



## **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

Please, click on the following link to access A&M-Commerce Covid 19 Information, <https://new.tamuc.edu/coronavirus/>

## **SWK 424: Generalist Practice in the Field**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2021

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dawn Nelson, LCSW-S, ACSW, SAP, CART  
Office Location: Mesquite Metroplex  
Office Hours: Monday 12-6 p.m. and By Appointment  
Office Phone: 972-989-2799  
Office Fax:  
University Email Address: [dawn.nelson@tamuc.edu](mailto:dawn.nelson@tamuc.edu)  
Preferred Form of Communication:  
Communication Response Time: 24-48 hours (business days)

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

Social Work Examination Services, Inc. (2015). *Comprehensive study guide: Bachelor Level Social Work License*, (Version 3.7). Brookline, MA: Author.

*(Pre-test materials provided with the above text)*

*Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (2020). 7<sup>th</sup> ed.*  
Washington, DC: American Psychological Association

Software Required

Optional Texts and/or Materials

**Other required readings or digital materials for each week/unit will be available in the corresponding weekly folder in Brightspace (D2L).**

## **Course Description**

This course is designed to assist students to integrate the knowledge, skills and values learned in all social work courses previously taken and assist them to apply these in their field practicum settings. Prerequisites: All required social work courses and successful completion of SWK 422 and 425. Concurrent enrollment in SWK 426 is required. Restricted to Social Work majors.

### **RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COURSES:**

This course provides students with a review of BSW course content, information and skills for professional development. Course curriculum integrates theory, knowledge and skills presented in SWK 322, 325, 328, 329, 331, 340, 350, and 370. Student must have complete all courses including SWK 422 and 425 and be enrolled concurrently in SWK 426.

### **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 achieve programmatic goals listed above through demonstration of the following competencies for Advanced Generalist Practice (AGP). Students achieve programmatic goals listed above through demonstration of the following **bolded competencies** for Advanced Generalist Practice (AGP).

Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice

Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice

Competency 4: Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed practice

Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice

Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities

Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities

Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

### **Student Learning Outcomes** (Practice Behaviors)

Each competency (outlined above) describes the knowledge, values, skills and cognitive and affective processes that comprise competency at the Advanced Generalist Practice (AGP) level. While content and activities of each course in the MSW curriculum covertly or overtly addresses each of the nine competencies, identified within each course is a set of specific practice behaviors representing observable components of one for more competencies. Content and Assessment in this course reflect the following practice behaviors:

2.1.10[a].1 Substantively and effectively prepare for action with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.

2.1.10[b].3 Develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives.

# **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

## **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

## **Instructional Methods**

## **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

## **GRADING**

- A 90-100% of total points
- B 80-89% of total points
- C 70-79% of total points
- D 60-69% of total points
- F Less than 60% of total points

A course grade of "C" represents an acceptable level of work; while a course grade of "B" represents a substantial effort and achievement. To obtain a "B" a student must demonstrate better than average products and level of effort. An "A" is awarded only to those students who have demonstrated a high level of quality and outstanding efforts as reflected in the assignments for this course.

### **Assessments**

SWK 424 Assignments

### **ON DUE DATES:**

All assignments are due as described in the assignment. No Late work will be accepted. If you are not in class the day an assignment is due, you will need to submit it electronically, before or at the beginning of the class time in which they are due.

There will be NO MAKE-UP work/exams offered without prior approval. You will need to be available on the day/time of examinations.

## **OVERVIEW OF ASSIGNMENTS**

**Integrative Paper (150 pts)** This paper is an exercise for each student to write a scholarly paper, integrating practice theories supporting a specific social work intervention carried out at his/her field practicum site. In this assignment, a student must demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking as evidenced in his/her ability to present information in a clear and concise manner supporting their understanding and position on the topic chosen. Supporting evidence from previous texts and empirical, peer reviewed publications must be integrated into this assignment.

**Discussion (150 pts [12.5 each Song])** Student will listen to a new song topic each week and document the 'meaning' of the song and relate the song's meaning in a social work style of documentation. Student shall then discuss with a minimum of two (2) other students the song for the week,

**Comp Exam (100 pts)** A comprehensive final exam administered at the end of the course to assess knowledge across all areas of the social work curriculum. This test reflects the content presented throughout the course and prepares students for taking the state license exam.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

### **LMS**

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

## **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](mailto: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**

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. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

Instructor will respond to email queries within 2 business days.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

#### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

# University Specific Procedures

## Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

## TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

## 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:

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

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 D2L, students must log in and complete assignments as required in the course. Not logging onto D2L (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.

**Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)  
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)



<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

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:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto: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.

## **Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content**

### **Engagement Policy**

#### *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.

To earn a level of competency within a specific course, students must demonstrate both mastery of content and active engagement.

Mastery of content areas is evidenced by successful completion of course assignments such as written papers, group project deliverables, tests/quizzes and other tangible products designed by instructors to evaluate knowledge and skills.

Additionally, the Social Work Profession is built upon human interactions and building human relationships – which is defined as engagement. Engagement is defined as meaningful involvement in interactions with instructor, peers, outside stakeholders as appropriate (such as contacting a social worker to interview for a required assignment). Within the classroom setting, whether virtual or F2F, students must actively participate in 80% of engagement activities as outlined by individual instructors. These activities can include participation in a live, synchronous virtual classes, attending a Face to Face course when appropriate, interacting with peers in posted discussions and collaborating in group interactive projects.

Students must meet standards for content mastery on tangible assignments and meet the threshold of active engagement 80% of the time during a semester.

Instructors are experts in each course content area and set the standards for students to meet for successful completion of the course.

As we enter the Fall semester, we are all working under stresses and strains related to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is imperative we communicate consistently and frequently. If, for any reason, you are not able to complete assignments or actively engage in the course, you MUST reach out to your instructor and let him or her know.

### **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>

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

### SWK 424 Course Schedule

WEEK	TOPIC	READING(S), ASSIGNMENTS, ETC.	ASSIGNMENTS & ACTIVITIES
1  MESQUITE- ONLINE	Class Introduction	Introductions/Syllabus review  Prepare Student Schedule/Strategies for Exam	Read Introduction in Text: I. Introduction II. How to use the SWES Review Book III. Guidelines: Studying for the Examination IV. Strategy for Taking License Exams V. The ASWB Examination Profiles
2	UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY	LABOR DAY	
3  FRISCO ONLINE	Graduation	<b>MANADATORY BSW ASSEMBLY SEPT 9<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>COMMERCE CAMPUS</b>

3	Individual Practice	Section A Individual Practice Review Group Review Activities	Read Chapter A-1: A19 <b>Submit your study plan</b> Develop a detailed study plan to include: <i>I. Reasonable study time schedule</i> <i>II. Identify areas to study</i> <i>III. Plan for obtaining supplemental references</i> <i>IV. Master schedule for study and review (build into time schedule)</i>
4 MESQUITE ONLINE	Clinical Practice	Section B Clinical Practice  Group Review Activities in Class	Read Chapter B-1: B23 <b>Paper Topic Due September 16th</b>
5 FRISCO ONLINE	Clinical Practice	Section B – Continued  Group Review Activities in Class	Continued, B-1: B23
6 MESQUITE ONLINE	Human Behavior	Section C Group Review Activities in Class	Read Chapter C-1: C10
7 FRISCO ONLINE	Group Practice	Section D Group Review Activities in	Read Chapter D-1: D25

8 MESQUITE ONLINE	Culturally Competent Social Work Practice	Section E Group Review Activities in Class	Read Chapter E-1: E23
9 FRISCO ONLINE	Research and Statistics	Section F Group Review Activities in Class	Read Chapter F-1: F11
10 MESQUITE ONLINE	Community Practice	Section G Group Review Activities in Class	Read Chapter G
11 FRISCO ONLINE	Social Policy and Professional Ethics	Section H Group Review Activities in Class	Read Chapter H-1: H44 Final Paper due Next Week!
12 MESQUITE ONLINE	Alcohol and Drug Abuse Diagnosis and Treatment	Section I Group Review Activities in Class	Read Chapter I-1: I35 <b>FINAL PAPER DUE NOVEMBER 4TH</b>
13 FRISCO ONLINE	DSM-V Review	Review Text	DSM-1: DSM:19
14 MESQUITE ONLINE	Total Review	Review all sections	All
15 FRISCO ONLIN	Total Review	Review all sections	All
TBA	<b>LBSW Pre-Exam</b>	<b>Mesquite Metroplex Computer Lab</b>	<b>All</b>