Course Outline (Higher Education)

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AQF Level of Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced</td>
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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)

WELRO1001 ORIENTATION TO SOCIAL WELFARE

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)

WELRO1001 ORIENTATION TO SOCIAL WELFARE

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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes Assessed</th>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, S1, S2, S4, S5, A1, A2, A3, A4</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Reflective Journal</td>
<td>20-40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, A1, A2, A3, A4</td>
<td>To demonstrate the acquisition of knowledge and the capacity to critically reflect on key concepts and information presented in class</td>
<td>E-portfolio</td>
<td>20-40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K2, K5, S1, S2, S5, A2, A3</td>
<td>To demonstrate the ability to reflect on welfare theory and its application to practice</td>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>10-40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, A1, A2, A3, A4</td>
<td>To be able to articulate issues associated with welfare practice, and apply lecture material to various case study discussions and other class exercises</td>
<td>Weekly Quizzes or online participation</td>
<td>10-20%</td>
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Adopted Reference Style:

APA