



SOCW-677-A
Mental Health Practice in Social Work:
Evolving Perspectives and Advanced Contemporary Practice Emphasis II
MSW Course Syllabus
Summer Semester 2024

COURSE: SOCW-677-A
Mental Health Practice in Social Work:
Evolving Perspectives and Advanced Contemporary Practice Emphasis II - 3 credit hours
ONLINE

PREREQUISITE(S): Completion of SOCW 664 – Mental Health Practices in Social Work Emphasis Core Concepts

COREQUISITE(S): None

INSTRUCTOR: **Name:** Loren Fish, MSSW, LCSW

E-mail: lhfishii@southern.edu

Office Hours: As posted. *

**Other times by appointment only. E-mail anytime. E-mail is the best method to reach your professor.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course highlights skill-building in the advanced emphasis area of Evolving Perspectives and Advanced Contemporary Practice in clinical social work.
(Summer)

REQUIRED TEXTS:

**Required readings available on E-class Modules*

ONLINE LEARNING:

The E-class/Moodle URL is <http://eclass.e.southern.edu>. For technical support, contact the E-class Help Desk at 423.236.2086 or by e-mail at eclasshelp@southern.edu.

PROGRAM COMPETENCIES:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following practice behaviors:

1. Demonstrate autonomous ethical use-of-self and value-grounded practice (Competency 1).
2. Identify professional strengths, limitations, and challenges for optimizing advanced use-of-self (Competency 1).
3. Critically analyze personal values and ethical social work principles when designing and implementing interventions across systems (Competency 2).
4. Demonstrate autonomous application of critical thinking to diverse complex professional scenarios (Competency 3).
5. Demonstrate advanced oral and written communication skills in critical decision-making contexts (Competency 3).
6. Optimize resiliency and capacities of diverse populations (Competency 4).
7. Engage in systematic review of contemporary best practice (Competency 6).
8. Implement and integrate evidence-based interventions across multiple advanced practice roles: Supervisor, Administrator, Community Developer/Advocate, Evaluator/Consultant (Competency 10).

STUDENT'S COMMITMENT LEVEL FOR SUCCESS:

(i.e. In order to be successful in this course, it is helpful to understand the level of commitment that is expected of graduate students from the School of Social Work. Each credit hour represents a weekly expectation of one “in-class” hour and a minimum of two additional coursework hours. Because this is a 3-credit course you can anticipate that you will spend a minimum of 9 hours completing the required coursework each week (i.e. 1 week = minimum of 9 hours of online and coursework; 2 week Module = minimum of 18 hours of online and course work). **Organize your time wisely!!!**

LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

A. Attendance, Participation, & Professionalism:

1. **Class Participation & Attendance** – See attendance policy. Please attend this online class in the same professional manner as you would an in-person class.
2. **Course Evaluation** – Students are expected to evaluate the course in accordance to university policies. The link to the course evaluation can be found in *E-class/Moodle* at the end of the semester.

B. Online Assignments:

1. **Online Quiz from Assigned Readings** – This will be an on your honor, Yes or No Quiz. It is important that you have read these articles before the class time of the module with the assigned reading. (15pts each).

C. Written and Video Assignments:

1. **Individual Writing Paper** - Each student writes on a specific or group of Other, Complimentary or Alternative therapy for clinical social work practice. Please coordinate with your assigned group to ensure that a wide variety of therapies within your group are being researched. Five Pages, 12pt Times Roman

font, double spaced, APA, cover page, reference page with at least three peer reviewed articles and or professional practice book references, with the following parameters (and weight):

Brief History and Foundation of theory and techniques 1-2pg	15pts
Best practices application from peer reviewed literature & research 1-2pg	30pts
Conclusion 1pg	15pts
Reflection Summary 1pg	25pts
Format: APA, Cover and Reference	15pts

2. **Assigned Video Reflections** – Please pick two of the assigned videos and write a one page Reflection Paper on each (total of two at 35pts each). Please avoid rehearsing content and focus on what you thought, felt, and got out of the videos you chose to watch.
3. **Group Video Project** - Other, Complimentary or Alternative therapies for clinical social work practice for a specific Diagnosis: Each Group will be given case studies to discuss, assess, evaluate, create and defend a treatment plan for, based on best practice of Other, Complimentary or Alternative therapies for clinical social work practice; and present the above as a group to entire class, live-rehearsal during last online class, May 31. Each group member must participate in the presentation. The Video Project (15-20 min recording) of above is due on Friday July, 26. Focus on the following (and note weight):

