



School of Social Work

SWK 361 01W: Issues in Family Treatment Online Summer 2019

According to State of Texas HB 2504, this course syllabus must be submitted for review prior to the course's scheduled start date. Therefore, the instructor has the right to modify this syllabus and course calendar at any time between submission for publication and the first day of class. Furthermore, the instructor has the right to modify the syllabus as any time during the course provided (1) such changes do not increase expectations or requirements beyond a reasonable equivalent and (2) students must be given ample notice of any changes

Instructor: Lyndsey L. Norris

Office Location: Hen 323E

Office Hours: (By Appointment)

Contact Information Lyndsey.norris@tamuc.edu

Overview of Course

Course Description

This elective course is designed to enable students to understand the theories and the process of helping families. Information is provided on diverse family structures and work with families facing divorce, death, domestic violence, and other social problems.

Course Objective(s)

1. To further the students understanding of the multi problem, crisis-prone family.
2. To enhance the student's awareness of current, state-of-the-art models of helping families dealing with stress, dysfunction, and coping techniques.
3. To explore a variety of approaches to assessment and intervention when dealing with the difficulty of family problems.
4. To provide students with a good systems-oriented understanding of families and how they are evolving in today's society.

PROGRAM GOALS:

1. Prepare students for competent and effective generalist social work practice with diverse client systems.
2. Provide students with a foundation of knowledge for professional development, graduate education and lifelong learning
3. Develop student capability to improve human service delivery systems and promote social justice
4. Socialize student to the profession of social work

CORE COMPETENCIES

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) requires a competency-based approach to identify and assess what students demonstrate in practice. In social work, this approach involves assessing students' ability to demonstrate the competencies identified in the educational policy. Students to achieve programmatic goals listed above through demonstration the following nine competencies for generalist- level practice.

Competency 2.1.1 Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly

Competency 2.1.2 Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice

Competency 2.1.3 Apply Critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments

Competency 2.1.4 Engage diversity and difference in practice

Competency 2.1.5 Advance human rights and social and economic justice

Competency 2.1.6 Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research

Competency 2.1.7 Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment

Competency 2.1.8 Engage in policy practice to advance well-being and deliver services

Competency 2.1.9 Respond to contexts that shape practice

Competency 2.1.10 (a)-(d) Engage, assess, intervene and evaluate individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

Practice Behaviors

Each competency (outlined above) describes the knowledge, values, skills and cognitive and affective processes that comprise the competency at the generalist level of practice. While content and activities of each course in the BSW curriculum covertly or overtly addresses each of the nine competencies, integrated into each course is a set of behaviors (practice behaviors) representing observable components of one or more competencies. Associated competency(s) and practice behaviors assessed for this course follow:

Course Structure

Texts and Associated Materials

Required Texts:

Thomlison, B. (2016). Family Assessment Handbook: An Introduction and Practical Guide to Family Assessment 4th Edition. CA: Thomson, Brooks/Cole.

Additional Readings Suggested:

Overview of Course Assignments

Please note that I have left the course open so that you may work at your own pace. However, you will need to note that part of discussions will have to be completed during the week they are assigned and the responses to peers must be within the Thursday-Sunday timeline given in order to meet that guideline. As well you can reply to the prompt early in the discussion but not late. The other area of concern is the group project. All of your group will need to be participating if you are working ahead. Please note that if you are working ahead, I highly encourage you to keep track

through a calendar as to what assignments are due when so as to not miss a deadline. This is where many students experience difficulty and remember there are no make ups or allowance to retake a quiz

1. **Quizzes** – There are three quizzes throughout the course; each one is worth 10 points (20 questions worth ½ point each). Quizzes will only open all throughout the course but they are listed and will close at 11:30 p.m. on Sunday. There are no allowances for opening a quiz after it has closed (in order to be completed late). Each quiz is on specific chapters and there are no overlaps. All quizzes are openbook; however, all quizzes are also timed, which means you are advised to have notes or to have read the material to reduce flipping through pages to find the answers.

