

School / Faculty: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: ORIENTATION TO SOCIAL WELFARE

Course ID: WELRO1001

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): Nil

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED Code: 090515

Grading Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

Program Level:

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

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Identify and describe the defining features of welfare work and of the diversity of welfare roles undertaken by practitioners
- K2.** Be aware of major theoretical approaches in social welfare practice
- K3.** Have knowledge of different welfare interventions and fields of practice
- K4.** Identify and recognise the nature of the Australian welfare state and the impact of social policy on welfare practice
- K5.** Review the relationship of different theoretical perspectives from studies in sociology and psychology to welfare practice
- K6.** Identify the roles and ethical responsibilities of professionals working in the social and community services industry
- K7.** Be aware of issues in welfare service delivery in practice outside of major cities

Skills:

- S1.** Critically evaluate theories relating to welfare practice in relation to a variety of client contacts and interventions, and reflect on their use
- S2.** Analyse cases in relation to these theories and processes, and with respect to the professional ethics and responsibilities of welfare workers

Course Outline (Higher Education)

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- S3.** Demonstrate a capacity to identify basic assessment and intervention skills in relation to a variety of client contacts and fields of practice
- S4.** Demonstrate the capacity for reflective practice
- S5.** Demonstrate good written and verbal communication skills

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Ability to critique the historical development of the welfare field, the nature of the Australia welfare state, and the impact of social policies on current welfare practice
- A2.** Ability to apply research skills to issues related to welfare practice
- A3.** Ability to apply a range of theoretical approaches to a variety of interventions and to conceptualise their application to welfare practice
- A4.** Capacity to apply ethical codes and responsibilities to welfare practice

Course Content:

Discussion of the nature of welfare work:

- defining the nature of welfare work
- exploring the history of the welfare profession
- locating welfare in the context of the Australian welfare state.
- exploring different forms of welfare interventions

Introduction to a range of theoretical perspectives and models on welfare practice in regional and rural settings including:

- client centred
- solutions focussed
- anti-oppressive and critical theory approaches
- strengths based approaches
- systems based approaches and case management

Introduction to professional practice in welfare:

- professional code of practice
- ethics and ethical dilemmas
- rural practice issues
- personal/professional role boundaries
- understanding of the professional role

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1.** Identify and apply the welfare code of ethics including self-determination, non-judgmental attitudes, and confidentiality
- V2.** Be able to reflect upon their own values, professional values and the influence of both on professional practice
- V3.** Apply principles of self-directed learning in a co-operative learning environment, demonstrating respect for other students and staff

Course Outline (Higher Education)

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Graduate Attributes:

graduate attributes statement. To have graduates with knowledge, skills and competence that enable them to stand out as critical, creative and enquiring learners who are capable, flexible and work ready, and responsible, ethical and engaged citizens.

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Knowledge, skills and competence	Encourages students to develop an appreciation of the evolving welfare field, and its underpinning theoretical frameworks	High
Critical, creative and enquiring learners	Capacity to develop skills in independent learning	Medium
Capable, flexible and work ready	Ability to engage with contemporary debates about current issues in the welfare sector	Low
Responsible, ethical and engaged citizens	Encourages students to foster socially just attitudes regarding the welfare field	High

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K2,K3,K4, K5, K6, K7, S1, S2, S4, S5, A1, A2, A3, A4	To apply research and analysis skills by investigating a relevant theory or issue of welfare practice. To be able to communicate understanding of issues and/or theory clearly in written form	Reflective Journal	20-40%
K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, A1, A2, A3, A4	To demonstrate the acquisition of knowledge and the capacity to critically reflect on key concepts and information presented in class	E-portfolio	20-40%
K2, K5, S1, S2, S5, A2, A3	To demonstrate the ability to reflect on welfare theory and its application to practice	Essay	10-40%
K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, A1, A2, A3, A4	To be able to articulate issues associated with welfare practice, and apply lecture material to various case study discussions and other class exercises	Weekly Quizzes or online participation	10-20%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA