

## Salt Lake Community College Course Curriculum Outline

Final Approval Date (date approved by Faculty Senate & Provost): 09/30/2013

School: HU = Humanities Division Code: SW Department Code: SW

Action: Select Action

If this is a change, what is being changed? No

Rationale for Action: In order to update our PCO it is a requirement to transfer the old outline to the the new course curriculum outline. There are no additional changes.

Faculty Contact: Mequette M. Sorensen

Date Submitted: Fall, 2013

Semester of Implementation: Fall Year of Implementation: 2013

### **Course Basics:**

Course Prefix: **SW** Course #: **2750**

Abbreviated Course Title: **Ethics/Soc Wk Professional**

Full Course Title: Ethics and the Social Work Professional

Course Description: Course examination of complex ethical aspects faced by social workers in professional practice. Useful techniques and tools will be introduced to develop ethically appropriate professional behavior.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):	Related College-Wide Student Learning Outcome(s)
1. Students will gain substantive knowledge of the National Association of Social Work (NASW) Code of Ethics and demonstrate competency in its application into social work practice.	# 1, 4 and 5
Students will communicate orally and in writing concepts of professional values, professional ethics and legal requirements.	# 2, 4 and 5
Students will use and interpret information represented as data, graphs, tables, statistics to understand historical development and current practices of ethical professional behaviors.	# 2, 3 and 4

.Students will demonstrate critically thinking skills through the use of various decision making models in order to come to an understanding of resolutions with ethical dilemmas in social work practice	# 2, 4 and 5
Students will develop the knowledge and skills to work ethically in a professional and constructive manner.	# 1, and 5

Prerequisite(s): 2720

Corequisite(s): 2230, 2280 and 2750 can be taken concurrently

Cross-listing(s): None

Equivalent Course(s):

Credit Hours: 2 to 2

Billable Hours: 2 to 2

Lecture Hours: 2 to 2

Lab Hours: 0 to 0

Other Hours: 0 to 0

Total Contact Hours: 2 to 2

Repeat Code: NR = Can only be repeated for grade replacement

Repeat Limit: 99

**Course Details:**

Semester(s) Offered: Fall and Spring

GenEd Designation(s): (if applicable) (if applicable) \*if selected, fill out attachment A.

Study Abroad Designation: No \* if yes, fill out attachment B.

Service Learning Designation: No \*if yes, apply through Thayne Center.

CTE course: A = Academic course

Course Level: UG = Undergraduate (if applicable) (if applicable)

Is this course only offered for CEUs? No

Default Grading Mode: S = Standard Letter

Other Grading Mode(s): (if applicable) (if applicable) (if applicable) (if applicable)

Schedule Type(s): L = Lecture (if applicable) (if applicable) Other (Please Specify)

Instructional Method(s): 1W = Face-to-Face Classroom (if applicable) (if applicable) (if applicable)

Registration Restrictions:

Is this a transfer course? Yes

Articulation & Transfer Information: Elective credit. It is suggested that students consult the Social Work Academic Advisor for information on how the higher education institutions accept credits for this class. For specific information, contact the institution in which the transfer of credit is desired or the Social Work Academic Advisor.

Admission into a major program at a transfer institution depends upon the receiving institution's requirements for that major. Some major programs are restricted and require special application, volunteer and/or paid experience in the community as well as a competitive GPA. See the Social Work Academic Advisor or full-time faculty member at SLCC or the advisor at the intended receiving institution for specifics regarding application processes to Bachelors level education.

**Course Fees:**

Course fee(s): No

Amount(s): \$

Rationale:

\*\* NOTE: Approval of this course does not automatically ensure approval of the course fees. Course fees are reviewed each November by the Executive Cabinet.

**Impact:**

Impact on hosting department: Pay for instructor, allocation of classroom space

Impact on other programs/departments: None

**Special Instructions (content, pedagogy, assessment strategies, etc.):**

The attached sample syllabus includes several examples of assessments used to address the SW program student learning outcomes. Assessment measures in each of the Ethics/Soc Wk Professionals course sections will utilize several of the following methods:

Class discussions

Quizzes /exams

Assignments (included but not limited to psychosocial assessment ethnographies, eco-maps)

Essays

Group and individual presentation.

