

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

|  |           |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
|--|-----------|--|----|---------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|--|----|------------------------------|--|----------------------|--|--------------------|-----------|---|--|
| <b>Course Code and Number:</b> SOWK 460  |           | <b>Number of Credits:</b> 3 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>   |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Course Full Title:</b> Special Topics in Social Work<br><b>Course Short Title:</b><br><i>(Transcripts only display 30 characters. Departments may recommend a short title if one is needed. If left blank, one will be assigned.)</i>   |           |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Professional Studies  |           | <b>Department (or program if no department):</b> Social Work and Human Services  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Calendar Description:</b><br><p>An examination of selected topics in social work research and/or practice that is not addressed in current course offerings. Topics may embrace an interdisciplinary approach, which would integrate perspectives from disciplines other than social work such as, but not limited to, environmental studies, global development studies, migration and citizenship, or political science.</p> <p>Note: Offered under different letter designations (e.g. C-Z) representing different topics. With approval of the BSW Committee and Director, may be repeated for credit provided the letter designation differs. May be offered over two consecutive semesters.</p> |           |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Prerequisites (or NONE):</b>  |           | 60 university-level credits or the instructor's permission. Prior studies in SOWK or HSER courses are recommended.   |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>  |           | None   |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>  |           | None   |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Antirequisite Courses</b> <i>(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)</i><br>Former course code/number:<br>Cross-listed with:<br>Dual-listed with:<br>Equivalent course(s):<br><i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>   |           | <b>Special Topics</b> <i>(Double-click on boxes to select.)</i><br>This course is offered with different topics:<br><input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>(If yes, topic will be recorded when offered.)</i>  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
|  |           | <b>Independent Study</b><br>If offered as an Independent Study course, this course may be repeated for further credit: <i>(If yes, topic will be recorded.)</i><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, repeat(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, no limit |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Typical Structure of Instructional Hours</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar hours</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tutorials/workshops</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supervised laboratory hours</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Experiential (field experience, practicum, internship, etc.)</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supervised online activities</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other contact hours:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total hours</b></td> <td><b>45</b></td> </tr> </table>   |           | Lecture/seminar hours  | 25 | Tutorials/workshops |  | Supervised laboratory hours |  | Experiential (field experience, practicum, internship, etc.) | 20 | Supervised online activities |  | Other contact hours: |  | <b>Total hours</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>Transfer Credit</b><br>Transfer credit already exists: <i>(See <a href="#">bctransferguide.ca</a>.)</i><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br>Submit outline for (re)articulation:<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i> |  |
| Lecture/seminar hours  | 25        |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| Tutorials/workshops  |           |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| Supervised laboratory hours  |           |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| Experiential (field experience, practicum, internship, etc.)   | 20        |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| Supervised online activities   |           |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| Other contact hours:   |           |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Total hours</b>   | <b>45</b> |  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
|  |           | <b>Grading System</b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter Grades <input type="checkbox"/> Credit/No Credit   |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
|  |           | <b>Maximum enrolment (for information only):</b> 36<br><b>Expected Frequency of Course Offerings:</b><br>Annually <i>(Every semester, Fall only, annually, etc.)</i>   |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Department / Program Head or Director:</b> Margaret Coombes   |           | <b>Date approved:</b> June 19, 2020  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Faculty Council approval</b>  |           | <b>Date approved:</b> December 11, 2020  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Dean/Associate VP:</b> Tracy Ryder Glass  |           | <b>Date approved:</b> December 11, 2020  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)</b>  |           | <b>Date of posting:</b> January 22, 2021   |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |
| <b>Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval</b>  |           | <b>Date of meeting:</b> February 26, 2021  |    |                     |  |                             |  |  |    |                              |  |                      |  |                    |           |   |  |

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze and synthesize in-depth knowledge associated with a specific issue or theme as it pertains to contemporary social work issues and topics.
- Assess and explain in detail the importance and implications of the topic for social work theory, research and practice.
- Apply different theoretical perspectives related to the topic.
- Debate opposing perspectives related to the topic, including differences between contexts and worldviews.
- Communicate in oral and written form a strong argument related to the topic and its practical applications.
- Demonstrate collaborative leadership skills in group, community and/or classroom settings.

**Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)**

☐ Yes ☒ No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because special topics are in-depth, contemporary and content-specific.

**Typical Instructional Methods** (*Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department's discretion.*)

Lectures, small and large group discussions, case studies, multi-media resources, guest speakers, and/or student presentations. Experiential and field trip components may be required. This is up to the discretion of the instructor and will depend also on the topic of the course. Virtual options would also be considered dependent on the instructor and topic.

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials** (*If more space is required, download Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.*)

| Author (surname, initials)                  | Title (article, book, journal, etc.)  | Current ed.                         | Publisher | Year |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| 1.  | Dependent on topic (examples listed below)  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |      |
| 2. Edited by: Tuula Heinonen & Julie Drolet | International Social Work: Social Work Experiences and Perspectives   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fernwood  | 2012 |
| 3. Edited by Lena Dominelli                 | Green Social Work: From Environmental Crises to Environmental Justice   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Polity    | 2012 |
| 4. Edited by Louise Grant & Gail Kinman     | Developing Resilience for Social Work Practice  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Red Globe | 2019 |
| 5. Edited by Miu Chung Yan & Uzo Anucha     | Working with Immigrants and Refugees: Issues, Theories, and Approaches for Social Work and Human Service Practice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Oxford    | 2017 |

**Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting**

|                |     |              |     |                |     |        |      |
|----------------|-----|--------------|-----|----------------|-----|--------|------|
| Group Project: | 25% | Assignments: | 65% | Participation: | 10% | Total: | 100% |
|----------------|-----|--------------|-----|----------------|-----|--------|------|

**Details (if necessary):** Assignments could include (and are up to the discretion of the instructor): 1) a paper analyzing media/literature on current global issues, 2) a skills-based activity such as creating a proposal to implement local or international advocacy work, 3) practicing implementing advanced interviewing and assessment skills based on the contemporary topic/theory, 4) individual reflective journaling, and 5) participation in critical reflection groups. The group project could be linked to a community-based learning component, accompanied by a report or presentation regarding the findings on a particular contemporary issue.

**Typical Course Content and Topics:**

Course content may include, but is not limited to, special topics in contemporary social work such as: global development and international social work, green/environmental social work, social justice and advocacy work, contemporary theories of practice such as trauma-informed practice, resiliency and well-being of social workers, or social work with specific populations such as immigrants and refugees or mental health with children and youth.

**Example for Global Development and International Social Work:**

Overview: Examines and evaluates the role of social work and social workers in global development work. Theoretical foundations are examined alongside global influences in relation to historical, economic, political, social and cultural contexts. Critical perspectives, contemporary issues and research debates in social development, internationalization, neoliberalism and globalization are discussed.

1. History of international social work; the role of social work in development
2. International institutions and NGOs; the ideals of international development assistance; North-South relations
3. Theories and concepts 1 – Impact of globalization and neoliberalism on global issues
4. Theories and concepts 2 – Human rights and human/social development (as opposed to economic)
5. Values and ethics of professional action; universal vs. culturally relative frameworks; social exclusion, inclusion and justice
6. Sustainable Development Goals overview
7. Case study 1 – Poverty and food insecurity
8. Case study 2 – Gender and development
9. Case study 3 – Migration and displacement
10. Case study 4 – Disaster relief
11. Case study 5 – Global Indigenous movements
12. Motivations for international change and the risks of neocolonialism
13. Bringing it all together; the Global Social Work Agenda