



COURSE OUTLINE

SWK100 Introduction to Social Work Practice Theories

Course Coordinator: Kate Jonathan (kjonatha@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Law and Society

2021 | Semester 2

USC Sunshine Coast

USC Moreton Bay

USC Fraser Coast

ON CAMPUS

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This course provides you with an introduction to a range of theories which inform social work practice. You will develop an understanding of social work theory to develop skills in applying theory to understand and intervene with individuals, communities and society. You will further extend your practice philosophy and skills within these theoretical frameworks. You will be challenged to integrate your own personal perspective and societal influences when applying theoretical concepts to specific practice contexts and understand the implications of these for practices.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

| ACTIVITY | HOURS | BEGINNING WEEK | FREQUENCY |
|--|-------|----------------|-----------|
| ON CAMPUS | | | |
| Tutorial/Workshop 1 – On campus tutorial/workshop - 2 hours | 2hrs | Week 1 | 13 times |
| Lecture – 1 hour online lecture content | 1hr | Week 1 | 13 times |

1.3. Course Topics

- Introduction
- Understanding theories, models and perspectives
- Relationship Based Social Work
- Trauma
- CBT
- Problem-solving Approaches 1 - Crisis
- Problem-solving Approaches 2 – Task-centred
- Problem-solving Approaches 3 - Narrative
- Solution Focused Therapy
- Spirituality in Social Work
- Recovery and Person-Centred
- Advocacy & Empowerment
- Linking theory, research and practice

2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

| COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES | | GRADUATE QUALITIES |
|---|--|--|
| On successful completion of this course, you should be able to... | | Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming... |
| 1 | Understand and describe social work core values in the AASW Code of Ethics. | Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker |
| 2 | Write, reflect and relate personal narratives and societal influences to social work literature | Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker |
| 3 | Generate an ecomap | Engaged |
| 4 | Apply referencing skills | Knowledgeable |
| 5 | Apply theoretical concepts to specific practice contexts and understand the implications of these for practice | Empowered Engaged |

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Quiz/zes will be used to provide early feedback on the understanding of course content.

6.3. Assessment tasks

| DELIVERY MODE | TASK NO. | ASSESSMENT PRODUCT | INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP | WEIGHTING % | WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH? | WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT? | WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT? |
|---------------|----------|--|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| All | 1 | Quiz/zes | Individual | 40% | 1 hour | Throughout teaching period (refer to Format) | Online Test (Quiz) |
| All | 2 | Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece | Individual | 20% | N/A | Week 9 | Online Assignment Submission |
| All | 3 | Case Study | Individual | 40% | 1500 words | Week 13 | Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check |

All - Assessment Task 1: Quiz/zes

| | | |
|------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| GOAL: | The goal of this assessment task is to demonstrate an understanding of the coursework | |
| PRODUCT: | Quiz/zes | |
| FORMAT: | Week 3, 6, 9, & 12: Each quiz will consist of approximately 10 questions resulting in a cumulative grade. | |
| CRITERIA: | No. | Learning Outcome assessed |
| | 1 Accuracy and correctness of response. | 1 5 |

All - Assessment Task 2: Eco-Map

| | | |
|------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| GOAL: | The goal of this assessment task is to apply narrative theory approach to a written reflection on personal experience and societal influences connected to social work literature and generation of an ecomap of the narrative. | |
| PRODUCT: | Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece | |
| FORMAT: | This task will be in Word doc or PowerPoint file format - Write your narrative and generate an eco-map of your own personal characteristics, identity, family, community, environmental, cultural and political factors impacting your life and well-being. | |
| CRITERIA: | No. | Learning Outcome assessed |
| | 1 A written reflection on personal experience and societal influences connected to social work literature | 2 4 |
| | 2 Generation of an ecomap of the narrative | 3 |
| | 3 Understanding and description of social work core values in the AASW Code of Ethics | 1 4 |
| | 4 Application of referencing skills | 4 |

All - Assessment Task 3: Case study

| | | |
|------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| GOAL: | The goal of this task is for you to apply your cumulative understanding of various theories and the multidimensional nature of human behaviour to analyse the behaviour of a case study. | |
| PRODUCT: | Case Study | |
| FORMAT: | You will compare and contrast two different theories in relation to the understanding of a selected case study and identify the strengths and weaknesses of each theory. | |
| CRITERIA: | No. | Learning Outcome assessed |
| | 1 Critical evaluation | 1 5 |
| | 2 Understanding of theories | 4 5 |
| | 3 Applications of theories | 5 |
| | 4 Communication | 1 4 5 |

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Information regarding prescribed texts or other associated resources will be made available on the BlackBoard site prior to commencement of study.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, , injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website: <http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.8. General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au