SOCW 275 SOCIAL WELFARE AS A SOCIAL INSTITUTION

I. CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

Explores the interdependence of social, cultural, political and economic factors in the history and practice of social welfare with special reference to development of the social work profession. Focus on service integration and coordination in community-based delivery systems in rural areas, especially for poor and oppressed populations.

II. COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides an introduction to the historical problems and issue of social services and policies, and the related development of the profession of social work, with particular attention to issues related to empowerment, gender, race, ethnicity, poverty, and rural populations. Students will be introduced to the knowledge, skills, and values and ethics of professional social work and have an opportunity to experience the helping profession in relation to service to others through an adjunct volunteer agency experience. Students are further exposed to the profession of social work through the use of guest speakers who are actively working in the field of social welfare.

III. PLACE OF COURSE IN THE PROGRAM

This course serves as the first B.S.W. course. It provides foundation knowledge of social and social welfare history.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Demonstrate mastery in the following competencies:

   Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
   Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. Identify commonly held prejudices and misconceptions regarding social welfare and examine alternative methods for viewing social problems;
2. Describe social work values and ethics and identify them in practice situations;
3. Describe historical developments in the field of social welfare leading to the emergence of the social work profession;
4. Explain the historical nature of major value conflicts in developing and delivering social services;
5. Identify the major components of social work practice;
6. Describe social work practice domains;
7. Explain the relationship of social work to social welfare;
8. Identify issues of poverty and the impact of social policy on the poor;
9. Describe issues relevant to services for women, minorities, and rural populations;
10. Explain the role of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and social class in social work practice;
11. Describe the role of social research in informing social work policy and practice;
12. Describe the importance and usefulness of an empowerment based approach to social work.

V. REQUIRED TEXTS

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

VII. GRADING

(Include grade scale, rubric, points for assignments, bonus, supplemental assignments, and attendance policy and how attendance is factored into final grade).

SIUC policy regarding Incompletes: “An INC grade is assigned when, for reasons beyond their control, students engaged in passing work are unable to complete all class assignments. An INC must be changed to a completed grade within one semester. Should the student fail to complete the course within one semester, the incomplete may be converted to a grade of F and such grade will be computed in the student's grade point average.”

VIII. COURSE EVALUATION

At the end of the semester, students will use the SIUC Instructor Course Evaluation (ICE) to evaluate the course and the instructor. Student mastery of the competencies
listed in the Course Objectives section will be evaluated as part of the ongoing program assessment for the School of Social Work.

IX. COURSE OUTLINE

(Instructors provide a weekly list of topics, readings, assignments, and tests)

X. BIBLIOGRAPHY

(Update references to within 5 years for most materials)