2. **Discussion** – There are 3 discussion assignments throughout this course. They are worth 10 points each. **To receive the points on each discussion assignment you must do all of the following:** (** note: if you do not submit both your initial post and your two responses to peers by the deadline, you will automatically receive a zero for the discussion assignment)

a. You must respond to the discussion prompt of the instructor by Wednesday at 11:30 pm and then respond to TWO of your peers between Thursday after 12:01am and Sunday at 11:30 pm.

b. Your initial post must be a true discussion of your understanding of the topic assignment and must be between 10- 15 sentences.

c. The comments to your TWO peers must be a minimum of five sentences and must add to the discussion. Though you are free to say things like “Interesting thought” or “Nice discussion,” these comments and those similar are not counted as part of the five sentences.

d. Proper grammar is expected. I highly recommend typing your thoughts and comments in a file on a word processing program and check for spelling and grammatical errors. Professionalism and professional presentation is an expectation and not an option. **Points will be deducted for sloppy spelling and writing.**

3. **Papers** – You will have three written assignments throughout the course on an assigned topic. Each paper is worth 20 points. All assignments are to be APA format with Times New Roman, 12 point font, and double-spaced. They are submitted via the corresponding file in the course for the week they are due. Do not submit them as an email. They must be a document with your last name as part of the file name and they must be a Word document (.doc or .docx extensions). A grading rubric is supplied for each paper so you know exactly what you are being graded on. Note: Points will be deducted for errors in spelling, grammar, and sentence structure. **You must copy and**

paste the rubric to each of your papers.

4. Group – Prior to Week 4 you will be assigned to a group and given specific instructions for the group activity your group is to complete. This assignment will be given to you (and your group members) by Week 4 and must be completed by the end of Week 13. It is worth 20 points.

5. Topic Check-in – These are scattered throughout the course. They require that you log in for that week and watch the video. For credit for this, you must complete the assignment by uploading your two paragraph paper after viewing the video and posting a one paragraph summary of what the video was about, and a one paragraph summary of your thoughts on what you saw. Be sure you upload by Sunday at 11:30 pm of the week assigned. The combined assignments are worth 20 points.

6. Final Exam – This is worth 40 points and is a comprehensive exam on everything you learned in the course. It pulls questions from all previous exams you have taken and to be done within the time allocated so you will need to have studied the material.

POLICY ON LATE WORK OR EXTRA CREDIT: I DO NOT ALLOW FOR LATE WORK OR EXTRA CREDIT. There are a number of assignments in the course that will allow students of multiple learning types to excel. I do not allow for make ups for any missed assignment. The reason for this is that you have ample time to complete each assignment. It is important to pay close attention to deadlines. I highly recommend using a calendar or print off a calendar and mark your assignments and due dates.

Grading Scale

Grading and evaluation - Grades will be determined according to the following percentage points earned against possible points.

Evaluation for the course grade will be computed according to the following formula:

Possible Points Grade

200 to 180 – A

179 to 160 – B

159 to 140 – C

139 to 120 – D

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Student Rights and Responsibilities

"Civility in face-to-face classrooms, online courses and in labs, internships, practicum and all other academic settings necessitate respect for the opinions of others and is very important in all academic settings. It is likely you may not agree with everything that happens or discussed in the academic setting; however, courteous behavior and responses are expected. To create a civil and preserve learning environment that optimizes teaching and learning, all participants share a responsibility in creating a civil and non-disruptive forum" (Student Guide Book, p 35). To create an optimum learning environment, students have rights and responsibilities.

Student Rights

As set forth in Texas A&M University System Policy 13.02

The rights of students are to be respected. These rights include respect for personal feelings; freedom from indignity of any type, freedom from control by any person except as may be in accord with published rules of the system academic institutions, and conditions allowing them to make the best use of their time and talents toward the objectives, which brought them to the system academic institutions. No officer [university faculty, employee] or student, regardless of position in rank, shall violate those rights, any custom, tradition or rule.

Students are expected at all times to recognize constituted authority, to conform to the ordinary rules of good conduct, to be truthful, to respect the rights of others, to protect private and public property, and to make the best use of their time toward an education.

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library - Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5853
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Students Responsibilities

Class Attendance and Participation Policy

- Class participation has three components: (1) appropriate interactions with classmates; (2) active involvement in class activities and (3) attentiveness
- Students will attend class, reflecting responsibility, inherent in the development as a social work professional. Being on time and prepared when class begins and remaining present throughout the entire class meeting demonstrates emerging professional behavior expected in social work graduates. Roll is taken in each class to document students' attendance.
- Classroom exercises, discussions, role-plays, guest speakers and other in-class experimental exercises are essential for a student's professional learning and continued development of self-awareness. Tardiness (or early departure) of more than 15 minutes will count as one-half absence and two (2) times being late to class or two (2) early departures culminating into one absence.
- A student is absent if he/she arrives more than 30 minutes late to class, leaves 30 minutes early or does not come to class.
- The following penalties for absences (unexcused, or excused, according to university policy) will be administered:

