

**Westfield State College
Department of Sociology and Social Work**

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK

AND

SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY

SOCW 103, Spring 2011

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Outline the histories of social work and social welfare policy in the United States. (2.1.8)

Locate and use social work resources at the WSC library. (2.1.6)

Discuss the values and ethics of the social work profession. (2.1.2)

Identify their own attitudes and beliefs and discuss the social work profession's positions on issues of diversity and social justice. (2.1.4. and 2.1.5)

Determine if they may be interested in continuing their studies in social work. (2.1.1)

Technical Requirements of the Course: In order to participate in this course, you will need basic word processing and web-browsing skills and access to a computer with a DSL or cable internet connection. You may use any web browser you wish, but for maximum compatibility, Mozilla Firefox is recommended for students using PCs and Safari is recommended for students using Macs. You will not be required to purchase any additional software or media beyond the course textbook.

Required Text: Suppes, M., and Wells, C. C. (2009). *The Social Work Experience*, 5th. edition, New York: McGraw Hill.

The print version of this text is available in the college bookstore.

Grading: Students' grades will be determined by the following:

1. Completion of Weekly Assignments (50%). Each WEDNESDAY assignments will be given and are due throughout the week and completed by the following WEDNESDAY at midnight. Weekly assignments will include: reading, previewing videos, participating in discussion boards and groups, and/or completing quizzes.

2. Three Exams (30%). Three objective examinations

3. Personal statement (10%). This statement will serve as a "first draft" of the personal statement required for admission to the social work program. A detailed description of this assignment will be distributed at a later date.

4. Group Presentation (10%). Students will work in small (2-3 member) groups to prepare a PowerPoint presentation. Each group will focus on one area of social work practice, such as medical social work, child welfare, substance abuse, etc. The group's task will be to provide the class with a broader understanding of their area of practice. Each group member will select and read at least one article from a SOCIAL WORK JOURNAL and then discuss their article with the rest of their group. The group will prepare a presentation for the class that will summarize the articles they have read. Class presentations will be evaluated by the other members of the class. Each group will be required to submit a bibliography of their articles (with full citations in APA format) to the instructor at the end of their presentation. ***The PowerPoint Presentation will be due on the week that the special topic will be covered.***

Grading Scale: A 93-100; A- 90-92; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B- 80-82; C+ 77-79; C 73-76;
C- 70-72; D+ 67-69; D 60-66; F 00-59.