

Course Outline

School / Portfolio: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: SOCIAL ISSUES AND PERSONAL VALUES

Course ID: ATSGC2825

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): (Two introductory level courses or permission from Program Coordinator)

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED Code: 090515

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Examine the complex nature of social issues and their impact of individual, communities and society across micro macro and meso fields of practice
- K2.** Recognise the importance of personal values and attitudes
- K3.** Explore the roles and ethical responsibilities of professionals working in the social and community services industry
- K4.** Recognise the impact of policy on the development and perpetuation of social issues
- K5.** Consider the professional and social justice values that impact social welfare work
- K6.** Develop a critical understanding of different welfare interventions and fields of practice
- K7.** Review the relationship of different theoretical perspectives from studies in sociology and psychology to welfare practice

Skills:

- S1.** Communicate in written and oral context
- S2.** Critically evaluate theories relating to social welfare issues and personal values at a number of levels
- S3.** Analyse issues in relation to these theories and processes within the context of the professional ethics and responsibilities of welfare workers
- S4.** Demonstrate the capacity for reflective practice

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S5. Demonstrate good written and verbal communication skills

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Reflect on personal values and attitudes and their impact on practice
- A2.** Analyse the professional values required for a social welfare practitioner
- A3.** Demonstrate an ability to incorporate concepts such as gender, inequality and anti-oppressive practice principles in social welfare practice
- A4.** Communicate in written and oral context

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Mental health and social belonging
- Family 'dys'function
- Grief and loss
- Youth homelessness
- Social exclusion due to difference
- Poverty amongst migrant populations
- Gender inequality
- Ageing and access to housing
- Child poverty
- Gendered identity
- Substance misuse

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Students are encouraged to reflect on and challenge their own values and beliefs through utilising concepts offered by contemporary social theory. This course is designed to support students to develop an understanding of current social issues through an awareness of various discourses about social problems and the links between these and how social issues are defined and addressed. This course explores how the array of cultural, social, political, economic legal and media influences shape our considerations of social problems. The course is designed to encourage students to reflect on their personal values and beliefs in the context of social justice issues which impact on individual, community and society.

Students will have developed an understanding of the concepts of objectivity and subjectivity through critical examination of their personal values and beliefs and the social ideologies which underpin them:

- Appreciate the social justice issues impacting communities
- Recognise the importance of participation, engagement and ownership
- Experience work in a community setting
- Respect, listen and support student colleagues in their work experiences

Reflect on personal values and work skills

Graduate Attributes:

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students will gain an appreciation of ongoing learning through supervision both in the classroom with peers and in the community agencies	Medium
Self Reliance	Be able to distinguish between opinion and fact when processing information, conversing and writing about social issues	High

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Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Engaged Citizenship	Responsible and effective global citizens who engage in an internalised world	Medium
Social Responsibility	Students will examine issues of social justice and professional ethics and values.	High

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K2,K7 S1,S3,S4,S5 A1	Reflection Exercise: Self, Values and Society	Essay	10 - 20 %
K3,K4,K5,K7 S1,S2,S5 A2,A3	Critical Reflection Social Issue Analysis	Essay	20 - 30%
K6,K7 S2,S4,S5	Examination	Exam	40 - 50%
K1 S4 A1,A4	Engagement Class attendance and engagement with on-line discussion	Attendance and engagement	5 - 10%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA