Curriculum Map

The mission, program learning outcomes, indicators, and curriculum of the MSW Program represent an integrated whole which guides program development and implementation. Throughout the curriculum, program learning outcomes are selectively integrated into specific courses. Subsequently, program outcomes are reflected in course assignments designed to instill and assess students' knowledge development and skill acquisition. See curriculum map below.

CURRICULUM MAP: MSW PROGRAM SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

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I = Introduced

E = Expanded

A = Advanced

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SOWK 513 Human Behavior and Cross-cultural Environment (5)

Provides the basis for understanding human development and life transitions throughout the life span within an ecological perspective. Orients the student to the generalist social work approach to understanding human behavior in a cross-cultural context with a focus on normal behavior from birth through senescence. Provides a theoretical foundation on which to build social work-practice skills.

SOWK 514 Social Welfare Policies and Services (5)

Provides students with an understanding of the historical foundations of the social work profession, including its influence in the development of the United States system of social welfare. Examines the societal perspectives and contradictions, which have affected the development and evolution of contemporary social policies and services in the United States. Particular emphasis is placed on understanding the role of race, gender, and perception of human needs in shaping social policy. Programs, policies, and issues are analyzed as responses to long-term changes in social and economic conditions in the United States and the needs and demands of oppressed groups. Orients students to the structure and process of policy development and legislative advocacy at both the state and federal levels, including the development of UN conventions and the varied international frameworks and challenges affecting policy advocacy and change within international environments.

SOWK 517 Foundation Practice I: Individuals (3)

Provides students with an understanding of generalist practice in micro systems. Students learn how to conduct a biopsychosocial-spiritual assessment, along with a full range of beginning intervention strategies for working with individuals. Emphasizes the special problems experienced by populations at risk, women, and minorities; the unique skills necessary for goal-setting and successful interventions; and the cultural values that influence the development and resolution of psychosocial problems. Taken prerequisite to or concurrent with social work practicum.

SOWK 518 Foundation Practice II: Groups (3)

Provides students with an understanding of generalist social work practice with groups. It includes a survey of small group constructs, research, and principles of ethical application. Emphasizes differentiation among the types of individuals, situations, and presenting problems best served through group processes and intervention methods.

SOWK 519 Foundation Practice III: Organizations and Communities (3)

Provides students with an understanding of generalist social work practice in organizational and community settings. This course utilizes an ecological systems framework and an empowerment practice model in discussion within the macro context. Students examine neighborhood and community conditions that affect outcomes for populations at risk. Students also examine the role of social service agencies within urban communities, including relationships with other neighborhood institutions and organizations. Students define concepts of community and organization as they develop community organizing and organizational leadership skills that are culturally sensitive and based in social work values.

SOWK 520 Foundation Practice IV: Families (3)

Introduces family interventions. Examines views and issues regarding contemporary family structure and function, and focuses on concepts and techniques used to promote change in family functioning. Course meets state requirement for content in family violence.

SOWK 521 Global Practice I: International Social Work (4)

Introduces students to social work practice in a global context. Examines the ethical and practice issues associated with utilizing traditional interventions in underdeveloped and developing environments lacking established social services systems. Critical attention is given to interactions with governmental and non-governmental organizations, importance of impact research, and ethical responsibilities regarding sustainability. Additional topics and issues addressed include: globalization, human rights, social justice, diffusion of innovation and social development versus ecological demise, social exclusion, poverty, movements of people across borders, mental and physical health disparities, human trafficking, effects of war and violence and their aftermath, and disaster response.

SOWK 548 Research Methods (5)

Reviews quantitative and qualitative research methodologies in order to provide students with an understanding of the scientific and ethical approaches to building knowledge. Computer-based statistical analysis and data interpretation are employed to assist students in integrating research into social work practice.

SOWK 578 Field Orientation (0)

Provides students with the policies and procedures for completing the program's practicum requirements. Begins the process of examining social work values and ethics as students are introduced to the NASW Code of Ethics and fundamental principles of professional behavior prior to beginning their field practicum.

SOWK 613 Psychopathology, Psychopharmacology and Diagnosis of Behavioral Health Conditions (4)

Focuses on the understanding and application of the DSM-IV-TR and Mental Status Examination as organized by a person-in-the-environment perspective. Integrates recovery and a review of psychopharmacology into the diagnostic process while enhancing awareness of sociocultural needs and issues of populations at risk. Students enhance their analytic writing and verbal skills via presentations based on the bio-psycho-social-spiritual perspective of psychopathologies to be encountered as a clinical social worker.

SOWK 648 Co-occurring Processes and Interventions (3)

Builds on the practice experiences and foundation courses of the first year by increasing competency in the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of individuals experiencing mental, emotional, and/or behavioral disturbances with co-occurring chemical dependency. Students learn to utilize behavioral health-treatment strategies and substance-abuse counseling techniques from within a biopsychosocial-spiritual paradigm that integrates an understanding of the recovery process.

SOWK 651 Medical Social Work (2)

Orients students to medical social work in hospitals and other health care environments. Given attention to the ecological practice perspective, the application of biopsychosocial-spiritual assessment, along with other interventions used to assist patients and families. Additional interventions examined include connecting patients and families to resources and supports in the community; providing psychotherapy, supportive counseling, grief counseling; practice modalities for populations with various diseases/conditions, or helping a patient to expand and strengthen their network of social supports. Roles and responsibilities of membership in an interdisciplinary team of health professionals, and requirements of follow-up care are addressed. Special attention is given to the needs of high-risk populations (including the poor, ethnic and racial minorities, recent immigrants, and children from high-risk environments). Reviews medical social work's role in the development of community health care systems as an aspect of accountable health care environments.

SOWK 653 Interventions with Special-Needs Children (2)

Focuses on practice with children and families in relationship to environmental stability. Examines how the physical and mental health of children are directly associated with family and environmental permanency. Emphasizes development of parental and social support capacities, as well as the requisite professional knowledge and skills to help children deal with identity issues and concerns of joining a new family. Addresses the impacts of race, ethnicity, gender, economic deprivation, physical illness, and disability.

SOWK 656 Religion and Spirituality in Direct Practice (2)

Acquaints students with predominant theories regarding religion and spirituality from the 'person-in-the-situation' perspective. Theoretical orientations include psycho-dynamic, philosophical, and socio-cultural. Examines the implications of these theories in terms of their impact on professional practice.

SOWK 658 Children's Psychotherapy (2)

Considers treatment techniques appropriate for young children with a wide range of diagnoses and behavior problems. Emphasizes the integration of theory and practice of psychotherapy with the ecological

perspective of social work practice. Discusses diagnosis, phases of treatment, and special communication issues. Research, ethical, and value issues addressed.

SOWK 659 Recovery in Behavioral Health (2)

Provides students with an understanding of the issues, theories and recovery oriented interventions used with persons experiencing severe and persistent behavioral health conditions. Students are provided an overview of the historical development behavioral health perspectives and interventions. Emphasis is placed on understanding and applying contemporary wellness-recovery action plans and techniques.

SOWK 661 Psychodynamic Therapy (3)

Basis for understanding psychodynamic therapy (from object relations therapy to interpersonal therapy to short-term psychodynamic therapy), the concepts and techniques of various types of psychodynamic interventions, and the empirical data regarding the efficacy of this treatment orientation.

Prerequisite: Qualifying Review, or permission of Academic Standards Committee.

SOWK 661L Psychodynamic Therapy Practice (1)

Supervised practice simulations observing and/or engaging in psychodynamic therapy. *Prerequisite: Qualifying Review or permission of Academic Standards Committee.*

SOWK 662 Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (4)

Provides understanding and practice of cognitive-behavioral therapies. CBT theories and interventions will be reviewed including a range of cognitive-behavioral strategies such as systematic desensitization, cognitive restructuring and contingency management. Emphasis on more progressive models such as Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) will also be provided. *Prerequisite: Qualifying Review or permission of the Academic Standards Committee.*

SOWK 662L Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Practice (1)

Supervised practice simulations observing and/or engaging in cognitive/behavioral therapies. *Prerequisite: Qualifying Review or permission of the Academic Standards Committee.*

SOWK 663 Crisis and Trauma Interventions (3)

Examines the nature and characteristics of crisis as well as traumatic events for their long-term effects on psychosocial functioning. Crisis theories and interventions for working with children and adults who have been exposed to man-made or natural traumas such as violence or loss will be provided along with ethical, legal and cultural factors of crisis intervention. Students will be exposed to specific strategies for responding to community, national, and international crises.

Prerequisite: Pass the Qualifying Review, or permission of Academic Standards Committee.

SOWK 671 Foundation Practice V: Social Work Administration (3)

Provides macro-practice knowledge, skills, and perspectives of administrative practices with which to develop, support, and maintain effective service delivery. Topics include role identification and development, situational leadership, strategic planning, levels and types of decision making, management of organizational behavior, use of information systems, budgeting, documentation and reporting, resource development and utilization, and community networking.

SOWK 672 Theories of Organizations and Systems (3)

Explores the complexities of large organizations and bureaucratic systems. Examines formal and informal structures, communication patterns, and philosophical approaches as these affect the effectiveness and efficiency of services delivery, worker motivation, and resource procurement and allocation. Accomplishes the objectives of the course through the application of diverse organizational and diffusion theories and perspectives as a means to increase students' understanding of their practicum experiences in the policy, planning, and administration concentration.

Prerequisite: Passing Qualifying Review or permission of Academic Standards Committee.

SOWK 673 Program Planning and Implementation (5)

Orients students to the range of issues, knowledge, and skills required in designing, planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating programs. Students build on knowledge obtained in other

concentration courses. Integrates the course focus through the development of a comprehensive program proposal for the students' practicum agency or other identified community group.

SOWK 675 Supervision (3)

Examines the supervisory process in relation to clinical, administrative, educational, and supportive functions. Emphasizes supervisory knowledge, skills, and techniques necessary for the development of staff capable of functioning creatively and independently.

SOWK 680 Global Practice II: Children and Families Policies and Services (2)

Orients students to the perspectives that have shaped policies, services, and interventions in child welfare in the US as compared with post industrial, underdeveloped and developing countries. Examines the varied values and treatment of children and how these have facilitated the evolution and enactment of child welfare policies and systems. Analyzes debates regarding governmental interventions versus family privacy through a cross-cultural and international lens. Attention is given to the utilization of universally accepted techniques and interventions. Professional self-development for competent global child welfare practice and advocacy is emphasized.

SOWK 681 Global Practice III: Behavioral Health Policies and Services (2)

Provides students with an understanding of the development and organization of behavioral health systems in the US as compared with other post industrial, developing, and underdeveloped countries. Examines the ethical and practice implications of burgeoning global behavioral health needs, in light of providing services within environments void or severely lacking in systems infrastructure and professional expertise. Attention is given to understanding the utilization of universally transferable behavioral health concepts and interventions.

SOWK 682 Legal and Ethical Aspects in Health and Mental Health Services (3)

Focuses on those instances when legal mandates or concerns interact with and affect the practice of social work. Overviews the sources of legal authority, the judicial system, and the legal standards applicable to particular proceedings. Examines the legal implications of the social worker/client relationship. Emphasizes consent to treatment. Examines the statutes and judicial decisions that govern the confidentiality implicit in a social worker/client relationship. Examines the statutes and judicial decisions that permit or place an obligation on social workers to breach client confidentiality. Explores course content in the context of common and high-risk situations.

SOWK 683 Advanced Policy Analysis (3)

Deepens students' understanding of both the conceptual and analytical requirements of policy analysis through the integration of behavioral, political, economic, and sociometric frameworks for understanding human conditions. Students gain experience in structuring and defining policy problems, establishing criteria for policy choices, mapping alternative strategies, and applying appropriate analytical and research methods to policy questions. Use of cost-benefit analysis, cost-effectiveness analysis, and decision analysis as means toward developing formal augmentation toward sustained change.

Prerequisite: Passing the Qualifying Review or permission of Academic Standards Committee.

SOWK 684 Advanced Policy Projects (2, 3)

Enhances understanding of the interconnections between politics, policy-making, and policy analysis through first-hand participation in a political-action campaign. Choices for projects may focus on local initiatives or those coordinated annually through the California chapter of NASW.

SOWK 676 Human Resources Planning and Development (4)

Examines the complexities of human-resources management in large organizations and/or with diverse employee populations. Strengthens students' knowledge and professional decision-making relative to the implementation of federal, state, and local policies (i.e., affirmative action, nondiscrimination, sexual harassment, etc.). Deepens students' exposure to leading-edge discussions on the legal and ethical aspects of human-resources management and contemporary issues affecting morale and productivity in today's work environments (e.g., familial dysfunction of employees, single-parent families, care-provider roles of employees, and co-worker violence).

Prerequisite: Qualifying Review or permission of the Academic Standards Committee. Permission of instructor required for registration by students not in the policy, planning, and administration concentration.