<u>Weekly (class meets 1X week)</u>	<u>Up to 2 absences: No Penalty</u>	<u>3 absences: 1 letter grade drop</u>	<u>4 absences: Class grade of "F"</u>	
<i>Bi-Weekly (class meets 2X week)</i>	<i>Up to 3 absences: No Penalty</i>	<i>4 absences: 1 Letter grade drop</i>	<i>5 absences: 1 Letter grade drop</i>	<i>6 absences: Class grade of "F"</i>
<i>Summer 10-week</i>	<i>Up to 1 absence: No Penalty</i>	<i>2 Absences: 1 Letter grade drop</i>	<i>3 absences: Class grade of "F"</i>	

Online, Blended and Web Enhanced Classes: Just as students are required to attend face-to-face classes, students are required to log in and participate in online venues. To receive credit for attendance online via eCollege, students must log in and complete assignments as required in the course. Not logging onto eCollege (monitored by the instructor) and completing assignments online during the required time is the equivalent of an absence for each week this occurs.

Final Evaluation and Grade Depends on both Classroom attendance and Participation

Inadequate participation or lack of required time commitment in each class significantly affects students' grades. No matter the course venue, students must engage in a comparable amount of time. Expectations of both Face-to-Face classes and those with Online components include time spent reading and studying course material.

Student Conduct

Students preparing to become professional social workers must adhere to the *University Code of Conduct*, *Department Code of Conduct* and *National Association of Social Workers' (NASW) Code of Ethics*.

University Code of Conduct located in the *Student Guide Book* at <http://www.tamuc.edu/campuslife/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf> (pp 34- 66). On the University Website under Campus Life Documents

To become aware of University policies related to student academic and behavioral expectations for students refer to the Guidebook.

Department Code of Conduct

"Faculty have the authority to request students who exhibit inappropriate behavior to leave the class/lab/internship practicum or to block access to online courses and may refer offenses to the [Academic and Professional Issues Committee (API)] or to the Department Head. More serious offences by be referred to the University Police Department and/or the Judicial Affairs Office for disciplinary action" (Student Guidebook p 35)

Social Work students conduct themselves in an ethical and professional manner. Closely linked with professional recognition is the social worker's compliance with the profession's ethical standards. It is imperative for professional social workers to be competent and ethical in practice if the profession is to maintain the public trust. It is essential that each social work student gain a thorough understanding of the ethical principles that guide practice and actively demonstrate in behavior, both in and out of the classroom. Student conduct is to reflect the tenets of *NASW Code of Ethics*

(located at <https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code.asp>) on the NASW website:
<https://www.socialworkers.org>

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

There is an expectation of maintaining high standards of integrity and honesty by all Social Work Graduate students at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Faculty and staff are expected to uphold and support student integrity and honesty by maintaining conditions that encourage and enforce academic honesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is academic dishonesty.

The School of Social Work follows University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty (available at <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students are expected to read and understand the University's Academic Dishonesty Policy

The Office of the Provost documents and maintains a record of all incidents of academic dishonesty. Multiple incidents of academic dishonesty will result in a student's dismissal from the program and from the University.

A student how fails to meet the professional expectation of the field of Social Work may be suspended from further study by the School of Social Work.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot

guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google®	Latest	N/A

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Chrome™		
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:

- 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- **For YouSeeU Sync Meeting sessions 8 Mbps is required.** Additional system requirements found here: <https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>
 - You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
 - Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
 - Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.



System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Readings	Assignment/Activities
Week 1 6/1-7	Syllabus Chapter 10 – Critical and Reflective Thinking	Review of Syllabus and navigation of course Topic Check-in #1
Week 2 6/8-14	Chapter 1 Family Contexts Chapter 2 A Framework for Understanding Families	Discussion Board # 1 Quiz 1 on Chaps 1, 2, 10
Week 3 6/15-21	Chapter 3 The Family System	Paper #1
Week 4 6/22-28	Chapter 6 Intergenerational Family Systems	Topic Check-in Discussion Board #2
Week 5 6/29-5	Chapter 4 Family Assessment	Quiz 2 on Chaps 3, 4, 6
Week 6 7/6-12	Chapter 5 Designing Family Interventions	Paper #2
Week 7 7/13-19	Chapter 8 Chapter 9 – Evaluation	Topic Check- in Discussion Board #3
Week 8 7/20-26	Chapter 7 – Evidenced-based Practice	Group Assignment Quiz 3 on Chaps 5, 7, 9
Week 9 7/27-2		Online article Paper #3
Week 10 8/3-6		Topic Check-in 4 Final Exam due on 8/6 by 11:30 pm