Angelo State University
Department of Social Work
SWK 4381: Social Work and International Practice

Course Dates, Time, and Location

Summer II Semester, 2019:
July 8, 2019 to August 7, 2019
Online: Blackboard
Section: D 010

Instructor Contact Information

Thomas W. Starkey, Ph.D., LCSW
Chair and Associate Professor of Social Work
HHS 224J
Office Phone: 325-486-6130
E-Mail: tstarkey@angelo.edu

Office Hours: MTWRF: 8:00 am – 10:00 am (I will be available via Collaborate during these hours, on Blackboard) or by appointment.

Course Description

The goal of this offering is the review of three interrelated themes: 1) globalization and its social, economic, political, and cultural consequences; 2) comparative social policies; and, 3) social and economic development as strategies of change and progress. To accomplish these, an understanding of socio-cultural differences is crucial to practice overseas or in our own internationalized communities. Topics to be covered will include, but not limited to: AIDS/HIV, migration, refugees, healthcare, human trafficking, and human rights.

Course Introduction

This course provides an introduction to social work practice in an international context. Students will have the opportunity to study several different theoretical models to consider processes of social development in a global, cross-cultural context. Dynamics of power in global social work will be a central focus, as will understanding the diverse roles and activities that social workers play in different countries and when practicing in another country. Since international social work practice is a relatively new field, the focus of the course is on helping each student develop

(The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus throughout the semester if necessary.)
her/his conceptualization of international social work practice, including the areas of policy planning, program administration, direct practice, consultation, and research; and working with at risk populations not limited to: migration, human trafficking, human rights, HIV/AIDS, street children, orphans, post-conflict reconstruction, and refugees. For instance, aspects of international social work practice can include: advocate, practitioner with individuals, families, and groups, consultant, educator, and researcher.

Student Learning Outcomes and Course Competencies: Social Work Knowledge, Values, and Skills

**EP 2.1.3 -- Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments.**

Students will gain knowledge of what critical thinking is, and how it can be applied to multiple sources of knowledge and models of assessment, prevention, intervention, and evaluation. Students will learn the value of critical thinking as it relates to scientific inquiry, reasoned discernment, and its importance to competent social work practice. Students will gain skills to distinguish, appraise, and integrate multiple sources of knowledge relating to human development and sexuality, making applications to models of assessment, prevention, intervention, and evaluation. Students will practice their critical thinking skills in written assignments.

**EP 2.1.4 -- Engage diversity and difference in practice.**

Students will gain knowledge of how culture, social organization, and personal values may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or unjustly create power or privilege for certain groups. Students will recognize their own personal values and biases when working with diverse groups in efforts to respect the dignity and worth of every person and promote social justice in practice. Students will gain skills in recognizing and communicating differences between people. They will begin to gain skills necessary to respect the value of diversity, and recognizing clients as informants about various areas of diversity.

**EP 2.1.7 -- Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment.**

Social workers will gain the knowledge necessary to incorporate human behavior in the social environment across the lifespan to generalist social work practice. Student will learn the skills necessary to critique and apply biological, psychological, and social theories to generalist social work practice. Students will learn the importance of employing social work ethics and the profession’s core values to guide their application of human behavior in the social environment to generalist social work practice.

**EP 2.1.10(a)–(d) -- Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.**

Students will gain the knowledge necessary to engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with clients (i.e., individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations, and communities) regarding issues relating to sexuality.

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Course Materials

Required Texts:


*NOTE: All assignments submitted in this course are to be written in strict accordance with the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.).*

Grading Information

Grading Scale:

90 – 100 = A  
80 – 89 = B  
70 – 79 = C  
60 – 69 = D  
59 or Below = F

Point Values and Description for Assignments and Examinations:

**Professional Performance**  
10%

This is relevant to attendance and engaging in class activities, including frequency and quality of discussion board activities, participation with group activities, and timely submission of assignments.

**Group Assignments**  
30%

Each week the member of the group posting the group DB will email me and include in the email the following information: Your name, the group you are emailing about, the members of the group, which question you are responding to as a group, and who did or did not participate in the weekly group DB. The same will done for the weekly chapter power points. This email will be due on Friday of each week by 12:00 pm (noon).

**Discussion Board Questions**  
15%

Each student will be placed into a group identified at the beginning of the course. Each group will need to meet within your Groups in Collaborate to discuss each week’s Discussion Question(s). This is accomplished by clicking on the Collaborate Sessions Tab, on the left side of the screen. After meeting, the group will assign one member to

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post to the Discussion Board, a collective group response. Each student will also respond to at least one other group’s posting. The group posting will be due each Friday by 12:00 pm (noon) and the individual posting will be due each Sunday by 11:59 pm.

Power Points  

Each group will complete a power point for each chapter. This can be divided however the group determines, such as each member doing a part of each chapter, one group member doing an entire chapter, or part of the group doing every other chapter. This assignment will be due each Friday by 12:00 pm (noon)

Examinations  

There will be four (4) online, open book, multiple attempt (no more than two attempts), timed, examinations in this course. Each of these examinations is worth 10% of your total course grade. You will take each of these examinations via Blackboard using the Respondus LockDown browser.