SOWK 695A Advanced Research Methods (2)

The first course in a three-quarter sequence that supports the student who chooses to advance his/her knowledge through examination and application of a broad spectrum of quantitative and qualitative research methods used in professional practice settings. Didactic and laboratory experiences draw on the student's advanced practice. Develops student's capacity to differentiate and apply the most appropriate and widely used research designs and methods of practice evaluation and renewal. Gives continuous attention to current federal and state requirements for assessing intervention effectiveness. Emphasizes self-evaluation and evaluation of practice effectiveness with individuals and families.

SOWK 695B Advanced Research Methods (2)

The second course in a three-quarter sequence that supports the student who chooses to advance his/her knowledge through examination and application of a broad spectrum of quantitative and qualitative research methods used in professional practice settings. Didactic and laboratory experiences draw on the student's advanced practice. Develops the student's capacity to differentiate and apply the most appropriate and widely used research designs and methods of practice evaluation and renewal. Gives continuous attention to current federal and state requirements for assessing intervention effectiveness. Emphasizes practice evaluation groups as well as the design and implementation of quality assurance studies for monitoring work with specific populations.

SOWK 695C Advanced Research Methods (2)

The third course in a three-quarter sequence that supports the student who chooses to advance his/her knowledge through examination and application of a broad spectrum of quantitative and qualitative research methods used in professional practice settings. Didactic and laboratory experiences draw on the student's advanced practice. Develops the student's capacity to differentiate and apply the most appropriate and widely used research designs and methods of practice evaluation and renewal. Gives continuous attention to current federal and state requirements for assessing intervention effectiveness. Emphasizes evaluation at the program, organizational, and community levels.

SOWK 697 Applied Research (2)

Supports students choosing to complete the thesis option. Provides research matriculation in the collection and analysis of data for the thesis. Students required to register for two quarters, or a total of 4 units. *Prerequisites: SOWK 547, SOWK 549.*

SOWK 698 Thesis (2)

The culminating work of the students' independent research, under the direction of the research adviser. Registration during the quarter in which student defends research and submits the final document to the department and School of Science and Technology.

SOWK 757A Professional Foundation Practicum and Seminar (3)

Provides students with experiential learning opportunities in foundation social work practice through practica arranged by the Program's Director of Field Education. Student completes 160 practicum hours concurrent with 20 hours of practicum seminar for each of three consecutive quarters. A block practicum option is available to qualified students.

Corequisite: SOWK 578.

SOWK 757B Professional Foundation Practicum and Seminar (3)

Provides students with experiential learning opportunities in foundation social work practice through practica arranged by the Program's Director of Field Education. Student completes 160 practicum hours concurrent with 20 hours of practicum seminar for each of three consecutive quarters. A block practicum option is available to qualified students.

Prerequisites: SOWK 578, SOWK 757A

SOWK 757C Professional Foundation Practicum and Seminar (3)

Provides students with experiential learning opportunities in foundation social work practice through practica arranged by the Program's Director of Field Education. Student completes 160 practicum hours concurrent with 20 hours of practicum seminar for each of three consecutive quarters. A block practicum option is available to qualified students.

Prerequisites: SOWK 578, SOWK 757A, SOWK 757B

SOWK 787A Advanced Professional Practicum and Seminar (4)

Provides student with advanced social work experience in his/her selected concentration. Advanced practica arranged by the Program's Director of Field Education. Student required to complete 200 practicum hours concurrent with 20 hours of practicum seminar for each of three consecutive quarters. *Prerequisites:* (SOWK 578, SOWK 757A, SOWK 757B, SOWK 757C) or SOWK 678.

SOWK 787B Advanced Professional Practicum and Seminar (4)

Provides student with advanced social work experience in his/her selected concentration. Advanced practica arranged by the Program's Director of Field Education. Student required to complete 200 practicum hours concurrent with 20 hours of practicum seminar for each of three consecutive quarters. *Prerequisites: SOWK 787A, (SOWK 578, SOWK 757A, SOWK 757B, SOWK 757C) or SOWK 678.*

SOWK 787C Advanced Professional Practicum and Seminar (4)

Provides student with advanced social work experience in his/her selected concentration. Advanced practica arranged by the Program's Director of Field Education. Student required to complete 200 practicum hours concurrent with 20 hours of practicum seminar for each of three consecutive quarters. *Prerequisites: SOWK 787A, SOWK 787B, SOWK 757A, SOWK 757B, SOWK 757C) or SOWK 678.*