

Course Outline (Higher Education)

School:	School of Arts
Course Title:	INTEGRATIVE SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE
Course ID:	MSWPG7205
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(At least 90 credit points from MSWPG subject-area at any level)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	090501

Description of the Course:

The course draws together theories and practice frameworks that are covered in the degree and will prepare students to begin their professional journey as an entry-level social work practitioner. Using an integrative practice model, students will examine and analyse what it means to develop a professional identity as a social worker who is required to take into account social context, client needs and capacities and professional knowledge, theory, skills and values. The course examines complexity and uncertainty in social work, and the current dominant trends influencing human services environments, such as neo-liberalism and managerialism and their impact on social work practice. Students will also consider the implications of what it is to be a critical practitioner in the development of their professional identity. Using case studies from diverse fields of practice students will examine and explore the social, political and ethical dimensions of their professional self and implications for practice as they prepare to enter the field.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the course but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above and submitted all major assessment tasks.

Program Level:

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

Learning Outcomes:

(On successful completion of the course the students are expected to be able to):

Knowledge:

- K1.** Critically examine integrative practice and its role in social work practice;
- K2.** Appraise and evaluate how uncertainty and complexity impact on individuals, families and communities in diverse social work contexts;
- K3.** Critically appraise the impact of neo-liberalism management practises on general social work practice and how social workers balance the complex tasks of working with and/or in managerial roles;
- K4.** Develop research awareness as part of developing expertise in evaluating evidence for developing appropriate social work interventions;
- K5.** Propose solutions to real world case scenarios in social work practice by integrating social/professional context, client's needs, service delivery and service provision and professional values and;
- K6.** Critically reflect on your emerging professional identity as a critical practitioner working within an integrative practice framework in the human services context.

Skills:

- S1.** Use an integrative practice model to assess appropriate social work interventions in practice in a range of contexts;
- S2.** Develop critical awareness of professional purpose taking account of context, clients and service users' needs and capacities, and professional knowledge, theory, skills and values;
- S3.** Apply critical thought and judgement in identifying and solving problems with intellectual independence
- S4.** Recognise the impact of working with uncertainty and complexity and engaging in critical reflection as part of continuing development of professional social work identity and;
- S5.** Develop skills to evaluate evidence and make explicit the judgements and evidence-informing decisions and actions in oral and/or written form.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Develop skills to apply knowledge to practice by taking into consideration social context, client's needs and capacities, service provision and delivery and professional values;
- A2.** Develop skills to engage in ongoing professional development and lifelong professional learning as a social work practitioner and;
- A3.** Develop critical awareness of how to manage and work with uncertainty and complexity and broader neo-liberal discourses that influence social work practice.

Course Content:

Topics may include:

Setting the scene for integrative practice

- What does an Integrative practice Model look like?
- Setting the scene for integrative practice:
 - a). Complexity and Uncertainty in work with clients (social context)
 - b). Neoliberalism: working in management and/or with management
 - c). working with evidence as a practitioner
- What are the components of a critical practitioner and critical decision-making tool?

The Social Worker in the human services system

- Supervision and being supervised
- Managing change in social work
- Role of research in practice
- Working within government departments, devolved responsibility, legal and statutory contexts
- Ongoing professional development

Applying Case Studies to Integrative Practice Framework

- Understanding uncertainty and complexity through case studies
- Case studies may include complex practice scenarios in the contexts of contracted programs, government departments, social work at the managerial level, small community-based programs and/or large international not-for-profit organisations.

Values:

- V1.** Uphold social work values, including the rights, dignity and autonomy of all those with whom they work and advocate for and engage in practices to further human rights and social justice;
- V2.** Recognise and understand the power and authority inherent in the social worker's role and use it with responsibility and compassion and;
- V3.** Recognise and manage personal values and bias and work within the boundaries of one's professional role and mandate.

Graduate Attributes

The Federation University FedUni graduate attributes (GA) are entrenched in the [Higher Education Graduate Attributes Policy](#) (LT1228). FedUni graduates develop these graduate attributes through their engagement in explicit learning and teaching and assessment tasks that are embedded in all FedUni programs. Graduate attribute attainment typically follows an incremental development process mapped through program progression. **One or more graduate attributes must be evident in the specified learning outcomes and assessment for each FedUni course, and all attributes must be directly assessed in each program**

Graduate attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of GAs in the course	
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Assessment task (AT#)
GA 1 Thinkers	Our graduates are curious, reflective and critical. Able to analyse the world in a way that generates valued insights, they are change makers seeking and creating new solutions.	K1, K2, K3, K6, S2, S3, S4, S5, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3
GA 2 Innovators	Our graduates have ideas and are able to realise their dreams. They think and act creatively to achieve and inspire positive change.	K5, S1, A1	AT3
GA 3 Citizens	Our graduates engage in socially and culturally appropriate ways to advance individual, community and global well-being. They are socially and environmentally aware, acting ethically, equitably and compassionately.	K1, K2, K3, K4, S2, S3, A1, A3	AT2, AT3
GA 4 Communicators	Our graduates create, exchange, impart and convey information, ideas, and concepts effectively. They are respectful, inclusive and empathetic towards their audience, and express thoughts, feelings and information in ways that help others to understand.	K2, K5, S2, S5, A1, A2	AT1, AT3
GA 5 Leaders	Our graduates display and promote positive behaviours, and aspire to make a difference. They act with integrity, are receptive to alternatives and foster sustainable and resilient practices.	K5, S1, A1	AT3

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, S2, S4, A1, A3	Critical learning exercises will explore key concepts covered in the course using a range of written and/or oral activities.	Learning Portfolio	20-40%
K6, S2, S3, A2	Critically reflect on your developing professional identity as an emerging practitioner with consideration to your lived experiences and your learning through the social work program.	Critical Reflection Essay	20-30%
K2, K3, K4, K5, S1, S2, S3, S5, A1, A3	Analyse a case study by applying a critical decision-making tool to present an integrated, coherent and analytical approach to practice.	Case Study Analysis	30-40%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)