Assessment, & Evaluation of the case study	40pts
Treatment Plan Presented	35pts
Each Members contributions: Other, Complimentary or Alternative therapy	30pts
Each Members contributions: Share in Presentation/Discussion	30pts
Professionalism and time of Presentation/Discussion	15pts

EVALUATION: *The learning activities for this course contribute to the final grade as follows:*

Learning Activity	Points	Weight
▪ Class Participation & Attendance	50 points	20 %
▪ Group Participation & Attendance	50 points	
▪ Online Quiz on Assigned Readings (15 points X2 = 30 total points)	30 points	6 %
▪ Paper on Other, Complimentary or Alternative Therapy Due on Friday June 21	100 points	20%
▪ Assigned Video Reflections (35 pts X2 = 70) Due on Friday July 12	70 points	14%
▪ Group Video Project on Other, Complimentary or Alternative Therapies Due on Friday July 26	150 points	30 %

TOTAL COURSE POINTS & WEIGHT:	500 points	100%
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GRADING SCALE: *Final grades will be based on a percentage of the total possible points.*

100 – 94: A	76 – 74: C
93 – 90: A-	73 – 70: C-
89 – 87: B+	69 – 67: D+
86 – 84: B	66 – 64: D
83 – 80: B-	63 – 60: D-
79 – 77: C+	59 and below: F

COURSE SCHEDULE:

DATES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	LEARNING PRODUCTS * = <i>Portfolio Product</i>
Sunday, May 26, 2024	Module 1: Class Overview, Philosophy and Introductions H1: introductions, class outline and schedule, H2: syllabus, assignments, groups and philosophy H3: BREAK; HIS student demographics; Physical, Intellectual, Emotional, Spiritual Health and Wholeness H4: Overview of History of Psychology; and Evolving Perspectives and Complimentary and Alternative therapies for MH: The good, the bad, and the ugly H5: Group Activity: Choose Therapy	
Monday, May 27, 2024	Module 2: Bio-Psycho-Social-(and Spiritual) Whole H1: Personal Story – Diana Fish, CFRE -Development Director at Holbrook SDA Indian School H2: Spiritual discernment and intervention in clinical mental health BREAK H3: Bio-Psycho-Social-(and Spiritual) Whole H4: Discussion of Case Study(ies) (and choosing Proctor for Tuesday?) H5: Group Activity: Choose a Case Study; and begin to develop a treatment plan	Module 2 Quiz Due

DATES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	LEARNING PRODUCTS * = <i>Portfolio Product</i>
Tuesday, May 28, 2024	<p>Module 3: Trauma Informed Spiritual Toolbox for Christian Living and Christian Counseling</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Terri Favish: graduate of Andrews University- Master's in History in 1986</p> <p>Website: https://www.terrifavish.com</p> <p>H1: Rules of Engagement</p> <p>H2: Adversaries, Weapons and Usage; Arsenal</p> <p>H3: BREAK?</p> <p> Enemy Arsenal (fiery darts)</p> <p>H4: Putting it into Practice: 4 Pillars, Discernment, Spiritual Laws, 8Rs</p> <p>H5: Walkout and Q&A (and group activity)</p>	
Wednesday, May 29, 2024	<p>Module 4: Guest: Chris Atkins, LCSW: SAU BSW 1999; and MSW 2001 Univ of Michigan?</p> <p>H1: Wholistic Health Inventory in military and beyond</p> <p>H2: Combat Operational Stress Control and lessons learned as Army Social Worker;</p> <p> And A.R.T. Therapy Framework and Applications: Q&A with Atkins</p> <p>H2.75: Break</p> <p>H3: The Arts as MH therapies; Music Therapy; Art Therapy; Writing/Poetry Therapy;</p> <p>H4: Animal Therapies</p> <p>H5: Group Activity:</p>	

