## OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

**FACULTY/DEPARTMENT:** School of Social Work and Human Services  
**COURSE NAME/NUMBER:** SOWK 493  
**UCFV CREDITS:** 3  
**FORMER COURSE NUMBER:** SSSW 493

### CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

The course will examine social work issues from a feminist perspective, incorporating an analysis of the ideology and conceptual practices underpinning social welfare policy in Canada. Beginning with the historical development of feminist social work and feminist theories as they relate to social work practice, the class will explore gender role stereotypes, social welfare policies, ethics, research as empowerment, and specific issues experienced by women in areas such as disability, sexual orientation, and violence.

### PREREQUISITES:

Admission into the BSW program and instructor's permission. (Students with a minimum of 45 credits in other degree programs may be able to obtain instructor's permission at the first class. However, they should check with their program head to see whether they can apply this course to their degree.)

### SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S)

(a) Replaces: SSSW 493  
(b) Cannot take: for further credit

### SERVICE COURSE TO:

**TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION**

**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.

**Combination of Lecture and Lab Hours:** YES/NO

**MAXIMUM ENROLMENT:** 30

**EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERING:** Once every 2 or 3 years.

**WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED?**  
- (Lower-level courses only) **YES**  
- (Upper-level requested by department) **YES X**

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

### AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:

**Course designer(s):** Georgina Marsom  
**Chairperson:** (type name in this field)  
**Course reviewed by:**  
**Department Head:** Gloria Wolfson

**Dean:** Jackie Snodgrass

**PAC Approval in Principle Date:** (September 25, 2002)
LEARNING OBJECTIVES / GOALS / OUTCOMES / LEARNING OUTCOMES:

• An understanding of the development of feminist theory in social work and an analysis of current feminist theories.
• An understanding of power and control within patriarchal structures in relation to the privileges of dominant group membership.
• A critical awareness of, and ability to identify the underlying ideological issues that shape social policy.
• An understanding of resistance as a strength for nondominant group members, and knowledge of ways to help ourselves and clients transform this into more effective strategies.
• An awareness of one’s own dominant/nondominant status, an understanding of the ways in which feminism has been racist, and an analysis of how we may collude in making women “the problem”.
• A critical analysis of traditional and feminist approaches to ethics, and an awareness of current ethical issues within social work practice from a feminist perspective.
• An ability to understand and develop anti-domination social work practice.

METHODS:
Lectures, class discussion, videos, experiential exercises, and guest lectures. Student involvement is critical to the learning environment, and students are asked to actively participate.

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):
Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR  YES  X  NO

METHODS OF OBTAINING PLAR:
All SOWK courses (with the exception of one practicum) are open for PLAR. Follow UCFV PLAR process.

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:
[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example of texts for this course might be:]

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

STUDENT EVALUATION:
[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]
Class Participation 15%
Short in-Class Paper 15%
Term Paper 40%
Policy Analysis 30%
COURSE CONTENT:

1. Introductions; course requirements
2. History of feminism in social work.
3. Liberal feminism, radical feminism, socialist feminism
4. Lesbian feminist theory
5. Cultural & ecofeminism, womanism.
6. Postmodern feminist theory.
7. Video: men about Men; discussion
8. Ethics, ethics, and more on ethics.
9. Disability
10. Social policy development
11. Research as empowerment.
12. Medical social work