OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.

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<th>SOWK 491</th>
<th>School of Social Work and Human Services</th>
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<tr>
<td>COURSE NAME/NUMBER</td>
<td>FACULTY/DEPARTMENT</td>
<td>UFV CREDITS</td>
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<td>Child Welfare</td>
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**COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE**

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course will look at the major historical, ideological, legal, and professional themes that inform child welfare policy. Issues including current legislation, history of child welfare, and the meaning of the “continuity of care” will be examined. In particular, the course will focus on the social construction of mothering, in the context of child neglect and of child abuse. Contemporary policies and programs for populations disproportionately engaged with child welfare services including Aboriginal children, immigrant and refugee children, and children of single parents will be examined. Students will be expected to engage in a process of integrating factors of gender, class, disability, race, culture, and sexual orientation into the critical analysis of the ideological nature of Child Welfare.

Note: Students in the Child Welfare Specialization must take this course within two years prior to taking SOWK 430.

**PREREQUISITES:**

Admission into the Bachelor of Social Work program and SOWK 330.

**SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):**

(a) Replaces: 
(b) Cross-listed with: 
(c) Cannot take: for further credit.

**TOTAL HOURS PER TERM:** 45

**STRUCTURE OF HOURS:**

| Lectures: | 30 Hrs |
| Seminar: | 15 Hrs |
| Laboratory: | Hrs |
| Field experience: | Hrs |
| Student directed learning: | Hrs |
| Other (specify): | Hrs |

**TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:**

- Length of course: N/A
- Hours per day: N/A
- Maximum enrolment: 24
- Expected frequency of course offerings: (every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)

**WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only)**

- [ ] Yes  [ ] No

**WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)**

- [ ] Yes  [ ] No

**TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:**

- [ ] Yes  [ ] No

Course designer(s): Dr. Adrienne Chan

Department Head: Dr Elizabeth Dow

Supporting area consultation

Curriculum Committee chair:

Dean/Associate VP: Dr Rosetta Khalideen

Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval
LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
1. Articulate an understanding of the major historical, ideological, legal and professional themes that inform child welfare policy.
2. Critically analyze current policy and practice issues in child welfare and their implications for social work practice.
3. Articulate and integrate one’s personal and professional ethical perspective and its influence on social work practice in child welfare.
5. Examine the role of the state in defining and influencing child welfare practices.
6. Critically analyze social issues affecting children and families.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of racism, able-ism, sexism, and heterosexism in child welfare services.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of the skills required to interview children and families.

METHODS:
(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.) Lectures, written assignments, class presentations, seminars, guest speakers, videos/overheads.

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):
☐ Examination(s) ☑ Portfolio assessment ☑ Interview(s) ☐ Other (specify):

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:
[Textbook selection varies by instructor. Examples for this course might be:]
Instructor Prepared Course Pack Fall 2011

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

STUDENT EVALUATION:
[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]
Group Presentation on Current Child Welfare Issues and Implications for Practice 20%
Midterm Exam 30%
Critical Analysis and Child Welfare Paper 30%
Case Recording 20%

COURSE CONTENT:
[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]
Week:
1. Introduction and overview; What is child welfare; Ideology of social construction; The Gove Report
2. Context of child welfare; Policy and practice
3. Aboriginal child welfare; Current policies and practices
4. The social construction of mothering: Mother-blaming, gender roles
5. The social construction of mothering; Violence, race, and culture
6. Racism, sexism, culture, heterosexism; Gay and lesbian youth in care; The meaning of “care” and services in child welfare
7. Child welfare in Quebec, child maltreatment, prevention, theoretical models of child safety.
8. Adoption, foster care, kinship, grand parenting
9. Trauma in child welfare; Immigrants and refugees; Risk assessment- decision 1
10. Monitoring outcomes; The Hughes Report; Least intrusive models; Risk assessment- decision 2
11. Domestic violence; Children who witness abuse; Abusive fathers; Risk assessment- decision 2
12. Charter implications; Issues in child welfare; Risk Assessment – decision 3
13. Rethinking approaches to child welfare; Risk Assessment – decision 4 and 5