**Representative Syllabus (include as a separate document):**

Please include a representative syllabus for the course. An actual syllabus used by a faculty member teaching this course is strongly preferred. Save the file using the filename "CCO XXXX ##### Syllabus.doc" where xxxx ##### is the course prefix and number.

NOTE: Save this Course Curriculum Outline using the filename "CCO XXXX ####.doc"

**SALT LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**Department of Social Work**  
**SW 2750**  
**PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND THE LAW**

**Instructor:** Mequette M. Sorensen, M.S.W., C.S.W.  
**Office:** Taylorsville/Redwood Campus, CT 094-H  
**Office Hours:** Tues. or Thursday 12-1:30 but preferred by appt  
TUES 11:30-1:00 Redwood/Taylorsville and WED  
11:00-12:30 SCC by appointment

**Phone:** 957-4455  
**E-mail Address:** [Mequette.sorensen@slcc.edu](mailto:Mequette.sorensen@slcc.edu)

**Required Text:** *Ethical Decisions for Social Work Practice*  
Ralph Dolgoff; Frank Loewenberg and Donna Harrington

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to introduce students to ethical and legal standards in the Social Work profession. The Social Work practitioner is in an ongoing, complex maze of difficult decisions requiring consciousness, boundaries, alertness and clear judgment. This course will provide students useful techniques and tools to analyze and assess and then, arrive at a resolution for many complex ethical issues within the Social Work arena.

**Learning Outcomes:**

The primary goal of SW 2750 is to provide the student an opportunity to address and analyze the complex ethical and legal arenas that confront social workers daily in their professional practice. The learning outcomes of this course match the college-wide learning outcomes established by Salt Lake Community College in the following ways.

**SLCC Learning Outcome #1:** Upon successful completion of any program, students should acquire substantive knowledge in the discipline of their choice sufficient for further study, and/or demonstrate competencies required by employers to be hired and succeed in the workplace.

**SW 2750 Learning Outcomes:** At the end of this course students should be able to:

- Gain substantive knowledge of the National Association of Social Work (NASW) Code of Ethics.
- Demonstrate understanding of the NASW Code of Ethics through the application of its ethical standards to social work practice.

- Gain knowledge of useful techniques, tools and models for making ethical decisions in social work practice.

**SLCC Learning Outcome #2:** Upon successful completion of any program, students should be able to communicate effectively.

**SW 2750 Learning Outcome:** At the end of the course students should be able to:

- Effectively communicate orally or in writing about key concepts of ethical decision making and techniques in analysis and assessment of the ethical dimensions of practice problems.

**SLCC Learning Outcome #4:** Upon successful completion of any program, students should be able to think critically.

**SW 2750 Learning Outcome:** At the end of the course students should be able to:

- Demonstrate critical thinking skills through the application of decision-making models orally and in writing in order to arrive at ethically appropriate resolutions to ethical dilemmas in social work practice.

**SLCC Learning Outcome #5:** Upon successful completion of any program, students should have developed the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged and/or engage in service-learning for community building in order to enhance their academic experience.

**SW 2750 Learning Outcome:** At the end of the course students should be able to:

- Develop the knowledge and skills to work in an ethically appropriate professional manner with others in a professional and constructive manner.

### **Methodology:**

Through the application of the decision-making model to various specific ethical problems the student will become alert to the ethical aspects of practice. The student will begin to understand various assessment criteria in order to clarify and integrate the ethical aspects of decision making into their social work practice.

In order to assess a student's understanding of the ethical standards and assessment criteria the Professor will facilitate in class discussions and ethical problem-solving exercises therefore, attendance, participation and active involvement is **required**.

### **Course Requirements:**

**Weekly Readings** – Assigned weekly readings as well as any additional information provided by the Professor will provide the format of weekly

discussion. Therefore, the completion of readings **prior** to class is required in order for the student to participate competent and intelligent manner.

**Participation and Discussion** – Class participation and discussion in class is necessary for assessment of student's competency. Assessments for solving specific ethical problems are not offered in a cookbook approach that indicate what to do exactly in every specific situation. Instead, various models will be presented to help social work students gain skills in analyzing and assessing the ethical dimensions of practice problems in order for the student to develop ethically appropriate professional behavior.

