

and depth, appropriate to work at postgraduate level. Students start their work on dissertation in the form of group seminars in the summer term of Year I and extend through Year II of the programme.

**SOWK 7170 Youth at the Margins: Theory and Practice (3,3,0)**

This course introduces students to various theoretical and practice approaches in understanding and working with young people who are regarded as “marginal” in legal, social and cultural senses. The social construction and social disadvantages of marginality are examined, and students are encouraged to examine practice models for meeting the needs of young people at the margins.

**SOWK 7210 Working with Families with Mental Health Issues (3,3,0)**

Mental illnesses, irrespective of their severity, rarely leave family intact but the needs of family members are often overlooked. At times social workers in different service settings do come into contact with these family members. It is therefore necessary to improve both knowledge and skills of helping them. This course covers different perspectives of family coping and dimensions of helping like family therapy, psycho-education for family, empowerment practice and advocacy for families.

**SOWK 7220 Youth and Cultural Practice (3,3,0)**

The cultural dimension of young people's lives is fast changing, and there is a pressing need for social workers to better acknowledge the richness and diversity of youth cultures, and take culture as an arena and as a means for promoting youth's competency, participation and connectedness and for developing alternative intervention modalities.

**SOWK 7230 Crisis Management and Integrated Mental Health Practice (3,3,0)**

Crisis management is one of many important tasks of human service professionals, and it often helps to prevent mental health problems from taking place. This course is designed to enable graduate social work students to (1) deal with crises of their clients and (2) develop integrated mental health interventions with wide range of targets with mental health problems in the Chinese context. Students will examine the major theoretical perspectives and skills in crisis assessment and management and learn to apply an integrative approach to the prevention and treatment of mental health problems.

**SOWK 7240 Critical Youth Work (3,3,0)**

By drawing insights from the radical and critical traditions of social work, this course specifically focuses on studying the structural and poststructural perspectives on informing the theorizing and practice of critical youth work with particular reference to oppression and dominations in the social context of Hong Kong.

**SOWK 7410 Human Diversity and Cultural Differences (3,3,0)**

This course helps students to understand and appreciate similarities and diversities of human behaviour from a diversity and anti-oppression perspective, particularly with respect to social and cultural differences, and the challenges and strengths of young people in the local context.

**SOWK 7420 Theories in Counselling and Therapy (3,3,1)**

The course introduces the students to a wide range of theories and practice of counselling and psychotherapy with particular reference to young people as a target group and as change agents. It covers the theoretical foundation of counselling and psychotherapy and examines some of the major important approaches: psychoanalysis, humanistic, cognitive-behavioural, family and solution-focus therapies. The course also discusses new developments of counselling theories and new approaches to the practice of counselling.

**SOWK 7430 Narrative Approach to Counselling (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: SOWK 7420 Theories in Counselling and Therapy or consent of the Department

This course focuses on introducing to the students the diverse and yet inter-related narrative approaches to working with young people and their families at different settings, as well as the basic philosophy, concepts, and therapeutic conversations.

**SOWK 7440 Narrative Interventions for Specific Youth Groups (3,3,0)**

Narrative intervention approaches to enhance collaborative work with young people will be covered. In particular, the students will be introduced to narrative counselling strategies and interventions as well as their application to specific youth groups with a diversity of problems and needs, and other personal identity parameters like ethnicity, gender and age.

**SOWK 7450 Counselling Young People: Processes and Issues (3,3,0)**

This course provides students with knowledge of counselling processes and skills in facilitating user exploration, assessing counselling needs, and designing intervention plans, in particularly with young people in Hong Kong. Major areas of concern in youth counselling are also discussed, including social skills and social competence, career guidance and development, fostering resilience in children and adolescents, peer counselling and support, and counselling youth at-risk.

**SOWK 7470 Counselling Project (3,0,1)**

In this course, students are required to carry out and write up a small counselling project that may be based on their actual counselling practice experience or any other projects approved by the Department.

**SOWK 7480 Counselling Practicum I (3,0,3)**

This course requires the students to be actually involved in counselling young persons, and to take part in individual and peer supervision supported by case conferences, seminars and workshops.

**SOWK 7490 Counselling Practicum II (3,0,3)**

This course requires the students to be actually involved in counselling young persons, and to take part in individual and peer supervision supported by case conferences, seminars and workshops.

**SOWK 7500 Family Therapy (3,3,0)**

This course approaches to enhancing collaborative work with young people will be covered. In particular, the students will be introduced to strategies and interventions from the approaches of structural family therapy and solution-focused brief therapy as well as their application to specific youth groups with a diversity of developmental issues and needs.

**SOWK 7510 Cognitive-behavioural Therapy (3,3,0)**

This course adopts a psychotherapeutic approach that is evidence-based effective for helping people overcoming many different types of psychological problem. This course provides students with a rudimentary understanding of the theory and techniques of cognitive behavioural therapy. Students successfully completing this course should be able to evaluate a client from a CBT point of view and be able to perform basic psychotherapeutic interventions using CBT strategies. In addition to the Western focused CBT, cross cultural issues associated with the application of CBT techniques in the context will be discussed.

**SOWK 7610 Society and Social Policy (3,3,0)**

This course aims to provide basic sociological concepts in understanding and analysing the society. It also introduces students to the theories of welfare and the tools in analysing social policies. Particular concerns will be given to the development of new social policies and social services in Hong Kong.