



## COURSE OUTLINE

SWK200

# Social Work Practice in Various Organisational Settings

**Course Coordinator:** Laura Dodds (ldodds@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Law and Society

2022 | Semester 1

USC Sunshine Coast  
USC Moreton Bay

**BLENDED  
LEARNING**

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

Online

**ONLINE**

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

*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 develops your communication skills and awareness for working within human service organisations. Using a multidimensional approach, the course explores communication as a verbal and non-verbal and collective process. Listening, engagement, and reflection skills for communicating with supervisors, colleagues, and service users are studied and developed. The use of practice paradigms, including narrative, solution-focused, feminist, and strengths-based practice for communicating across the human service organisation are explored. The course has a strong practice focus.

### 1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
<b>BLENDED LEARNING</b>			
<b>Learning materials</b> – Online content	1hr	Week 1	13 times
<b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b> – on-campus tutorials	2hrs	Week 1	11 times
<b>ONLINE</b>			
<b>Learning materials</b> – online content	1hr	Week 1	13 times
<b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b> – online tutorials	2hrs	Week 1	11 times

### 1.3. Course Topics

Practice with ethically and culturally diverse clients

Practice in health settings

Practice in aged-care settings

Practice in rural and remote settings

Practice in youth, children and family setting (including domestic violence settings)

Practice in mental health and alcohol/drug settings

Practice in criminal justice settings

Practice in eco-social work settings

## 2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

## 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 MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Australian Association of Social Workers
1 Review and critique communication skills, theories, and information relevant to working in organisations and indicate how they condition social work practice	Knowledgeable	4.2 - Understand and articulate social work and other relevant theories and concepts 5.2 - Work collaboratively 6.2 - Communicate the details and nature of the service offered to people
2 Use verbal and non-verbal communications for assessment and engagement with individuals, families, groups, and communities	Knowledgeable Empowered	2.1 - Represent the social work profession with integrity and professionalism 2.2 - Behave in a professional manner and be accountable for all actions and decisions 6.1 - Communicate with a diverse range of people
3 Apply theories and concepts of collaborative, solution-focused interventions to practice scenarios	Empowered	2.2 - Behave in a professional manner and be accountable for all actions and decisions 4.2 - Understand and articulate social work and other relevant theories and concepts 5.3 - Use a range of social work methods and techniques appropriate to the area of practice
4 Identify practice challenges and articulate how a social worker can exercise agency consistent with practice frameworks and ethics	Empowered Ethical	1.1 - Practise in accordance with the AASW Code of Ethics 1.2 - Manage ethical dilemmas and issues arising in practice
5 Utilise integrated and reflective thinking to explore interpersonal relationships with supervisors, colleagues, and service users	Creative and critical thinker Sustainability-focussed	5.2 - Work collaboratively 6.3 - Work with others in a team environment 8.1 - Actively participate in professional supervision 8.3 - Where appropriate, to contribute to the professional development of others

#### 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

SWK402

##### 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

Early feedback will be provided with the first quiz in Week 3 and with activities in the weekly tutorial sessions.

### 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	25%	30 minute each	Refer to Format	Online Test (Quiz)
All	2	Artefact - Creative, and Oral	Individual	35%	5 -7 minute video	Week 10	Online Discussion Board
All	3	Written Piece	Individual	40%	1,500 words	Week 12	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

#### All - Assessment Task 1: Quizzes

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this assessment task is to demonstrate an understanding of the content covered in the course.	
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Quiz/zes	
<b>FORMAT:</b>	You will have 3 quizzes throughout the semester beginning in Week 3, 8 and 13	
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Accuracy of course information and course concepts. <span style="float: right;">1 2 3 4 5</span>
	2	Develop effective responses to practice challenges situations <span style="float: right;">3 4</span>

#### All - Assessment Task 2: Simulated Social Worker Vignette

<b>GOAL:</b>	To identify practice challenges and articulate how a social worker can exercise agency consistent with practice frameworks and ethics.	
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Artefact - Creative, and Oral	
<b>FORMAT:</b>	You will conduct a recorded 5-7 minute shareable video in MP4 format.	
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Application of intervention approach <span style="float: right;">2 3</span>
	2	Effective demonstration of critical thinking and verbal and non-verbal communication skills in interpersonal relationships <span style="float: right;">2 5</span>
	3	Identify practice challenge and articulate a plan of action consistent with your practice framework and professional ethics <span style="float: right;">2 4</span>

### All - Assessment Task 3: Reflective Essay

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this assessment task is to critically reflect on the various social work and human service settings in relation to your own personal attributes, values, interests and career goals.	
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Written Piece	
<b>FORMAT:</b>	A reflective writing piece that clearly identifies your critical review of course topics in relation to your personal attributes, values, interests and career goals	
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Critically analyse and apply your communication skills in working within various social work and human service organisations. 1
	2	Demonstrate reflective and critical practice within social work and human service organisations. 4 5
	3	Apply theory and knowledge to being an effective member of a social work and human services organisation. 1 3 4

## 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 Canvas 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

Nil

## 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 Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

### 10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

### 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. SafeUSC

USC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email [safe@usc.edu.au](mailto:safe@usc.edu.au).

The SafeUSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email [studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au).

### 10.5. 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](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au).

### 10.6. 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](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 1226.

### 10.7. 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](mailto:AccessAbility@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 2890.

### 10.8. 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: <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

### 10.9. Student Charter

USC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

### 10.10. 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 Manly and Tallon Street, Caboolture

**Tel:** +61 7 5430 2890

**Email:** [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au)

