

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
DIVISION OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN BEHAVIOR

COURSE NUMBER: SOCW 350 *Fall 1985*

CREDIT HOURS: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sonya Monroe-Clay

TEXTBOOK: Required: Berger, R.L. & Federico, R.C. Human Behavior: A Social Work Perspective. New York: Longman, Inc., 1982.

Recommended: Anderson, R.E. & Carter, I. Human Behavior in the Social Environment. New York: Aldine Publishing Co., 1984.

COURSE RATIONALE:

This course is a foundation course in the social work curriculum. Along with Fields of Welfare Services, it serves to provide the student with a conceptual base for the remaining coursework. It is the integrating course in the Human Behavior and the Social Environment sequence in the Social Work curriculum.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Social workers, allied health personnel, and other helping persons can benefit from viewing professional practice situations in a way that incorporates the four basic interacting sources of behavior: social, cultural, biological, and psychological. This course helps students to integrate within a social work practice framework those social science concepts which are relevant to human behavior. Practice situations will be analyzed through case materials, role plays, and audiovisual aids.

PREREQUISITES:

SOCW 320: Fields of Welfare Services.
(May also be taken concurrently.)

SOCIAL WORK MAJOR COMPETENCIES:

HBSE 2.1-2.10

COURSE COMPETENCIES: Students must:

- 1) Attend class regularly and participate in discussions and assigned activities.
- 2) Complete all weekly and major assignments including:
 - a. 5 observations of human behavior;
 - b. Develop and participate in role plays of possible client life conditions;
 - c. Review and analyze case vignettes;
 - d. One mid-term examination;
 - e. Take one final examination.

EVALUATION:

1. Attendance/class participation.....	20 points
2. 5 observations (1-3 page reports).....	25 points (@ 5)
3. Weekly assignments.....	10 points
4. Mid-Term examination.....	50 points
5. Final examination.....	<u>50 points</u>
TOTAL.....	
155 points	

Grading:

139 - 155 = A
124 - 138 = B
108 - 123 = C
93 - 107 = D
Below 93 = F

NOTE:

Weekly assignments (answers to study questions, reports on Additional Readings, etc.) are scored on the following basis: 10 (Excellent), 8 (Good), 5 (O.K.), and 2 (Poor). At the end of the trimester, they will be averaged for a total score between 1 and 10 points.

Observations will be scored from 1 to 5, the highest score being 5. If a student scores below 3, a second observation of a different subject in the same category may be attempted.

Points will be deducted from your total for more than 2 absences (@ 3 points).

Suggestions for staying in control of the work in this course include:

1. Keep current with your reading, identify major concepts and definitions in outline form, as well as major points made regarding social work practice for each topic. Take and keep good notes.
2. Read the course calendar completely through immediately, and look ahead in it from week to week.
3. Do observations on time. Use guidelines provided.
4. Think about your reading, ask questions, and participate actively in class.
5. Come to see me if you are having difficulties with the materials.

SOCW 350
SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN BEHAVIOR

Course Calendar

- Date : 9/5/85
- Topic I : ORIENTATION**
- Preparation : Register for Class
- In-Class : 1. Introduction to course and its requirements; to each other.
2. Human Behavior exercise and discussion.
- Learning Objectives : 1. To become acquainted with course, its requirements, and each other.
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- Date : 9/12/85
- Topic II : SOURCES OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR and SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS**
- Preparation : READ: Berger & Federico, pp. ix through 31.
Anderson & Carter, Introduction and Ch. 3 (Recommended)
- In-Class : 1. Discussion, sharing of responses to study questions.
- Learning Objectives : 1. To identify basic societal needs and relate to individual human needs.
2. To identify and describe four major sources of all human behavior.
3. To analyze human behavior in relation to its sources.
4. To prepare for the observation of sources of human behavior.
5. To apply information about sources of human behavior to real-life and laboratory situations.
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- Date : 9/19/85
- Topic : OBSERVATION #1: Sources of Human Behavior**
- Preparation : Review of previous assignment, and:
1. Handout for Observation
2. Observation: Students will have made their first observation utilizing guidelines provided by instructor.
- In-Class : 1. Sharing of Observation experiences.
2. Relating information acquired through conversation to theories about the four sources of human behavior.

Date : 9/26/85

Topic III : GENERAL SYSTEMS THEORY AND ITS IMPLICATONS

Preparation: READ: Berger & Federico, Ch. 2
Anderson & Carter, Ch. 1,2,4-7 (Recommended)

In-Class : 1. Review of textbook.
2. Class Exercise.
3. Film and discussion (Family System).

Learning Objectives : 1. To identify the ways general systems theory can be helpful to understanding human behavior of individuals, groups, and larger systems.
2. To utilize systems theory to enhance understanding of social work practice situations.
3. To add to learning about systems theory from self-selected reading material.

Date : 10/3/85

Topic : OBSERVATION #2: Continued SYSTEMS THEORY AND PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS

Preparation : 1. Select one of the Additional Readings, p. 63 in textbook or from another source approved by the instructor.
2. Conduct observation of a system. (Use handout provided by instructor).

In-Class : 1. Share readings and reactions.
2. Share Observation experiences. Discuss meaning for social workers.
3. Class Exercise.

Date : 10/10/85

Topic IV : A HUMAN DIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Preparation : READ: Berger & Federico, Ch. 3.
Select an article or section of a book in Additional Readings, p. 97 of textbook or from another source approved by the instructor.
WRITE: One page reaction to the additional reading you selected.

In-Class : 1. Lecture on "Common Human Needs."
2. Discussion of textbook assignment and self-selected Additional Reading reports.
3. Film and discussion.

(TOPIC IV continued:)

Learning

- Objectives :
1. To define and describe human diversity.
 2. To identify, describe, and analyze the sources of human diversity.
 3. To describe and analyze the implications of human diversity for behavior.
 4. To acquire additional learning from self-selected readings.
 5. To observe and identify types of human diversity.
 6. To identify the sources of diversity in those observed.
 7. To use knowledge about human diversity and its sources to improve understanding of human behavior.
 8. To identify implications of human diversity for social work practice.

Date : 10/17/85

Topic : **OBSERVATION 3: Continued HUMAN DIVERSITY**

- Preparation :
1. Do exercises under Study Questions in textbook, pp. 93-94. (Exercises will be divided.)
 2. Conduct Observation #3.

- In-Class :
1. Above exercises will be presented in class and discussed.
 2. Share Observation experiences and relate to reading, etc.

Date : 10/24/85

Topic V : **GOAL-DIRECTED BEHAVIOR**

Preparation : READ: Berger & Federico, Ch. 4, including study questions.

- In-Class :
1. **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**
 2. Questions 1 through 5 will be discussed in class by different groups.

Learning

- Objectives :
1. To describe the goal-directedness of human behavior.
 2. To apply the theory of goal-directed behavior to everyday life.
 3. To understand the ways a practitioner might utilize the theory of goal-directed behavior in assessing, planning, and delivering services.

Date : 10/31/85

Topic : **OBSERVATION #4: Continued GOAL-DIRECTED BEHAVIOR**

Preparation : 1. Select and bring to class at least 3 newspaper clippings relating in some way to what you have learned concerning goal-directed behavior.
2. Conduct Observation #3.

In-Class : 1. Present and explain newspaper clipping.
2. Discuss implications of this theory for social work practice.
3. Share observation experiences and relate to readings, etc.

Date : 11/7/85

Topic VI : **APPLICATIONS: LIFE CYCLES, STAGES, & TASKS**

Preparation : 1. READ: Berger & Federico, Part III
Anderson & Carter, Ch. 8 (recommended)
2. Prepare a written response to Study Questions #1 and 2, p. 158.

In-Class : 1. Discussion of reading.
2. Sharing of responses to Study Questions #1 and 2, p. 158.

Learning Objectives : 1. To identify and generally describe the human life cycle and stages.
2. To broadly identify and describe the tasks for each life cycle stage.
3. To apply general knowledge about life cycle stages and tasks to specific individuals, including oneself.
4. To apply understanding of life cycle stages and tasks to social work practice situations.

Date : 11/14/85

Topic : **Continued APPLICATIONS: LIFE CYCLES, STAGES, AND TASKS**

Preparation : 1. READ: Berger & Federico, Epilogue
Anderson & Carter, Epilogue (Recommended)
2. Select one of the Additional Readings from pp. 159-161 of textbook or from another source approved by instructor.
3. Prepare written 1-page reaction to Additional Reading.

In-Class : 1. Share Additional Readings reactions.
2. Discuss Epilogue.

Date : 11/21/85

Topic : **OBSERVATION #5: Continued APPLICATIONS: LIFE CYCLES, STAGES, & TASKS**

Preparation : 1. Select a life cycle stage and conduct an observation using the guide provided you by the instructor.

In-Class : 1. Share observations.
2. Discuss practice implications.

Date : 12/5/85

Topic : **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Preparation : You decide.

In-Class : You decide.

Date : 12/12/85

Topic : **Last Class
FINAL EXAM
Class Evaluation**

Preparation : 1. Review of course material.

In-Class : 1. Take Final.
2. Complete Student Evaluations.
3. Farewells.