DATES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	LEARNING PRODUCTS <i>* = Portfolio Product</i>
Thursday, May 30, 2024	Module 5: Adaptive Information Processing Model Guest Speaker: Laura Sohn, LMSW; Clinical Counselor at HIS (AU 2017 MSW and MS in Community and International Development) H1: Trauma & Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) H2: Adaptive Information Processing Model (eclectic theory); EMDR therapy; H3: BREAK H3.25: What EMDR is Not; and Utilizing EMDR concepts, Resourcing H4: Eclectic Therapies; Gestalt concepts; Experiential Therapies; and Other Evolving Perspectives H5: Group Activity: Practice for “Dress Rehearsal”	Module 5 Quiz Due
Friday, May 31, 2024	Module 6: LIVE Group Video Project “Dress Rehearsal” with Q&A; and Parting Thoughts H1: Group 1, Group 2 H2: Group 3, Group 4 BREAK H3: Group 5 H4: The Underside of Psychology H5: Wrap Up, Q&A, and Reminders	
Monday June 21, 2024		Individual Paper Due
Friday July 12, 2024		Assigned Video Reflection Due

DATES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	LEARNING PRODUCTS * = <i>Portfolio Product</i>
Friday July 26, 2024		Video Group Project Due
Syllabus Policy: <i>The professor reserves the right to alter assignments and/or contents of this syllabus. Students will be given appropriate notice of any changes.</i>		

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY DISABILITY STATEMENT:

In keeping with university policy, any student with a disability who needs academic accommodations should call Disability Support Services at 423-236-2574 or visit Lynn Wood Hall, room 137, to arrange a confidential appointment with the Disability Services Coordinator (DSC) before or during the first week of classes. (Students who request accommodations after the third week of the semester might not complete the process in time to receive accommodations for that semester.) Legally, no retroactive accommodations can be provided. For more details, visit the Disability Support Services website at [www.southern.edu/disability support](http://www.southern.edu/disability%20support). Accommodations for disabilities are available only as recommended by Disability Support Services. Students whose accommodations are approved will be provided confidential letters, which students should review and discuss with their professors in relation to particular course requirements.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK POLICIES:

Southern Adventist University and the MSW program faculty have developed a set of policies to ensure effective communication and enhance understanding of academic benchmarks for our students. These policies are also designed to encourage and deepen professionalism, an essential competency for excellence in social work practice.

A. General Course Policies

All students enrolled in the MSW Program in the School of Social Work are expected to demonstrate the following professional and academic behaviors:

- Students are expected to complete all online assignments in a timely manner and arrive prepared for class discussion;
- Students are expected to actively participate in e-class and class discussions and cohort projects. Those who disrupt the class (talk/whispering, clowning, etc.) or over-participate (monopolize or dominate) in discussions on a regular basis should expect to be penalized in the same manner as those who under-participate;
- Students are expected to assess personal and educational needs and interact with the professor as necessary. Do not wait until late in the semester to ask for assistance!
- Students are expected to adhere to the *NASW Code of Ethics* in all aspects of course work and participation.

B. Attendance Policy

SAU's hybrid MSW program holds a measured balance of online and face-to-face (F2F) interactions that comprise "class time." The program's F2F class sessions are taught through an intensive, skills-based approach. Because of this engagement model of instruction, students must attend each F2F session as scheduled. Success in the graduate program depends on consistent presence in class every two weeks. Any missed F2F sessions will potentially jeopardize both the student's grade and retention in the MSW program. Additionally, punctuality and attendance are key external indicators of professionalism and, as such, are critical for demonstrating achievement of this competency. To maximize student success in the MSW program, this Attendance Policy has been developed by the School of Social Work faculty.

1. A meeting schedule is provided at the beginning of the school semester.
2. Students are responsible for clearing their calendars so they may attend all of the scheduled online group meetings.
3. Missing more than 30 minutes of meeting is considered an absence under this policy. Three times of being late or leaving early (each less than 30 minutes) also accrues to one absence.
4. There are two types of absences: emergency/excused and unexcused. An absence is considered "excused" under very limited emergency circumstances, which include documented death in the immediate family, or documented illness of self or a dependent child. All other absences are considered unexcused.
5. For all absences, either emergency/excused or unexcused, students need to alert the professor to the situation, preferably in advance of class.
6. Students who miss class for a documented emergency may lose points that are given for work done during that missed class period.
7. In the event of an excused absence, it is the student's responsibility to ask another student to record, with the permission of the professor, or take notes to cover all class content presented, and to make up any learning activities missed during group meetings.
8. If a student has an unexcused absence, the point total towards the final grade for the course will be reduced by 5% for each unexcused absence and, additionally, no points will be available for missed online group activities.
9. A student who has four unexcused absences from group meetings will be dismissed from the course, will receive an F (unexcused) as a final grade for the course, and will be required to repeat and is financially responsible for the course charges the next time it is offered.
10. If a student acquires four excused absences during a semester and falls behind with the class requirements then he/she will receive an Incomplete/Incomplete in Progress for the class at the discretion of the professor on a case-by-case basis.

