

SOWK 7030 Critical Management Practice (3,3,0)

This course is designed to appraise the policy and organizational context of human service organizations and management and to explore major theories and perspectives on organizational analysis and management practice. Students will be able to develop creative and appropriate responses to organizational and management situations in relation to different social work settings.

SOWK 7040 Research and Programme Evaluation (3,3,0)

This course covers the basic concepts, approaches and methods in qualitative and quantitative research in the field of human services, and evaluates the importance of values and knowledge in suffusing the practice of social research. It stresses the importance of addressing programme and practice evaluation to the rising needs for accountability and outcome demonstration.

SOWK 7110 Mental Health, Mental Disorder and Social Work (3,3,0)

This course critically examines current theories in working with people and their families facing psychiatric disabilities and provides opportunities to build on existing social work experiences in order to develop a more integrated model for practice. Students will be enabled to understand the current development and research in mental health and to examine their implications for social work practice in Hong Kong.

SOWK 7120 Child and Adolescent Mental Health (3,3,0)

This course is designed to deepen knowledge and skills required to work with children and adolescents with mental health problems 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)

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.