Graduate Studies

OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

FACULTY/DEPARTMENT: SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
SOWK 799  N/A  3

COURSE NAME/NUMBER  FORMER COURSE NUMBER  UFV CREDITS
Major Paper/Project

CALENDAR DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

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This is an independent, self-directed study, that entails working under the supervision of a faculty member. The major paper should be related to the student's primary area of interest and should be the result of a project (e.g. program evaluation) or an in-depth critical analysis of a relevant social work issue. The major paper will include an integration of theory and practice. The paper may encompass a variety of modes, including discourse analysis, media analysis, critical review of research, and program evaluation, and should focus on a specific social welfare or social work practice issue. Topics will be negotiated with the supervising faculty member.

PREREQUISITES:
Admission to the MSW program; SOWK 700, 704, 710, 711, 720, and at least one of SOWK 750, 783, or 797.

COREQUISITES:
None

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM:  MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT:
* STRUCTURE OF HOURS  n/a
Lectures:  EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERINGS:
Seminar:  On a yearly basis
Laboratory:  
Field Experience:  
Student Directed Learning:  
Other (Specify):  
Independent Study

AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:
Course Designer(s):  GPC Chair:  
Adrienne S. Chan, MSW, RSW, PhD  John Hogg
Dean:  GSC Chair:  
Rosetta Khalideen  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 1, 2013
COURSE OBJECTIVE - The overall purpose / rationale for this course is:
To develop the student's academic skills by writing a major paper that is the conclusion of a research project. The written submission demonstrates the ability to articulate the findings of a program evaluation or needs assessment. The course and major paper are related to the student's major area of interest.

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

- Demonstrate the ability to conceptualize and execute the examination of a specific problem or question related to social work theory and practice;
- Demonstrate an advanced level of knowledge of the chosen subject area;
- Write a cohesive and critical academic paper at an advanced level.

*METHODS:
This course will be conducted as an independent study. Students are required to meet with the faculty supervisor on a regular basis. Student contact hours will be approximately 45 hours, but students will spend a minimum of an additional 45 hours in conceptualizing and writing their assignments.

*COURSE CONTENT:

- Identifying the thesis question or problem: Problem statement
- How to address the thesis question or problem: methodology, theoretical frameworks
- Writing the proposal; how to start, getting organized, addressing issues in writing
- Knowledge production
- Answering the thesis question or problem
- Analysis of literature/data
- Writing the major paper
- Submission of draft; writing about implications for theory and practice, revising previous work
- Submission of draft; writing conclusions, revising previous work
- Submission of draft, revising previous work
- Submission of major paper

*STUDENT EVALUATION:
Evaluation of this course will be done in accordance with UFV regulations. Please refer to: http://www.ufv.ca/__shared/assets/Guidelines_on_the_Preparation___Supervision19773.pdf
TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

About Thesis writing:

On Reserve:
Examples of major papers at the Master's level
PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):
Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR (Please check:)  □ YES  ☒ NO
* If YES specify how:

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