

**SOWK 4206 Social Work with Older People (3,3,0) (C)**

Prerequisite: Year IV 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 older people will be explored especially in the local context. The existing social welfare, medical, housing and employment policy and services for older people in Hong Kong will be critically examined, together with consideration of alternatives in social service delivery.

**SOWK 4207 Social Work with People with Mental Health Problems (3,3,0) (C)**

Prerequisite: Year IV 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 people with mental health problem 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 4215 Social Work with Youth (3,3,0) (C)**

Prerequisite: Year IV social work students or consent of the Department

The objective 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 4216 Special Topics in Social Work (Gender and Social Work) (3,3,0) (C)**

Prerequisite: Year IV Social Work Students or consent of the Department

This subject aims to provide students with a gender perspective in practicing social work. Basic concepts of gender, gender inequality and theories of feminism will be introduced. Gender issues in social work and social welfare will be critically examined. Emphasis will also be placed on understanding principles and strategies of feminist social work and their application in the local context. Students will be equipped with knowledge and skills in dealing with gender issues and working with women and men.

**SOWK 4216 Special Topics in Social Work (Disability and Society) (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: Year IV Social Work Students

This subject provides students with in-depth understanding of disability and to equip students with positive attitudes and skills to work with people with a disability. It will examine the various definitions of impairment and disability, contemporary social policy, and practice pertaining to disabled people. Issues and approaches in the rehabilitation of people with a disability are also discussed.

**SOWK 4898 Social Work Honours Project (1,0,1)****SOWK 4899 Social Work Honours Project (2,0,2)**

Prerequisite: SOWK 3005 Field Practice I and SOWK 3018-9 Social Work Research

The objectives of the Honours Project are to provide an opportunity for students to work independently on an area of their discipline, to demonstrate original, creative, analytical and problem solving competence, and to apply their knowledge and fieldwork experiences to a specific area in the field of social work. Grading is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities. Standardized assessment forms are used both for the proposal and the final Honour Project report.

**SOWK 7010 Social Work in a Changing Social Context (3,3,0) (C)**

This course explores the changing social, political and economic context of Hong Kong society and examines their relationship with social welfare and social work. It aims at developing students' ability to reflect on the current philosophical as well as value base for social work practice in Hong Kong with particular insights into the constraints they create for policy and practice.

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

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) (C)**

This course covers the basic concepts, approaches and methods, ethical concerns 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. This course also forms the knowledge base for students to carry out practice-related research project.

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

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) (C)**

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) (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 7310 Globalization and Community Development Practice (3,3,0)**

Prerequisite: Bachelor of Social Work (Hons): Year III Social Work students or consent of the Department

The current context of globalization witnesses increasing significance of community development practice in catering for the welfare of the disadvantaged communities among countries in developed and developing economies alike. This course is designed to equip students with the ability to appreciate theories and practice approaches of community development and to apply them in the local context for advancing welfare of the disadvantaged groups confronting global challenges. Global changes would be discussed to set forth the context for the practices. It also critically examines problems and issues in the application of the community approaches in the global context.

**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

In this course, 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 power, ethnicity, gender and age.

**SOWK 7450 Processes and Issues in Counselling (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 the Hong Kong context. Major areas of concern in youth counselling are also discussed, such as social skills and social competence, career guidance and life development, fostering resilience, peer counselling and support.

**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 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 discusses various sociological perspectives to the understanding of the society and social policy. It examines selective models of social policy analysis and administrative and organizational theories and evaluates how these models and theories enable social workers to effect policy and organizational changes. It also critically examines the roles played by social workers in the field of social policy and administration with references to both local and international academic literature and research studies.

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

This course helps students to understand and appreciate human development and behavior across the life span particularly with respect to socio-cultural differences and the social environment at large, and to the challenges and strengths of service users and targets in the local context.