

SWK 4381 – Section D20
Special Topics in Social Work:
Social Work and Criminal Justice
Summer Session II 2021



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Office Hours: MWF 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and by appointment

Course Information

Course Times and Dates

Summer Session II 2021 – July 12th through August 13th

Course Material and Lectures are Delivered Asynchronously

Course Description

A study of the interface of social work and the criminal justice system including policing, the courts, and offender rehabilitation. Topics include the roles of criminal justice personnel, crisisintervention, the assessment and treatment of juveniles and adults, justice involved special populations, casework in correctional settings, and the evaluation of treatment and rehabilitation programs.

Course Credits

3 credits

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

Prerequisite: SWK 2307, Co-requisite: None

Prerequisite Skills

This course requires students to utilize the values, ethics, skills, and knowledge base of the social work profession, including understanding of the general intervention model and its application to social work practice.

General skill-based requirements of this course include basic computer proficiencies (such as accessing Internet websites, using online and on-campus library resources, and familiarity with Microsoft Office software) and the ability to competently apply the formatting and style guidelines of the **Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association** (7th ed.).

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcome By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignments and Activities Validating Outcome Achievement	Mapping to Program Outcomes
Competency 6: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior	Term Paper	Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze cases and articulate how to manage ethical issues in practical scenarios
Competency 7: Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities	Term Paper	Effectively, ethically, and professionally assess justice involved clients from diverse backgrounds
Competency 8: Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities	Term Paper	Effectively, ethically, and professionally intervene with justice involved clients from diverse backgrounds
Competency 9: Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities	Term Paper	Effectively, ethically, and professionally evaluate programs related to criminal justice

Course Delivery

This section of SWK 4381 is an online course that includes in-class lectures, discussions, and student activities supplemented with online learning resources and course materials posted in Angelo State University's [Blackboard learning management system](#).

Required Texts and Materials

Fagan, T. J., & Ax, R. K. (Eds.). (2011). *Correctional mental health: From theory to best practice*. Sage Publications. ISBN: 978-1-4129-7256-7

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). American Psychological Association. ISBN: 978-1-4338-3217-8

Note: All assignments submitted in this course are to be written in precise accordance with the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). If you do not already own the *Publication Manual*, consider this a **required** text.

Recommended Text

Patterson, G. T. (2020). *Social work practice in the criminal justice system* (2nd ed.). Routledge.
ISBN: 978-0-3672-3042-5

Technology Requirements

To successfully complete this face-to-face course, students need to have access to the following devices, software, and services.

- A computer capable of running Windows (7 or later) or MacOSX (10.8 or later) operating systems
- The latest version of Microsoft Edge, Mozilla Firefox, or Mac Safari web browser
- Microsoft Office Suite (or another compatible suite such as Open Office)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (or another similar PDF reader)
- High speed Internet access, computer webcam, and computer microphone for accessing and utilizing online course resources
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Topic Outline

History, Policy, and Practice
Social Work and Law Enforcement
Social Work and the Judiciary
Correctional Social Work

Communication

All communication typically receives a response **within 24 hours**. Messages sent after 6:00 p.m. will be addressed the following day. Messages sent over the weekend may not receive a response until Monday.

Ask questions and participate in all opportunities for discussion. College-level learning is **dependent** on your synthesis of the material with your existing internalized knowledge. **Active learning** improves student outcomes as demonstrated by a well-established evidence base.

Take advantage of office hours as needed. I am happy to make an appointment to speak via **email, phone, or WebEx** at a time convenient to both our schedules. I encourage all students to take advantage of access as a resource for any and all course-related questions and concerns.

Grading

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the following table.

<i>Course Assignments</i>	<i>Percentage of Total Grade</i>
<i>Term Paper</i>	<i>40%</i>
<i>Examinations</i>	<i>60%</i>
TOTAL	100%

Grading System

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

Grading Scale

A = 90 to 100 **B =** 80 to 89 **C =** 70 to 79 **D =** 60 to 69
F = 59 and below

Teaching Strategies

Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (**beyond the materials and lectures presented in this course**) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-reviewed journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Term Paper

40%

Each student will write a term paper over a major topic covered in this course no less than 10 total pages in length. The topic is left to the student’s discretion as long as it relates to the topics covered in this course. The term paper must include at least 10 peer-reviewed journal articles as references; other references are acceptable as needed. The term paper must conform to the most recent publication manual of the American Psychological Association.

Examinations

60%

There will be five (5) essay examinations in this course. Each of these examinations is worth twelve percent (12%) of your total course grade, and will be delivered via Blackboard.

