SOCW3009

Ethics and Reflective Practice

Term One // 2019

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Richard Hugman	r.hugman@unsw.edu.au	Friday 1:00-2:00 or by appointment (please email)	G52, Morven Brown Building	9385-2778

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Social Work*

This course introduces you to the key ideas in applied and professional ethics as these inform and are integrated with social work practice and theory. It addresses the Australian Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics (2010) and enables you to develop a critical understanding of the underlying ideas that inform the ethical principles behind the Code. It also seeks to prepares you to engage with ethics as a key element of your future role as a professional practitioner. To achieve this the course is integrated with the learning from SOCW3011 Social Work Practice - Level Three Placement, and must normally be taken alongside that course. The interactive style of teaching seeks to help you develop your capacities to reflect critically on your own practice in order to promote your grasp of life-long learning as a foundation for engaging with ethics in practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Articulate an understanding of the key ideas in professional ethics applied to social work.
2. Construct plausible arguments about moral and political issues in contemporary social work and human services and identify competing points of view.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the principles expressed in relevant ethical documents and 'moral fluency' in considering these.
4. Demonstrate the capacity to use ethical principles to reflect critically on professional practices.

Teaching Strategies

This course uses three interlinked approaches: first it imparts knowledge about key ideas through lectures; second, it uses interactive tutorials to enable students to develop their own skills in sharing and applying ideas to applied examples of professional practice; third, it enables students to test and improve their personal capacities to think in ethical terms through the use of on-line learning supports. In combination these strategies support students in developing 'fluency' in ethical thought and action.

Assessment

Please note that the on-line exercise is a requirement as part of attendance/participation - in other words, it replaces 1 hour of lecture per week. It is not a graded assessment; however, you must make a reasonable attempt at all three parts of the exercise to maintain your attendance/participation record.

Further details of assessments, including descriptions of the tasks and related course objectives, are provided in downloads available on the Moodle site.

In all assessments, you should use the School's preferred referencing system. This is also detailed in the downloadable handout available on the Moodle site.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Reflective reading	30%	18/03/2019 09:00 AM	1,2
Essay	35%	15/04/2019 09:00 AM	1,2,3
Case study	35%	13/05/2019 09:00 AM	2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Reflective reading

Start date:

Length: 1100 words

Details: Students select from a specific range of relevant literature and write brief summaries to demonstrate (a) their understanding of the content and (b) reflection on their initial learning from it using their beginning practice experience in course SOCW3011. 1100 words. Comments and numerical mark attached to on-line submission through Turnitn, within two weeks of due submission date. Criteria are available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Essay

Start date:

Length: 1500 words

Details: Students are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the relationship between ethical theory, critical reflection and professional practice in social work. The essay is submitted in the later part of the semester. 1500 words. Written feedback and a numerical mark are provided within two weeks of the due submission date. Criteria are available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Case study

Start date:

Length: 1500 words

Details: Students select one case (which may be an individual person, a family, a group or a community project), identify and explain the ethical aspects of practice with this case and show how they critically reflect on their practice. 1500 words. This is the final assessment for this course.   Written feedback and a numerical mark are provided within two weeks of the due submission date. Criteria are available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

The School of Social Sciences expects that students will attend and participate actively in 100% of learning and teaching activities (henceforth 'classes', to include lectures, tutorials, seminars, labs, online activities and so on).

Mandatory attendance of classes for this course is part of the accreditation requirements for the BSW (Hons) program.

If you attend less than 80% of classes, you may be refused final assessment. This means that if you do not attend at least 80% of possible classes your final assignment or exam may receive a mark of zero. You are responsible for keeping track of your attendance and contacting your course convenor (add name) immediately if you are concerned about your attendance record and its impact on your ability to complete your course successfully.

For the purpose of attendance monitoring, the final assessment for this course is the case study, worth 35% of your overall grade for this course. This is the assessment item that will be graded at zero if you do not meet the attendance requirement for this course.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 18 February - 24 February	Lecture	Introduction: what is ethics? Critical reflection and the AASW Code of Ethics (2010).
	Tutorial	Introduction: establishing the working agenda. Critical reflection: identifying values and ethics in everyday situations.
Week 2: 25 February - 3 March	Lecture	Critical reflection and "critical theory".
	Tutorial	Introduction: establishing the working agenda. Critical reflection: identifying values and ethics in everyday situations.
Week 3: 4 March - 10 March	Lecture	Human dignity and worth: the road to human rights.
	Tutorial	Looking at the foundational concepts: human dignity and worth and social justice. Exercise: how do values affect practice?
	Online Activity	The first post to the on-line learning activity is due by 9:00 am on Monday 11 March. This is an attendance/participation requirement.
Week 4: 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	Social justice.
	Tutorial	Looking at the foundational concepts: human dignity and worth and social justice. Exercise: how do values affect practice?
	Assessment	The critical reflective reading is due at 9:00 am on Monday 18 March.
Week 5: 18 March - 24	Lecture	Professional integrity: virtue ethics and pracice

