

PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS

**INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK
SWRK 2010**

Class Hours: 3.0

Credit Hours: 3.0

Laboratory Hours: 0.0

Revised: Fall 2013

Catalog Course Description:

Emergence of the social work profession; professional mission, knowledge, skills and values, practice settings, client groups, helping services, career patterns, practice methods. Designed to assist students to consider their ability for a career in social work.

Entry Level Standards:

Must be able to read and write at the college level.

Prerequisites:

None

Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials:

An Introduction to the Profession of *Social Work: Becoming a Change Agent*, Latest Edition, by Elizabeth Segal, Karen Gerdes, and Sue Steiner, Brooks/Cole – Cengage.

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

Week	Topic
1	Course Introduction/Social Work Degree Program
2	Organization of the Social Work Profession The Nature of Social Work
3	Profession of Social Work Social Work Values and Ethics
4	Baccalaureate Generalist Practice Practice Settings and Client Groups
5	Fields of Practice
6	Urban Social Work Practice Rural Social Work Practice
7	Introduction to Special Populations
8	Practice with Special Populations
9	Practice with Special Populations (cont)
10	Practice with Special Populations (cont)

- 11 Race, Ethnicity and Cultural Diversity
Inequality and Oppression
- 12 Strategies for Advancing Social and Economic Justice
The Role of Prevention
- 13 Working in Organizations
- 14 Realities of Practice
- 15 Final Exam Period

II. Course Goals*:

The course will

- A. Understand and analyze the evolution of the social work profession and its relationship with the social welfare institution. III,1
- B. Understand and analyze the interaction between the person in all of his/her diversity and environmental situations as the focus of professional practice. III.2
- C. Understand and analyze a solution-seeking or generalist approach to social work practice and the competencies to utilize this problem-solving approach. III, 2
- D. Understand and analyze the realities of social work generalist practice in both urban and rural areas. III,2
- E. Understand and analyze social environment and its impact on the opportunity structure for minority groups, toward an understanding of human diversity. III,3
- F. Understand and analyze the professional literature and professional organizations as resources for continued professional growth and support. III.5

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference TBRs general education goals.

III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes*:

Students will: be able to:

- 1. Use teamwork to accomplish in class group activities utilizing knowledge of course concepts. A,F
- 2. Complete a project (oral presentation, media report, application paper, or vision volunteer), demonstrating their ability to apply course content. F
- 3. Use the World Wide Web and Pellissippi State library resources to access information for media reports, application papers, and oral presentations. F
- 4. Practice elements of the work ethic such as professionalism, preparedness, punctuality, honesty, cooperation, dependability, contribution, effectiveness, and good manners. D
- 5. Identify various fields of practice within the social work profession. F

6. Identify some of the major problems addressed in rural and urban areas and the special populations assisted by baccalaureate social workers. B, D, E
7. Articulate the reasons for further pursuance of a B.S.S.W or for switching into another area of interest. A
8. Discuss the rewards and challenges of the social work profession. C, F

* Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above.

IV. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures: 80 % of grade

There will be five 100 points, 50 item, multiple-choice exams. The exams will encompass assigned readings, lectures, video presentations, and class discussions. The instructor will drop your lowest test score. The remaining four test scores will be used to determine 80% of your final grade. No make-up exams will be given. An optional comprehensive final exam covering all reading materials and lectures from the semester will be given during final exam week. The comprehensive exam will consist of 300 multiple-choice questions. The comprehensive exam grade may be used to replace one low or missing regular exam grade. Remember the comprehensive exam is generally harder than regular exams because it covers all sixteen chapters. The instructor should be notified a week in advance if interested in taking comprehensive exam.

B. Laboratory Expectations: 0 % of grade

n/a

C. Field Work: 20 % of grade

Individual research paper and class presentation will determine the remaining 20% of the final grade.

D. Other Evaluation Methods: 0 % of grade

n/a

E. Grading Scale:

90-100	= A
80-89	= B
70-79	= C
60-69	= D
Below 65	= F

V. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of Academic Affairs, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of Academic Affairs.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

Please see the Pellissippi State Policies and Procedures Manual, Policy 04:02:00 Academic/Classroom Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions for the complete policy.

C. Accommodations for disabilities:

Students that need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by sending email to disabilityservices@pstcc.edu, or visiting Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131. More information is available at <http://www.pstcc.edu/sswd/>.

D. Other Policies:

Students are expected to demonstrate respectful behavior towards their instructor and their classmates. Conduct that disrupts the learning environment could result in a student's expulsion from the class. For more information, please refer to the Student Disciplinary Rules section of the college catalogue.