

**Introduction to Social Work**  
**Instructor: Asha Dixon, LMSW**  
**Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:00-1:50pm**  
**Spring 2014**  
[asdixonwoodley@eiu.edu](mailto:asdixonwoodley@eiu.edu)  
**Office hours by appointment**

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**Course Description:**

This course provides an overview of the social work profession and discusses the roles and functions of professional social workers in a variety of fields of social work practice. Students are introduced to the uniqueness of the profession, the Social Work Code of Ethics, and the history of Social Work profession. The course includes information on issues relating to diversity and special populations.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of the course, students will demonstrate the ability to:

- Recognize the distinguishing characteristics of the social work profession.
- Identify and define the roles and functions of professional social workers in a variety of fields of practice.
- Demonstrate sensitivity to the experiences, needs and responses of vulnerable (at-risk) populations.
- Trace the history of the social work profession.
- Evaluate their own attitudes toward social problems, client groups, and social welfare programs.
- Compare and contrast the process and methods of social work practice with people as individuals, families, small groups, organizations and communities.

***REQUIRED TEXT***

Farley, O. W., Smith, L.L., Boyle, S.W. (2012) *Introduction to Social Work (12th ed.)*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

**Evaluation:**

Course grades will consist of 2 tests and a comprehensive final exam, individual presentation and written papers.

Test 1	50 points
Test 2	50 points
Exam 3 (final)	100 points
Individual presentation	20 points
Written papers	100 points
Course total	320 points

**Test-** will be in-class and will consist of multiple choice, true and false questions. Questions will assess your ability to recall, comprehend, analyze and apply important social work concepts. Test material will draw upon both readings from the text and class lectures.

**Final exam-** is a comprehensive exam and will consist of multiple choice, true and false and short answer response questions.

**Individual presentation-** More information to follow. You will be assigned a day to present.

**Written papers-** I will assign 4 written assignments worth 25 points each. I will explain each assignment.

**Grading scale:**

A=100-90%

B=89-80%

C=79-70%

D=69-60%

F=59-0%

## **Class Policies**

**Exam or Assignment -**Students will only be permitted to make up examinations or assignments missed because of illness, and family emergencies. Please contact the instructor prior to missing an assignment, if possible, or immediately after. A missed exam must be made up within ONE WEEK of the exam.

**Extra Credit.** This course uses multiple criteria for evaluation; there will be no extra credit assignments.

**Academic Fraud-** Plagiarism and cheating are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and is reported to the university administration. For more information refer to the “Student Conduct Code” <http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>.

**Accommodations for Disabilities-** Students with documented disabilities are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) if they wish to discuss any necessary academic accommodations.

**Severe Weather/Tornadoes-** In case of a tornado warning, proceed to the center of the hallway on the first floor, near the posted severe weather signs. Under no circumstances should you attempt to leave the building.

**Fire Statement-**In case of fire, activate the fire alarm & exit the building. When a fire alarm sounds, everyone must exit the building & cannot re-enter the building until allowed by the building coordinator or fire department official. Fire alarms are located at the north & south ends of the corridors just inside the fire doors. The closest exits for all classrooms in Blair are on the north & south ends of the building. Under no circumstance should the elevator be used.

**Classroom Behavior-** The ability to learn is lessened when students engage in inappropriate classroom behavior, distracting others. When disruptive activity occurs, a University instructor has the authority to request that a student exit the classroom for the remainder of the period.

**Turn off or silent all cell-phones, pagers, or other electronic devices before the start of class. There will NO texting or e-mailing during class. Cell-phone should not be visible during class.**

**Note: All materials in this course syllabus, including course requirements, may be subject to change.**

### *Tentative Class schedule*

Week 1	Jan 13-17	Introduction and Chapter 1- What is Social Work?
Week 2	Jan 20-24	Chap. 1. Uniqueness of Social Work, roles of social worker NASW Code of Ethics.
Week 3	Jan 27-31	Chapter 2- The Evolution of Social Welfare and Social Work in the United States.
Week 4	Feb. 3-7	Chapter 2 cont'd. Chapter 3 Education for Social Work <b>News paper assignment due</b>
Week 5	Feb. 10-14	Chapter 5 Practice with individuals.
Week 6	Feb. 17-21	Chapter 5 cont'd. <b>TEST 1 Friday Chapter 1, 2, 3, 5</b>
Week 7	Feb. 24-28	Chapter 6 Practice with Groups
Week 8	Mar. 3-7	Chapter 7 Social Work with Communities <b>Life experience assignment due</b>
Week 9	Mar.10-14	<b>SPRING BREAK- NO CLASS</b>
Week 10	Mar. 17-21	Chapter 13- Family and Child Welfare Services
Week 11	Mar. 23-28	Chapter 10 Social Work in Health Care <b>Assignment due</b>
Week 12	Mar30-Apr 4	Chapter 9 Mental Health Services <b>Test 2 chapters 6, 7, 13, 10, 9</b>

Week 13	Ap. 7-11	Chapter 13 Services for Older Americans
Week 14	Ap. 14-18	Chapter 17 Services with Minorities <b>Assignment due</b>
Week 15	Ap. 21-25	Chapter 18 Services in Rural Areas
Week 16	Ap. 28-Ma.2	Chapter 18 Services in Rural Areas. Wrap up and exam preparation.
Week 17	May 5-9	<b>FINALS Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup> 12:30-2:30</b>