March	Tutorial	Professional integrity and 'virtues': the ethics of our professional selves. Exercise: looking at examples from placements.
Week 6: 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	Religion, sprituality and ethics
	Tutorial	Professional ethics and 'virtues': the ethics of our professional selves. Exercise: looking at examples from placements
	Online Activity	The second post to the on-line learning activity is due by 9:00 am on Monday 1 April. This is an attendance/participation requirement.
Week 7: 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	Ethics and culture
	Tutorial	Ethical debates and challenges: are there 'ethical dilemmas'? Exercise: issues from the field—preparing for the case study.
	Online Activity	The third post to the on-line learning activity is due by 9:00 am on Monday 8 April. This is an attendance/participation requirement.
Week 8: 8 April - 14 April	Lecture	Ethics of care: feminist ethics in practice
	Tutorial	Ethical debates and challnges: are there 'ethical dilemmas'? Exercise: issues from the field—preparing for the case study
	Assessment	The essay is due at 9:00 am on Monday 15 April.
Week 10: 22 April - 28 April	Lecture	Universalism, relativism and pluralism
	Tutorial	Looking deeper at what we bring to social work: personal and cultural values Exercise 1: examining cross-cultural examples Exercise 2: self-reflection and ethical learning
Week 11: 29 April - 1 May	Lecture	'Moral fluency' and the politics of practice
	Tutorial	Looking deeper at what we bring to social work: personal and cultural values. Exercise 1: examining cross-cultural case examples Exercise 2: self reflection and ethical learning
	Assessment	The case study is due at 9:00 am on Monday 13 May.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

- Banks, S. (2012) Ethics and Values in Social Work. 4th Edition. Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan.
- Hugman, R. (2014) A-Z Professional Ethics. Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan.
- Gardner, F. (2014) Bring Critically Reflective. Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan.

Recommended Resources

Banks, S. (2004) *Ethics, Accountability and the Social Professions*. Basingstoke: Palgrave- Macmillan.

Banks, S. & Gallagher, A. (2009) *Ethics in Professional Life: Virtues for Health and Social Care*. Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan.

Bowles, W., Collingridge, M., Curry, S. & Valentine, B. (2006) *Ethical Practice in Social Work: an Applied Approach*. Crows Nest: Allen & Unwin.

Chenoweth, L. & McAuliffe, D. (2015) *The Road to Social Work & Human Service Practice*. 4 Edition. South Melbourne: Cengage Learning. [especially Chapters 2, 3, 4, 9 & 10]

Clifford, D. & Burke, B. (2009) *Anti-Oppressive Ethics and Values in Social Work*. Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan.

Gray, M. & Webb, S. A. (eds) (2010) *Ethics and Value Perspectives in Social Work*. Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan.

Hinman, L. M. (2008) *Ethics: a Pluralistic Approach to Moral Theory*. 4th Edition. Belmot CA: Thomson-Wadsworth.

Hugman, R. (2005) *New Approaches to Ethics in the Caring Professions.* Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan.

Hugman, R. (2013) *Culture, Values and Ethics in Social Work: Embracing Diversity*. London: Routledge.

Hugman, R. & Carter, J. (eds) (2016) *Rethinking Values and Ethics in Social Work*. London: Plagrave.

Pawar, M. & Anscombe, A. W. (2014) *Reflective Practice in Social Work: Thinking, Doing and Being*. Port Melbourne: Cambridge University Press.

Pawar, M., Hugman, R., Alexandra, A. & Anscombe, A.W. (eds) (2017) *Empowering Social Workers: Virtuous Practitioners*. Singapore: Springer Nature.

In addition, relevant journal articles and other library materials are provided in the Leganto link on Moodle. You are also encouraged to undertake your own litertaure searches. Good places to start are Australian Social Work, British Journal of Social Work, Ethics & Social Welfare (all available via the UNSW Library) and the on-line Journal of Social Work Values & Ethics (for which a hotlink is provided on the Moodle page). (Anything by Sarah Banks is likely to be relevant, although she does also occasionally write about community work.)

Course Evaluation and Development

Towards the end of the course you will be encouraged to participate in the myExperience on-line feedback. This is really valuable for continuing to develop the course. We also welcome verbal or written feedback direct to the course convenor or your tutor. For example, the current shape of the course (1 hour lecture per week plus the on-line exercise instead of 2 hours lecture, and 2 hour tutorials per fortnight rather than 1 hour per week) was developed in conversation with previous students.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

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