

in a variety of settings in Hong Kong, particularly with respect to the areas of behavioural and emotional problems and substance abuse.

SOWK 7151-2 Dissertation (3,0,1)

The dissertation provides opportunity for students to develop and complete a research project of either literature or empirical based relevant to their own specialism. Students may focus on a specific area such as a selected service target, application of a practice theory, exploration of a topic or issue, management practice or service policy. The dissertation topic is treated with rigour 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) (C)

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) (C)

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) (C)

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) (C)

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) (C)

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) (C)

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) (C)

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) (C)

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) (C)

Prerequisite: SOWK 7430 Narrative Approach to Counselling or consent of the Department

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) (C)

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) (C)

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

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) (C)

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

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) (C)

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.

SOWK 7620 Human Development and Cultural Differences (3,3,0) (C)

This course helps students to understand human development and the social environment. It also enables student to appreciate similarities and diversities of human behaviour from a life span, diversity and anti-oppression perspective, particularly with respect to social and cultural differences, and the challenges and strengths of service users and targets in the local context.

SOWK 7630 Social Work Theory and Practice I (3,3,0) (C)

This course is designed to develop students' ability to apply critical thinking and professional judgment in the learning and application of individual and family practice models to meet with the changes in the local context. It emphasizes the transferability of the repertoire of skills and theoretical knowledges across disciplines and contexts.

SOWK 7641-2 Social Work Theory and Practice II (4,1,0) (C)

This course is a continuation of Social Work Theory and Practice I. It is designed to equip students with the ability to appreciate theories and practice approaches of social group work and community work and to apply them in the local context. Changes in the social environment would be discussed to set forth the need to develop integrated practices. It also critically examines problems and issues in the application of the group and community approaches. Students will participate in a variety of role-plays, case studies and exercises so as to develop their consciousness and skills.

SOWK 7650 Management in Human Service Organizations (3,3,0) (C)

The focus is on studying selective organizational theories with the aim of fostering a general understanding of human service organizations. Another objective is to help students to comprehend the process, function and skills of management in these agencies. Case studies are used to illustrate the application of administration in social welfare agencies especially in the Hong Kong context.

SOWK 7670 Social Work Project (3,0,1)

In this course students are required to conduct and write up a small social work practice related research project that may be based on their actual fieldwork or professional practice experience, or any other projects approved by the Department.

SOWK 7680 Social Work Integrative Tutorial I (1,0,1.5)

Integrative tutorials aim to provide students an environment to discuss and integrate what they have learned from the classes and from their real life scenarios in a small group setting. Tutorials are of three hours each run seven times throughout the first semester.

SOWK 7690 Social Work Integrative Tutorial II (1,0,1.5)

This is the second series of integrative tutorials with the same study aims of SOWK 7680 Social Work Integrative Tutorial I. Tutorials are also of three hours each run seven times throughout the second semester.

SOWK 7700 Fieldwork Practice I (5,0,16)

Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above by the end of the 1st Semester of Year I or consent of Department

Through fieldwork placement, students are facilitated to develop their knowledge and skills emphasizing on the synergy and integration of theory and practice and relevant to practice in a board range of social work settings in working with individuals, families, groups and communities. Emphasis is also focused on enhancing professional development and self-growth. The total number of placement hours is 400.

(Students must pass this Fieldwork Practice with grades not lower than "C-" in order to graduate from the programme. If a student achieved a "F" grade, he/she must retake the course and pass with at least "C-".)

SOWK 7710 Fieldwork Practice II (5,0,16)

Prerequisite: (1) SOWK 7700 Fieldwork Practice I and (2) cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above by the end of the 1st Semester of Year II or consent of the Department

This is the second supervised fieldwork practice in the course of study. The total number of placement number is also 400. Please refer to SOWK 7700 Fieldwork Practice I for other details of the course description.

(Students must pass this Fieldwork Practice with grades not lower than "C-" in order to graduate from the programme. If a student achieved a "F" grade, he/she must retake the course and pass with at least "C-".)

SOWK 7720 Social Work with the Elderly (3,3,0) (C)

Prerequisite: Year III Social Work students or consent of the Department

This course provides students with an understanding of the ageing process and its implications for social work practice. Social deprivation and difficulties faced by the elderly will be explored especially in the local context. The existing social welfare, medical, housing and employment policy and services for the elderly in Hong Kong will be critically examined, together with consideration of alternatives in social service delivery.

SOWK 7730 Social Work with Youth (3,3,0) (C)

Prerequisite: Year III Social Work students or consent of the Department

The basic objectives of this course are to review contemporary theories and perspectives for understanding youth with particular reference to the socio-economic and political context Hong Kong, critically examine the discourses on specific dimensions of youth in Hong Kong, and examine and evaluate selected youth services and approaches to youth work with a review to promoting positive changes.

SOWK 7740 Social Work with the Mentally Disordered (3,3,0) (C)

Prerequisite: Year III Social Work students or consent of the Department

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of a range of theories on the scope and causes of mental illness. Different approaches of working with the mentally disordered and their families will be discussed. Existing local policies and legislation pertaining to mental illness will be critically examined. Methods of assessment, intervention and prevention, especially from a social work perspective, will also be explored.

SOWK 7750 Social Work with Disadvantaged Groups (3,3,0) (C)

Prerequisite: Year III Social Work students or consent of the Department

This course aims to enable students to examine the social structure and social processes which contribute to the construction of disadvantages and oppression in the society, critically appreciate different theoretical explanation of social disadvantages, develop understanding of the experiences of selected legislation, and develop sensitivity to and understanding of anti-oppressive practice with the socially disadvantaged groups.