C. Late Assignment Policy

The MSW program at SAU is a competency-based and evidence-based academic program. As such, students in the MSW program are required to complete and/or remediate any unsatisfactory work until they meet or exceed program standards for all of the required competencies, as defined by their respective practice behaviors. In this learning environment, students are expected to complete all required assignments *prior* to advancing to their next coursework. This policy delineates the MSW program's standards and processes associated with the late submission of course assignments.

General:

1. Due dates/times for assignments and exams are clearly marked in the course schedule found in the syllabus and/or Eclass.
2. Exemptions from the penalties for late assignments will be granted only for documented medical or other emergency reasons, as defined in the procedures section below.

3. Assignments submitted after the designated due date will be considered late and will receive 10% off the achieved score for each day the work is late, up to seven days (70%).
4. Assignments will not be accepted later than one week after the due date.

D. Policy on Academic Honesty and Integrity

The School of Social Work is dedicated to scholastic integrity. Students are expected to maintain high professional, ethical, and Christian levels of academic honesty. This policy was developed to define the academic honesty standards that apply to MSW coursework.

1. All coursework should reflect the student's own original work and cited appropriately; all other sources should be cited appropriately.
2. It is the student's responsibility to learn the proper procedures for acknowledging quoted wording, information, or ideas. Please note that "not knowing" is not an acceptable justification for work that is identified as plagiarized.
3. For all coursework, students are required to use the most recent American Psychological Association (APA) guide to formatting citing and referencing works cited.
4. Students must submit all papers to Turn-it-in for an online check of their writing. If the Turn- it-in report notes a similarity index of 30% or more, the student will need to do an immediate rework of the paper.

Policy procedures

1. When a student engages in academic dishonesty or fails to meet appropriate citation guidelines, a meeting is called between the professor(s) and the student to discuss the incident. This meeting may result in:
 - a. Redoing the assignment
 - b. Failing the assignment without opportunity to make up points
 - c. Failing the course
2. If the incident is not resolved in the student/teacher(s) meeting, the issue will go to the MSW Leadership Team for a determination.
3. If there is a second infraction, the MSW Leadership Team will automatically review the incident and respond. In addition to the possible consequences listed above, the MSW Leadership Team may consider dismissing the student from the program.
4. The student has the right to appeal the decision of the MSW Leadership Team using the process outlined in the Academic Grievance section of the university's graduate catalog.

Disclaimer:

This syllabus is intended to give the student guidance in what may be covered during the semester and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the professor reserves the right to modify, supplement and make changes as the course needs arise.

Turnitin:

Turnitin is a company Southern Adventist University contracts with that provides resources for students and a service for professors who may need to verify the academic integrity with which papers or projects have been prepared and submitted.

E. Electronic Media Policy

The School of Social Work is committed to educationally sound uses of technology in the classroom and to preventing technology from becoming disruptive to the learning environment.

To assist in achieving these goals, the MSW program has developed the Electronic Media Policy.

1. Professors have the authority to decide their media policy for each class. This means that the professor has the authority to allow or disallow the use of cell phones, laptop computers, iPads, iPods, etc. during class time.
2. When their use is allowed, students must not abuse the use of cell phones in class.
 - a. Generally, cell phones should be turned off during class. For rare exceptions (emergency, parent with sick child, or similar types of situations), the phone should be put on vibrate mode. In this case, the student must inform the professor in advance, of the possibility to excuse him/herself to take an important call.
 - b. Students must NOT engage in text messaging in the classroom.
 - c. Students who create disturbance with ringing cell phones or text messaging will be warned and may be asked to leave the class session if the behavior continues.
3. Any audio or video taping during class must have the permission of the professor. In cases where permission is given to record, the information recorded is for the sole use of educational purpose for that specific class therefore prohibited from being distributed, published or posted to any public website and/or social media outlets. No technology activities are allowed that violate laws, such as those related to intellectual property rights or copyrights, invasions of privacy, or sexual harassment. Examples of this may include using a camera phone to videotape, or taking inappropriate photos without the subject's permission.

