

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

MASTER SYLLABUS  
Last Revised: March 2007

SWRK 6780: Advanced Field Education in Interpersonal Practice

Course Instructor/Faculty Liaison:

Email Address:

Office Room Number:

Office Phone Number:

Classroom Number:

Day/Time:

Course Description:

This course is a continuation of SWRK 6760. Students will remain in the same field placement as the previous semester and continue direct service experiences and other activities to complete two hundred and thirty-six (236) hours. One field seminar will also be arranged during the course. Although the course objectives are similar to those for SWRK 6760, a significant difference is that of the student's refinement, articulation, and demonstration of methodology, helping skills, knowledge, and self-awareness. The practicum is viewed as a progressive learning experience with the mastery of knowledge and skills increasing in both quantity and quality from first to second semester. This course is graded credit/no credit.

Prerequisite:

SWRK 6760

Relationship to Other Courses:

Field courses are designed to teach students the application of material that is taught in other social work courses. Thus, this field course is directly related to the content of courses in practice, research, policy, and human behavior in the social environment as the link between knowledge and actual practice.

Course Objectives/Outcomes:

During the semester the student will demonstrate, at an advanced level, the ability to:

1. Apply critical thinking skills within the context of advanced professional social work practice

2. Apply the knowledge and skills of advanced social work practice and utilize best practice methods and techniques to effectively work with individuals, families, and small groups in accordance with contemporary structure and issues of the social work profession
3. Apply communication skills differentially across client populations, colleagues, and organizations
4. Engage effectively with persons representing different cultures, races, sexual orientations, and lifestyles and across a range of client problems in keeping with agency clientele
5. Apply strategies of advocacy that advance social and economic justice in advanced social work practice with individuals, families, and groups with oppressed populations and populations at risk
6. Apply and integrate central themes and theoretical frameworks provided within the Interpersonal Practice concentration with individuals, families, and groups, e.g., individual-environment interfaces, coping capacity, systems perspective, social justice perspective, etc.
7. Assess systematically and formulate appropriate treatment plans and interventions using evidence-based practice methods
8. Examine and reflect on his or her individual feelings and actions as they affect the therapeutic relationship and appropriately utilize supervision in this pursuit
9. Evaluate his/her practice, strategies, frameworks, and results when working with individuals, families, and small groups
10. Practice in keeping with social work values and ethics
11. Assess and evaluate the impact of agency policy and social/family policy on practice with individuals, family, and groups.
12. Function and practice within the structure of the organization and service delivery system seeking organizational change when appropriate.
13. Demonstrate the ability to assess potential risk to oneself, client(s), and others and develop appropriate safety plans.