**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

**SOWK 797**

<table>
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<th>COURSE NAME/NUMBER</th>
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<td>Advanced Intervention in Mental Health</td>
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**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**
Starting with the evolution of social attitudes and views regarding mental health and mental illness and the historical development of mental health models and services, students will explore current mental health policy issues. This will include community treatment orders, deinstitutionalization/reinstitutionalization, discrimination, criminalization, and the National Mental Health Commission. Students will critically examine the dominant Medical Model of assessment, diagnosis, and treatment as well as the Recovery Model of community integration. A focus of the course will be to determine the role of social work at the intersection of these two complementary/competing models. The relationship between mental health and other social issues such as poverty, unemployment, housing, parenting, sexual abuse, substance abuse, violence, crime, race, gender, and culture will be examined. Students will be introduced to the core knowledge and skills required of social workers in mental health settings.

**PREREQUISITES:** Admission to the MSW program

**COREQUISITES:** None

**TOTAL HOURS PER TERM:** 45  
* STRUCTURE OF HOURS
Lectures: 15  
Seminar: 30

**MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT:** 24  
EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERINGS: On a yearly basis

**AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:**
Course Designer(s): Patrick Storey, MSW, RSW  
GPC Chair: John Hogg  
Dean: Rosetta Khalideen  
GSC Chair: Yvon Dandurand

**GSC Approval in Principle Date:**  
GSC Final Approval Date: August 27, 2009

**COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** September 1, 2010

**COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:**

**COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (4 years after approval):** August 2013
COURSE OBJECTIVE - The overall purpose / rationale for this course is:

To demonstrate an understanding of the historical themes in the evolution of our understanding of mental illness, psychiatry, mental health and recovery.

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

- Demonstrate an appreciation for the experience and perspectives of people with mental illness in relation to their journey through the mental health care system;
- Critically analyze the Medical Model as it currently operates in the Canadian mental health system, identifying its strengths, weaknesses in terms of its implications for both the quality of life for people with mental illnesses and for service design and structure;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the format and application of DSM IV-TR and its place in the Medical Model;
- Critically analyze the Recovery Model as it is currently practiced in the Canadian mental health system, identifying its strengths and weaknesses in terms of its implications for both the quality of life for people with mental illnesses and for service design and structure;
- Locate and critically examine the intersection of the Medical and Recovery Models with the practice of social work;
- Identify the core elements of the mental health system in British Columbia and evaluate this system in relation to its effectiveness in meeting the needs of people with mental illnesses;
- Critically analyze the current key issues facing people with mental illness in Canada, within their historical, philosophical and political dimensions. There will be particular emphasis on British Columbia, including discrimination, deinstitutionalization, poverty, homelessness, coercive treatments, etc.;
- Critically analyze the fit between the mental health system and other crucial services systems including the family services system, the correctional system, income support systems, education and employment systems, etc.;
- Learn the key roles of the social worker on a mental health intervention team;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the core knowledge and skills required to practice in a community mental health agency as a social worker;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the core clinical knowledge and skills required to work as a social worker in an institutional/inpatient setting;
- Critically analyze personal values and issues in relation to the effective practice of social work in a mental health setting.

METHODS:

Methods of instruction may include lecture, guest speakers, classroom discussion, student presentations, audio/visual materials, direct practice, site visits and experiential exercises.

COURSE CONTENT:

- The history of psychiatry and the development of the medical model
- The development of the community mental health movement and the recovery model
- The Medical Model vs. the Recovery Model
- Current relevant legislation in BC
- Mental Health service structures i.e. Health Authorities, Provincial Health Authority, Federal services to prisoners and First Nations People, the National Mental Health Commission, the non-profit sector, self-help, peer support, advocacy and public education services and university based research
- Other key services systems and their role in creating and/or solving the problems of people with mental illness
- Social issues complicating the lives of people with mental illness
- The role of the social worker on the mental health team
- The role of the social worker within the criminal justice/correctional system
- Diagnosis and Assessment using the DSM IV-TR
- Common Mental Health issues for adults
- Common Mental Health issues for children and youth
Graduate Studies

- The basics of psychopharmacology
- Substance abuse treatment
- Concurrent Disorder (mental illness and substance abuse)
- Suicide and suicide risk assessment
- Violence risk assessment
- Child abuse risk assessment
- Elder Abuse
- Basic intervention skills used in work with people with mental illnesses
- Ethics and principles in Mental Health Practice.

*STUDENT EVALUATION:
Assignment #1 - A Personal Experience of Mental Illness (Value: 25%)
Assignment #2 - The Medical Model vs. the Recovery Model: Your Views (Value: 20%)
Assignment #3 - Mental Health Issue Paper (Value: 30%)
Assignment #4 - Case Reviews (Value: 25%)

*TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:
Corcoran, J. and J.M. Walsh. Mental Health in Social Work: Diagnosis and Strengths Based Assessment. Allyn and Bacon, 2007-09-03
Pritchard, C. Practicing Mental Health Social Work, Routledge. 2006

*SUPPORT MATERIALS:
BC’s Mental Health Act in Plain Language, Canadian Mental Health Association: BC Division
Mental Health Survival Kit Canadian Mental Health Association: BC Division
Out of the Shadows At Last: Transforming Mental Health Mental Illness and Addiction Services in Canada. The Kirby Report.
The Romanow Report on Health Care in Canada
2006 Survey on Canadian Attitudes Towards Physical Health and Mental Health at Work and at Play Canadian Mental Health: National Office.
The Canadian Community Health Survey on Mental health and Wellbeing. Statistics Canada 2003


Stein, L. Assertive Community Treatment of Persons with Severe Mental illness. 1998.


Burhan, P. From the Mental Patient to the Person. Routledge, 1991


Laurance, J. Pure Madness: How Fear Drives the Mental Health System. Routledge,


PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):
Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR (Please check:) ☑ YES ☐ NO

* If YES specify how:
Through a portfolio presentation, examination and/or oral interview as per UFV PLAR policies and the School's requirements.

* These sections are subject to change at the discretion of the department and the content will vary.