F. Incomplete Grade Policy

The Incomplete Grade Policy applies to a situation in which a student has not been able to complete a major course assignment because of extenuating and compelling circumstances. A grade of incomplete (I), under this policy, may be granted to a student only if it can be demonstrated that it would be unfair to hold the student to the normal time limits of the course. This policy does not apply to situations normally covered under the Late Assignment Policy or the Remediation Policy.

1. It is the policy of the School of Social Work to consider granting the grade of incomplete (I) on a case-by-case basis. Emergency and/or extenuating circumstances are the usual basis for consideration.
2. Students receiving an "I" will be required to submit an Incomplete Contract to the professor no later than the last F2F class of the semester. Time allowed for the completion for the Incomplete Contract should not exceed more than a month after the last day of the semester in which the course was taken. Additional time to satisfy the requirements of the Incomplete Contract will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Policy procedures:

1. To receive a grade of "I," a student must complete a Plan for an Incomplete or Remediation form. This form must be approved by the course professor and MSW Leadership Team, and signed by the MSW Program Director and the School of Social Work Dean

Policy forms:

1. Plan for Incomplete or Remediation form
- G. Remediation and Extension Policy

The MSW program at SAU is a competency-based learning program. As such, students in our MSW program are encouraged to remediate as needed to meet the required competencies. Issues of importance in the extension policy are outlined as follows:

Course/competency remediation

MSW students who advocate/petition for additional remediation opportunity to master challenging competencies and practice behaviors will be allowed to extend their study until that same class time the next year.

Extended study can be arranged by providing a written request with details of the remediation plan prior to the last day of class. Any extended course will be given a grade of In Process (IP) with no additional tuition costs to the student.

The student will be given opportunity to master remediation content during a second time attending class and/or addressing challenging components as per the previously arranged written plan with the instructor. All course expectations must be met. Any remediation work must be completed before advancing to next semester classes.

H. Progression-Retention Policy

Foundation students must satisfactorily complete all Foundation-level courses, including the foundation field practicum, before progressing to Advanced Placement.

Students are required to maintain both academic and non-academic standards to remain in the MSW program. First, the university's academic standards for retention must be met and sustained. However, even if a student's academic performance is satisfactory, it may become necessary, due to unsatisfactory professional performance, to advise a student to reconsider his/her goodness-of-fit to the field of social work. Failure to do so may result in termination from the MSW program.

1. Students in the MSW program are responsible for taking full ownership of meeting all academic and non-academic retention requirements.
2. University academic standards for retention must be met and sustained, as follows:
 - a. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0, earning a grade below B- in no more than two courses.
 - b. Courses with an earned grade of C- or below will not be counted for credit toward the master's degree.
3. The MSW Leadership Team will evaluate students' grades and GPA at the end of each semester. If a student's academic performance does not meet the university's standards, the student will be notified via email that the MSW Leadership Team will be doing a review of his/her status in order to determine whether extenuating circumstances are present. Decisions about student retention in such instances will be made by the MSW Leadership Team on a case-by-case basis.
4. A student may be asked to withdraw from the MSW program for any of the following non-academic reasons:
 - a. Academic honesty breaches
 - b. Failing the field practicum
 - c. Failing to abide by professional values and ethics, as outlined by the NASW Code of Ethics.
5. When there is evidence that a student is not meeting the professionalism standards outlined in program policy, the student will be notified via email that the MSW Leadership Team will be doing a review of his/her status in order to determine whether the student may be retained in the program. Decisions about student retention in such instances will be made by the MSW Leadership Team on a case-by-case basis.

Policy procedures

In general, faculty will provide ongoing professional feedback for professionalism breaches, offering students opportunities to make corrective behaviors, prior to termination from the MSW program; however, any professional ethics breach could result in immediate termination from the program.

1. Challenges to program termination decisions will follow the Grievance Policy.

The Professor reserves the right to amend the syllabus and course schedule to best meet the learning needs of the class.