

School / Faculty: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: CRITICAL SOCIAL THEORIES

Course ID: WELSI3300

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): (WELRO1001 and WELSI2103) (BAFND1001 or SOCIO1001)

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.** Develop community and human service practice frameworks from a perspective of critical social theory
- K2.** Identify various critical perspectives and place social theories in historical, cultural, political, economic and social contexts
- K3.** Critique social theories and efficacy in community and human services practice settings
- K4.** Critically review the complexities, ambiguities, uncertainties and challenges of contemporary social contexts
- K5.** Explore international literature to inform understanding and the critique of social theory development
- K6.** Contribute constructively to the exploration of solutions to some of the problems generated by current practice and policy debates in community and human services

Skills:

- S1.** Research and critique international literature on the development of social theory
- S2.** Communicate in written and verbal processes the development of social theory
- S3.** Communicate a critique of social theory and its contribution to community and human services
- S4.** Communicate own ability to research and critique social theory development and current debates

Course Outline (Higher Education)

WELSI3300 CRITICAL SOCIAL THEORIES

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1. Understand the contexts of contemporary debates about community and human services
- A2. Communicate own theoretical position and links to own practice frameworks

Course Content:

This course requires students to review and critically reflect on social theory and its influence on community services and human services practices. The course will take a critically reflective approach to further develop and consolidate students' generic knowledge and skills in exploring social theory development since the modernist era. The course will examine social constructivism, postmodernism, critical psychology and social movement activism and their influences on anti-oppressive practice in community and human services. A critical framework for evaluating the effectiveness of self as well as knowledges and practice skills will be explored within the current debates about the efficacy of community and human services.

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1. Commit to the values of community and human services practice espoused by the Australian Community Workers Australia
- V2. Develop an attitude of scholarly enquiry and an enthusiasm for knowledge
- V3. Apply principles of self-directed learning in a co-operative education environment

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	Students will engage in ongoing learning about the links between theory and practice frameworks	Medium
Critical, creative and enquiring learners	Students will learn about the ongoing nature of the links between theory and practice frameworks	High
Capable, flexible and work ready	Students will engaging in the social and political developments that inform practice frameworks	High
Responsible, ethical and engaged citizens	Engaging in the development of theoretical debates builds on the ongoing practice development	Medium

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3 S1, S2 A1	Review of literature about contemporary social theory	Written summaries	15 - 25%

Course Outline (Higher Education)

WELSI3300 CRITICAL SOCIAL THEORIES

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K3, K4, K5 S2, S3, S4 A1	Annotated essay plan	Essay plan with reference list	25 - 35%
K4, K5, K6 S2, S3, S4 A1, A2	Essay on one social theory tradition and contemporary developments	Essay	40 - 60%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA