SOWK COURSES

Opposite each course title are three numbers such as 3-2-4. The first number indicates the number of regular classroom hours for the course each week; the second number indicates the number of laboratory hours per week; and the third number indicates the hours of credit awarded for the successful completion of the course. Listed in parentheses at the end of each course description is the term(s) that the course is normally offered. F=Fall, S=Spring, and M=Summer.

The college reserves the right to cancel or delete any course with insufficient enrollment.

Courses

SOWK 2101. The Social Work Profession. 2-1-3 Units.
History and current status of the profession of social work. The role of the social worker in various fields of practice. The professional's commitment to social and economic justice for vulnerable and oppressed populations. Social work values and ethics.(F, S)
Prerequisites: ENGL 1101.

SOWK 2102. The Social Welfare Institution. 3-0-3 Units.
History and current status of social welfare programs and services in the United States. Philosophical, religious, economic, and political perspectives on social welfare.(F)
Prerequisites: ENGL 1101.

SOWK 2103. Social Work Prac&Serv Learning. 3-0-3 Units.
This course introduces social work students to a Service Learning modality framed within social work practice. Students will observe and analyze how social agencies empower individuals and improve the well-being of others. The course will emphasize the role of community organizations in alleviating social injustice.
Prerequisites: SOWK 2101 and SOWK 2102.

SOWK 2104. Interviewing & Communic Skills. 3-0-3 Units.
This course provides an introduction to methods, skills, and procedures used in interviewing clients in a variety of practice settings. The course incorporates theory, research, and practice skills relevant to relationship building, the change process, and professional communication skills and techniques. Students will learn and practice professional interviewing, assessment, goal-setting, and communication skills and techniques. The course will consist of lecture and classroom experience as well as a weekly laboratory. The course will encourage students to take the risk of gaining greater self-awareness and insight related to tolerance, diversity, and difference. Prerequisites: SOWK 2101, 2102; Corequisite or Prerequisites: SOWK 2103.

SOWK 2105. Spanish for Social Services. 3-0-3 Units.
Advanced communication skills for serving Spanish-speaking clients. Advanced conversational skills with important social work terms and concepts. Proper greetings, translation of technical terms, and ways to reduce discomfort for Spanish-speaking clients.(FM)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor and SOWK 3101.

SOWK 2106. Human Diversity. 3-0-3 Units.
A general introduction to the concepts of diversity in the United States, including the various histories of oppression of minority groups. Readings and sensitivity exercises related to African-American, Appalachian, and Hispanic/Latino cultures. An introduction to cultural competence.(F)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor.
Corequisites: SOWK 3102.

SOWK 3101. Human Diversity. 3-0-3 Units.
A general introduction to the concepts of diversity in the United States, including the various histories of oppression of minority groups. Readings and sensitivity exercises related to African-American, Appalachian, and Hispanic/Latino cultures. An introduction to cultural competence.(F)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor.
Corequisites: SOWK 3102.

SOWK 3102. Human Behavior I. 3-0-3 Units.
An overview of theories of human behavior needed for generalist practice with the exception of ego psychology, behaviorism, and life-stage development theories. An introduction to ecological systems theory and the ecological perspective in social work with orientation to micro, mezzo, and macro levels of understanding individuals and families.(F)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor.
Corequisites: SOWK 3101.

SOWK 3103. Human Behavior II. 3-0-3 Units.
The second of a two-course HBSE sequence is a study of the interaction of human behavior and the social environment with an emphasis on larger systems: groups, organizations, and communities utilizing the ecological and multi-level systems perspectives.(S)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor and SOWK 3102.

SOWK 3201. Gen Practice of Social Work I. 2-2-3 Units.
Theory and practice of generalist social work. Knowledge, skills, and ethical principles needed for beginning social work practice. Problem identification, interviewing, assessment, intervention and evaluation of practice with individuals and families from a person-in environment perspective. Record keeping in social service agencies. Requires exercises and demonstration of skills through simulation learning experiences in the DSC sim lab.

SOWK 3202. Gen Practice of Social Work II. 3-0-3 Units.
This course is intended to help students acquire the knowledge, values and skills to work successfully with groups on the micro, mezzo and macro levels.
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division, SOWK 3201.

SOWK 3302. Social Work in Child Welfare. 3-0-3 Units.
History and practice in the child welfare programs of the United States with special attention to family systems, child development, identifying child abuse and neglect, and child welfare services.(F)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor.

SOWK 3501. Social Work in Mental Health. 3-0-3 Units.
History of mental illness, treatment, and systems in the U.S., with particular attention to the mental health system in Georgia. An overview of current mental health diagnoses, theories, and treatment modalities. Ecological, systems, and strengths perspectives working with individuals, families, and groups. The role of case management with the chronically mentally ill.(S)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor.
SOWK 3502. Social Work with Older Adults. 3-0-3 Units.
Overview of the impact of aging, using the biopsychosocial-spiritual, ecological, and strengths perspectives. Federal, state, and local programs, services, and social policies are reviewed. Generalist practice models are introduced for working with older adults and their families, with a focus on empowerment. The roles of generalist social workers and career opportunities are examined. (S)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor.

SOWK 3503. Substance Abuse. 3-0-3 Units.
This course is taught from a social work perspective, focusing on client strengths and empowerment. An overview of the history of substance abuse and social policies. Categories, properties, and effects of alcohol and drugs on the individual. Impact of addiction on individuals, families, and communities. Current treatment modalities and services, with interventions appropriate for generalist social workers. (F)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor.

SOWK 3504. Advanced Child Welfare. 3-0-3 Units.
Emphasis on foster care and adoption. Risk assessment, intake and family assessment, case planning, intervention, and documentation will be covered within the context of family-centered child welfare practice. (S)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor; SOWK 3101, SOWK 3102, and SOWK 3302.

SOWK 3505. Social Work in Appalachia. 3-0-3 Units.
Knowledge and skills for work with individuals, families, and communities in Appalachia. Prepares students for generalist social work practice in Appalachia. Emphases are cultural competence and issues of oppression and justice.
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor and SOWK 3101.

SOWK 3506. Health and Social Environment. 3-0-3 Units.
History and structure of the health care system in the United States and in other industrial nations. Overview of health care systems in in other countries. The impact of social determinants of health and illness. Health disparities and discrimination in health care will be discussed.
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor.

SOWK 3507. Mental Health/Spec Populations. 3-0-3 Units.
This course is a focused study of the specific mental health needs, diagnoses, and treatment of specific populations, such as children, women, survivors of domestic violence, veterans, older adults, and other groups. This advanced elective builds on the foundational knowledge acquired in SOWK 3501 Social Work and Mental Health, providing students with knowledge, theory, and evidence-based interventions for specific populations encountered in generalist practice. (F)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor and SOWK 3501.

SOWK 4201. Gen Practice of Soc Work III. 3-0-3 Units.
Theory and practice of generalist social work. Knowledge, skills, and ethical principles needed for entry-level social work practice. Problem identification, assessment, intervention, and evaluation of outcomes from a multi-level, ecological systems perspective and a strengths perspective. Emphasizes application of theory toward interventions with groups, organizations, and communities. (F)
Prerequisites: Admission to the BSW upper division or permission of instructor and SOWK 3101, SOWK 3201, SOWK 3103.

SOWK 4202. Gen Practice of Social Work IV. 3-0-3 Units.
Social insurance, public assistance, and social service programs in the United States Comparative social welfare systems in Europe and Latin America. The influences of economics and politics on social services. Introduction to models of policy analysis. (S)
Prerequisites: SOWK 3103, SOWK 4201.

SOWK 4301. Social Work w/Latino Clients. 3-0-3 Units.
Prepares students to practice social work with Latino individuals and families focusing on individual, social and environmental issues that encountered in micro, mezzo, and macro social work practice with Latino clients. Content will cover Latino family patterns, naming customs, family celebrations, cultural patterns. (S, M)
Prerequisites: SOWK 3101.

SOWK 4400. Foundation for Social Research. 3-0-3 Units.
Social worker practitioners must demonstrate the effectiveness of services they deliver to clients. Students will become competent in research problem formulation, design, data collection and analysis (including statistical procedures). Students will gain expertise in qualitative and quantitative research methodologies. (F)
Prerequisites: SOWK 3201.
Corequisites: SOWK 4401, SOWK 4498.

SOWK 4401. Senior Capstone Project. 2-0-2 Units.
The first of a two-course sequence of directed study experiences during which the senior BSW student will conceptualize an outcome study related to the student’s senior practicum, conduct a literature review of the topic area, select measurement tools, and write a first draft of the project. The study will develop in parallel with the development of research skills and completion of assignments in SOWK 4400 and the development and application of practice skills in SOWK 4998. (F)
Corequisites: SOWK 4400, SOWK 4998.

SOWK 4402. Senior Capstone Project. 2-0-2 Units.
The second of a two-course sequence of directed study experiences during which the senior BSW student will complete an outcome study related to the student’s senior practicum, refine the literature review of the topic area, carry out the design of the study, and write a polished manuscript presenting the results of the study. (S)
Prerequisites: SOWK 4400, SOWK 4401, SOWK 4998.
Corequisites: SOWK 4402, SOWK 4999.

SOWK 4900. Individual Study in Soc Work. 0-0-3-6 Units.
1-6 hours. May count as elective hours. Repeatable for a maximum of 6 hours. Individual study, reading, or projects under direction of a social work faculty member. Non-traditional format: Directed study.
Prerequisites: SOWK 4998.
Corequisites: SOWK 4402.

SOWK 4998. Practicum & Seminar Soc Work I. 2-16-4 Units.
Generalist practicum and integrative seminar. A minimum of 15 hours per week of supervised social work practice in a social agency is required. (F)
Prerequisites: SOWK 4201.
Corequisites: SOWK 4400, SOWK 4401.

SOWK 4999. Practicum/Seminar Soc Work II. 2-16-4 Units.
Generalist practicum and integrative seminar. A minimum of 15 hours per week supervised social work practice in a social agency is required. A continuation of SOWK 4998. (S)
Prerequisites: SOWK 4998.
Corequisites: SOWK 4402.