Assignment Submission

All assignments **MUST** be submitted through the Assignments links on the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Emailed submissions will **NOT** be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at my ASU email address (christopher.shar@angelo.edu)

and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. **You must also contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab in Blackboard to report the issue.** This lets faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. If you do not contact the IT Service Center and receive an email that acknowledges the receipt of your report, **your submission will not be accepted.**

Once the problem is resolved, **submit your assignment through the appropriate link.** This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

Note: All assignments, including the outline for the policy presentation, must be written in strict accordance with the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.).

Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy

Late assignments are not accepted. Accommodations **may** be made on a case-by-case basis, but **only for extreme circumstances** of University-approved or instructor-approved absences.

General Policies Related to This Course

All students are **required** to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)
- [Angelo State University Honor Code](#)
- [Angelo State University Statement of Academic Integrity](#)

Student Responsibility and Attendance

This section of SWK 4381 is taught online and asynchronous. There are readings which you will have to complete and lectures which you will have to watch to be able to adequately complete the term paper and weekly examinations. Students are expected to engage in course assignments and submit work on or before the assignment's deadline. Students will be graded in part on their ability to make **substantive contributions** reflecting an integration of course-related material. **Scholarly contribution** is an expectation. Generally, you should expect to spend a **minimum** of six to nine hours of studying the assigned readings, completing course assignments, and consuming other course-related material.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#). The employee responsible for reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is Ms. Dallas Swafford, Director of Student Disability Services. Her office phone number is (325) 942-2047 and her University email address is dallas.swafford@angelo.edu.

Title IX

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manners:

- **Online** – www.angelo.edu/incident-form
- **Face-to-Face** – Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
- **Phone** – (325) 942-2022
- **Email** – michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State University's policy, please visit [ASU's Title IX webpage](#).

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU [Operating Policy 10.19: Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day](#) for more information.

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See [ASU Operating Policy 10.11: Grading Procedures](#) for more information.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from Angelo State University. The Archer College of Health and Human Services adheres to the [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's Academic Integrity Policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft. In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Please consult the ASU Writing Center's [Academic Honesty resources](#) for more information.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Syllabus Changes

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student's responsibility to look for such communications about the course every day.

Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and

pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences.

Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

Course Schedule

Week/Dates	Required Readings and Assignments
Week 1 7/12 to 7/17	Topic: History, Policy, and Practice Readings: Chapters 1, 2, and 3 of Fagan & Ax Assignments: Read assigned chapters and watch posted lectures Examination # 1: Chapters 1, 2, and 3 of Fagan & Ax due 11:59 p.m. on July 17 th
Week 2 7/18 to 7/24	Topic: Correctional Practice Readings: Chapters 4, 5, and 6 of Fagan & Ax Assignments: Read assigned chapters and watch posted lectures Examination # 2: Chapters 4, 5, and 6 of Fagan & Ax due 11:59 p.m. on July 24 th
Week 3 7/25 to 7/31	Topic: Correctional Practice Readings: Chapters 7, 8, and 9 of Fagan & Ax Assignments: Read assigned chapters and watch posted lectures Examination # 3: Chapters 7, 8, and 9 of Fagan & Ax due 11:59 p.m. on July 31 st
Week 4 8/1 to 8/7	Topic: Special Populations Readings: Chapters 10, 11, and 12 of Fagan and Ax Assignments: Read assigned chapters and watch posted lectures Examination # 4: Chapters 10, 11, and 12 of Fagan & Ax due 11:59 p.m. on August 7 th Term Paper: Due by 11:59 p.m. on August 7 th via Blackboard
Week 5 8/8 to 8/13	Topic: Special Populations Readings: Chapters 13, 14, and 15 of Fagan and Ax Assignments: Read assigned chapters and watch posted lectures Examination # 5: Chapters 13, 14, and 15 of Fagan & Ax due 11:59 p.m. on August 11 th

Grading Rubrics

Rubrics for all assignments and activities are located on the Blackboard course website.

Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences.

Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion. The following points are the selected learning objectives for this course.

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)
2. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
3. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course
4. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
5. Learning to apply knowledge and skills to benefit others or serve the public good

Links Used in the Syllabus

ASU Blackboard LMS

<https://blackboard.angelo.edu>

ASU Catalogs

<https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/>

ASU Honor Code

<https://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf>

ASU Operating Policy 10.19: Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day

<https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>

ASU Statement of Academic Integrity

<https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=96>

ASU Student Disability Services

<https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/>

ASU Student Handbook

<https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/>

ASU Title IX Information

<https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/title-ix/>

ASU Writing Center's Academic Honesty Information

https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic_honesty.php

End of Syllabus