FORENSIC SOCIAL WORK: A SOCIAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS APPROACH

Course Number and Section Semester and Year

Course #: SW ??-??  Instructor: Instructor’s Name Here
Term: Spring, Fall, or Summer Year  Office location: ?
Class Schedule: Day and Time  Office hours: ?
Class Location: Building, Room #  Telephone: ?
Course Management Web Address: If applicable  E-mail: ?


Additional Readings: Available from Instructor and/or Guest Presenters (see bibliography)

Course Description:
This course provides an overview of forensic social work practice and theory. Additionally, it illustrates skills for working with diverse populations across the lifespan and across diverse settings, such as community, medical, school, child welfare, mental health and addictions, and juvenile and criminal justice settings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Students that participate in this course will be able to:
1. Articulate and apply relevant theoretical frameworks and approaches to client populations impacted by legal issues.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the structure and processes of the legal system in the United States and how it impacts social work practice with diverse populations and settings throughout the life course.
3. Critically analyze ethical issues and legal issues related to social work and the law.
4. Develop familiarity with the adversarial nature of the legal process and with the civil and criminal issues and laws that impact client populations.
5. Identify social and legal issues and their relationship to social human rights, social justice, and social welfare.
6. Demonstrate how to work and advocate on behalf of their clients and learn how social workers interface with the law, lawyers, & the courts.
# Forensic Social Work Course Outline

**Required Texts:** *Forensic social work: Psychosocial and legal issues across diverse practice settings.* New York: Springer Publishing Company. (*MBW)*

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<th>Class #</th>
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<th>Modules and Session Numbers</th>
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<td><strong>OVERVIEW OF FORENSIC SOCIAL WORK</strong></td>
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<td>COURSE OVERVIEW INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC SOCIAL WORK</td>
<td><em>MBW: Chap. 1</em></td>
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<td>HISTORY OF FORENSIC SOCIAL WORK</td>
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<td>DEFINING AND CONCEPTUALIZING COLLABORATIVE FORENSIC SOCIAL WORK HUMAN RIGHTS &amp; FORENSIC SOCIAL WORK</td>
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<td>CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LAW, AND ETHICS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS</td>
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<td>COLLABORATION</td>
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<td>FAMILY: YOUTH AND ADULTS OLDER ADULTS AND ELDER ABUSE</td>
<td><em>MBW: Chap 6, 8, 9</em></td>
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<td>SOCIAL SERVICES</td>
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<td>SCHOOLS</td>
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<td>CHILD WELFARE</td>
<td><em>MBW: Chap 12, 13, Appendices, B &amp; E</em></td>
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<td>MENTAL HEALTH/ADDICTIONS</td>
<td><em>MBW: Chap 14, 15, 16 Appendix B</em></td>
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<td>JUVENILE JUSTICE: Overview</td>
<td><em>MBW: Chap 18, 21, 22 Appendix C, D</em></td>
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<td>CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: CORRECTIONS</td>
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<td><strong>DIVERSITY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND IMMIGRATION</strong></td>
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<td>FORENSIC SOCIAL WORK WITH UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS AND IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES</td>
<td><em>MBW: re-review Ch 23, and Chap 24, Chap 25, Chap 21, Appendix F</em></td>
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<td>FORENSIC SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE FUTURE DIRECTIONS</td>
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Bibliography

(This list includes journal articles that could be included as additional course readings)


Kuehnle, K., Greenberg, L. R., & Gottlieb, M. C. (2004). Incorporating the principles of scientifically based child interviews into family law cases. *Journal of Child Custody, 1*(1), 97-114.


Shapiro, S. Predicting success in a community-based treatment program for mentally-ill forensic clients.