Participation and discussion requires that you be actively engaged in your own education. It is **your responsibility** to come to class prepared to engage in class discussions, participate in class group exercises and complete individual essays.

**Essays** – Students will complete 3 (2 midterm essays and 1 final essay) essays within the semester. The ethical dilemma case study will be presented to you in class and you will be given 1 week to complete your assessment and essay. Each essay must be a minimum of 4 typed pages in length. The final paper must be a minimum of 8 typed pages, if outside sources are used in your paper you must include sources, citations and a bibliography. Assessment is based upon the student's demonstration of their understanding of various ethical decision making models in the development of the ethically appropriate resolution.

### **Other Useful Information:**

**Code of Conduct** – The student is expected to familiarize and utilize the NASW Code of Ethics found at: <http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/default.asp>

**Final Grades** – The final grade will be calculated according to how many points you receive on your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> essay as well as the points you earned in participation.

**Help** – You can contact me via email at [mequette.sorensen@slcc.edu](mailto:mequette.sorensen@slcc.edu) and I will respond as soon as I can to you.

**Late Assignments** – If you fail to turn in an assignment on time, it will be graded at 50% of the total score. **Given that weekly discussions change weekly a discussion can't be made up.**

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities** – If you have a disability that needs accommodation, please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in the College Center. To reach the DRC, call 801.964.4659 (voice) or 964.4646 (TDD).

## Classroom Rules

1. Personal comments can often be an important part of the learning process and can lead to valuable personal insight. To encourage the learning process, all personal comments made in class will be **respected**, will be held in confidence by students and should not be repeated outside of the classroom.
2. Self-disclosure that is not applicable to the specific discussion is inappropriate

In an educational setting is discouraged by the instructor.

3. All feelings and opinions are valid, even negative ones. Although these feelings will differ from person to person, all feelings will be respected.
4. Tardiness is disruptive to the learning process for both the teacher and the students. I expect that students will be punctual to class to ensure that the educational process will be maximized.
5. Ringing cell phones, beeping pagers, and text messaging is not permissible during class. Please be respectful of myself and others and turn off all your communicative devices.

### **Grading:**

Assessment will be based upon participation, essays and the final paper. The point breakdown is as follows:

• Weekly discussions (analysis and assessment of ethical dilemmas of practice problems)	100
• Essay #1	25
• Essay #2	25
• Final Paper	<u>50</u>
	200

### **Grading:**

200 – 188	A	159 –154	C+	125 – 120	D-
187 – 180	A-	153 –146	C	119 and below	E
179 – 174	B+	145 –140	C-		
173 – 166	B	139 –134	D+		
165 – 160	B-	133 –126	D		

## **Course Outline and Required Readings**

### **Week 1: Introduction (Aug 26)**

Ethical Choices in the Helping Professions  
Chapter 1

### **Week 2: (Sept 2) NO SCHOOL**

### **Week 3: (Sept 9)**

Values and Professional Ethics/Guidelines for Ethical Decision Making:  
Concepts, Approaches & Values

Chapters 2 and 3

**Week 4: (Sept 16)**

Guidelines for Ethical Decision Making: Decision-Making Process/ Tools  
Chapter 4

**Week 5: (Sept 23)**

Client Rights and Professional Expertise  
Chapter 5

**Week 6: (Sept 30)**

Value Neutrality and Imposing Values  
Chapter 6

**Week 7: (Oct 7)**

Confidentiality, Informed Consent, and the Duty to Protect  
Chapter 8

**Week 8: (Oct 14) Essay #1 Due**

The Professional Relationship: Limits, Dilemmas, and Problems  
Chapter 7

**Week 9: (Oct 21)**

Chapter 7 cont'

**Week 10: (Oct 28)**

Social Justice, Limited Resources and Advocacy  
Chapter 9

**Week 11 (Nov 4)**

Organizational and Work Relationships  
Chapter 10

**Week 12 (Nov 11) Essay #2 Due**

Social Work with Selected Client Groups  
Chapter 11

**Week 13 (Nov 18)**

Changing World/Changing Dilemmas  
Chapter 12

**Week 14 (Nov 25)**

Whose Responsibility are Professional Ethics?  
Chapter 13

**Week 15 (Dec 2)**

Final Paper Due