10)**
12	Module III Sexism and Efforts Achieving Equality	Read Ch 13	• Complete Ch 13 Blackboard Content
13	Module IV Aging and Gerontological Services Health Problems & Medical Social Services	Read Ch 14 Read Ch 15	• Complete Ch 14 and Ch 15 Blackboard Content • **INTERVIEW WITH A SOCIAL WORKER NOVEMBER 19th** • **(SLO5)** • **NUMIA LAB #4, SELF-CARE, 20 POINTS**

			(SLO11)
14	Module IV Physical and Mental Disabilities & Rehabilitation	Read Ch 16	• Complete Ch 16 Blackboard Content
15	Module V Overpopulation, Misuse of the Environment, & Family Planning	Read Ch 17	• Complete Ch 17 Blackboard Content • **NUMIA LAB #5, HUMAN RIGHTS, 20 POINTS (SLO9)** • Prepare for Final
16	EXAM WEEK	Study	• **FINAL EXAM – 100 points**