Testing via Respondus™ Monitor

Access to quizzes and exams will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser and will be video recorded via Respondus™ Monitor [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Use of another electronic device is prohibited.

There are two practice quizzes: a) one is a Webcam test and b) a short 10 question practice quiz over ASU trivia that is not graded. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through these practice quizzes in advance of taking a graded quiz. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve the testing environment. These quizzes, instructional videos, and more information regarding Respondus Monitor can be found under the Respondus Monitor Help tab in your Blackboard course.

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OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Computer with MAC or Windows Operating System
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet Cable
- Webcam (Please note: a plug-in webcam allows the student to perform thorough environmental scans).

Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements:
http://www.angelo.edu/distance_education

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Technical Assistance: If you have any technical problems associated with the test (i.e. webcam problems, lock down browser problems) you should contact the IT Department. The IT Service Department is open M-F from 8-5 and the number is (325) 942-2911. If you call any time after 5 or on the weekend, most likely you will not be able to get assistance until the following week day, so please plan accordingly.

Other Notes:
- Be sure not to mute your microphone. It is important that the audio be on.
- Be sure to have a light source in front of or next to your computer monitor. If your image is dark and difficult to see on the “Student Photo” step, please add lighting to the front of your computer and retry.
- Make sure that on the “Student Photo” step, you are nicely framed so your face and shoulders can be seen as well as some of the background.
- *****Use an Ethernet cord to “hard wire” your computer to the router helping to ensure you will not lose connection with Blackboard.

Term Paper 20%

All students will write a term paper that adheres to the guidelines published in the American Psychological Association’s most recent publication manual. You must have at least five peer-reviewed articles and two books as references (more areas are acceptable and encouraged); the paper must be at least eight (8) pages long including cover sheet and references. Students may not use any “Wiki” source.

Each student will write short term paper over a topic of their interest broadly relating to International Social Work; examples may include, but are not limited to, migration, conflict, orphans, HIV/AIDS crisis, human trafficking, street children, and so forth. This is an assignment that is designed to facilitate critical thinking about topics related to International Social Work and is designed to facilitate the application of what you learned from your textbook and class discussion to life or professional practice. You are encouraged to synthesize of what you have learned from the course with what you already know about working with at-risk populations, human diversity, professional values and practice, personal experience, other courses that you have taken, and your own ideas or values. Arguments presented in the paper must be supported by peer reviewed literature. You will need to have the as references, the text-book, three peer-reviewed journal articles, and two professional International Social Work organizational websites at a minimum.

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's information as though it were your own. If you use the words or ideas of another person; or if you use material from any source--whether a book, journal, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, electronic media, or any other source--you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism on the term paper will result in the student not receiving credit for her/his term paper.

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An outline will be provided in Blackboard once the semester begins.

Course Policies

- Please do ask questions that are relevant to the course and feel free to utilize my office hours. I am here to help you and I want you to succeed.

- Classroom attendance and participation is necessary and expected. Students are responsible for understanding Angelo State University’s Class Attendance Regulations, which is available on the web at: http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/2010-2011_Undergraduate_Catalog.pdf

- All students are expected to follow the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics.

- Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at: http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf

- Make-up examinations will be considered on a case by case basis and will only be allowed for university approved absences.

- Late assignments are not accepted for any reason unless the reason is approved by the course instructor.

- Electronic devices, including cell phones, Blackberries, laptops, and so forth, are not to be turned on or used in class. If the use of these devices is detected by the course instructor, the particular student using the device will be asked to leave the class for that day.

Persons with Disabilities

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to their being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Additional information can be found at: http://www.angelo.edu/services/student_life/disability.html

Course Schedule

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<th>Week/Dates</th>
<th>Lecture Topics/Readings/Assignments</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1 7/8-7/12</td>
<td>Course Orientation</td>
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<td>Reading: Chapters 1-2</td>
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| Week 2 7/15-7/19 | Reading: Chapters 3-6  
Assignment: Paper Topic and Outline Due  
Exam 1: Chapters 1-6, 7/19 to 7/22 |
| Week 3 7/22-7/26 | Reading: Chapters 7-10  
Exam 2: Chapters 7-10, 7/26 to 7/29 |
| Week 4 7/29-8/2 | Reading: Chapters 11-14  
Lecture Topics: The Field of Migration and Labor Migration: Background and Issues, The Field of Displacement and Forced Migration: Background and Issues, The Field of Migration: Programs and Strategies, and International Social work with Specific Populations  
Assignment: Term Paper Due (8/2)  
Exam 3: Chapters 11-14, 8/2 to 8/5 |
| Week 5 8/5-8/7 | Reading: Chapters 15-16  
Lecture Topics: International Organizations: Roles for Social Workers and Future Challenges for International Social Work  
Exam 4: Chapters 15-18, 8/7 |

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