![Imperial Valley College logo](IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE)

Basic Course Information

Semester:	**Fall 2023**	Instructor Name	**José J. Plascencia, MSW**
Course Title	**SW 220 – Intro to Social Work**	Email:	**Jose.plascencia@imperial.edu**
CRN #:	**10331**	Webpage (optional):	**None**
Classroom:	**Online**	Office #:	**Via Zoom**
Class Dates:	**08/14/2023 – 12/09/2023**	Office Hours:	**By Appointment**
Class Days:	**Online**	Office Phone #	**(760) 355-6272**
Class Times:	**Online**	Emergency Contact:	**(760) 355-6407 or (760) 355-6144**
Units:	**Three (3) Units**	Class Format:	**Online**

Course Description

A survey course that introduces the field of social work as a profession within the context of the institution of Social Welfare. Development of an understanding of social work principles, goals, values, and methods through readings and class discussion. An unpaid assignment in an agency setting is required. (CSU)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Define within a global perspective social welfare, social institutions, social services, and social work and identify the different populations that are served by these systems (ILO1, ILO2, and ILO5)

2. Distinguish social welfare from other major social institutions and social work from other helping professions. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO5)

3. Demonstrate a beginning knowledge of the role of information technology in the provision of social services. (ILO4)

4. Making an informed career decision by means of a volunteer assignment in a human service agency as well as the experience of taking this course. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
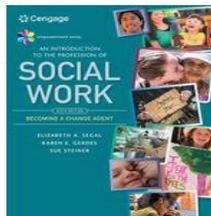
Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the development of social work and its emergence as a profession over time.

2. Describe the relationship between social work and social welfare.

3. Clarify the different levels of social work practice, differential responsibilities and training required at each level.

4. Define social work as a profession and understand the ways in which it differs from other helping professions.

5. Describe the profession's core knowledge base, including theoretical perspectives.

6. Explain the principal methods of social work intervention including case work, group work, and community organization.

7. Explain the integrated generalist model of social work practice.

8. Describe the structure and process of the social service delivery system.

9. Define and describe the impact of social policy on the social work profession.

10. Analyze ethical dilemmas/problems faced by social workers intervening with different populations.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Segal, Elizabeth (2019). ***An Introduction to the Profession of Social Work*** (6th Ed.) Cengage Learning. ISBN: 9781337567046

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

- **Instructor Expectations**:
  - Students who do not participate during week one are automatically dropped. (Participation means turning in 1st week assignment)
  - If you stop attending class, make sure to drop yourself from the class.
  - Work is to be turned in on the due date – no late work unless an exception is made.
  - You are responsible for knowing and observing due dates for all assignments.

- **What to Expect from your Instructor:**
  - o All your assignments will be graded within one week of their due date.
  - o To contact me by email: jose.plascencia@imperial.edu; or use the "Inbox" in Canvas to message me.
  - o Your emails will be answered within 24-48-hours (emails are typically answered within a few hours).
  - o My office hours are by appointment and through Zoom.
  - o My goal is to help you succeed, so please reach out to me if you have any questions/doubt.

- **Logging into Canvas:**
  - o Go to https://www.imperial.edu/students/canvas/ and follow the login instructions to login.
  - o Once logged in, click on the course OR click on 'Courses' on the left menu and click on 'All Courses' to view your courses.
  - o Read the course syllabus.
  - o Read the document under Week 1 entitled "Week 1 Online Things to Do." This outlines exactly what you must do and by when you have to do it for Week 1.
  - o Become familiar with the course.

The online version of this course is not self-paced. There are strict deadlines that need to be met every week. You will be given a list of weekly deliverables that you will be responsible for. You can find these under the appropriate weekly module. Any questions you may have about the course can be sent using the inbox in CANVAS or an email to the professor.

You must have access to a computer. The computer must have access to the Internet.

Three Exams (300 pts)

There will be three exams given throughout the semester. The first exam will cover the first five chapters (Chapters 1-5). The second exam will cover the next five chapters (6-10). The third exam will cover the last four chapters (11-14) and international social work. The exams will be multiple choice, T/F, fill in the blank, and short answer. The content for these exams will be based on course competencies 1 – 10. Exams will be posted on CANVAS after every five (5) chapters. They are untimed and you will only have one attempt.

Submitting your exam after the due date will lose points.

Quizzes (150 pts)

There will be a total of 15 quizzes during the semester. These quizzes are true/false and multiple choice. Quizzes will be posted on each chapter module on CANVAS. They are untimed and you will have two attempts. CANVAS will record the highest of your two attempts.

Submitting quizzes after the due date will lose points.

Thought Papers (150 pts)

These assignments are considered open ended assignments. They are related to the topics covered in each chapter but are open-ended questions, so you can write about anything as long as it relates to the prompt. **Each thought paper will be a half a page to one-page response.** You can submit your answers by uploading them as a text entry on CANVAS or you can upload a PDF, WORD or GOOGLE Doc. Submit by due date to receive full credit.

Submissions after the due date will lose points.

Review Questions (150 pts)

These review questions are assignments that will test your critical thinking skills. There is no "right or wrong" answer to these questions. Rather you will earn points by how well you use your critical thinking skills. You will need to provide at least two or three sentences or (50-75 words) for each answer. You can submit your answers by uploading them as a text entry on CANVAS or you can upload a PDF, WORD or GOOGLE Doc. Submit by due date to receive full credit.

Submissions after the due date will lose points.

Volunteer Experience (50 pts)

In this course, students will learn not just in the classroom, but in the community as well. Students will be participating in a volunteer experience as part of the class. The purpose of the volunteer experience is to encourage exploration of and familiarity with the nature of generalist social work practice in human service settings, which includes an understanding of the structure and functions of agencies, community service networks, and the knowledge, skills, values, and expectations of the agency worker. Volunteer work is also in keeping with the social work value of service to the community. All learning outcomes are measured (1-12) including personal responsibility, global awareness, communication skills, and critical thinking skills are used in this assignment.

1. Students are required to complete **at least 25 clock hours** of volunteer time in a human service setting. Students who fail to complete the required 25 hours will receive an **F** for this assignment and the class. All volunteer hours must be completed by the end of the semester in order to receive full credit. The following objectives will guide the student's search for and selection of an agency volunteer experience:
2.
    1. Reinforce the role of volunteerism and service in social welfare and generalist social work.
    2. Provide an experience observing the application of social work knowledge, values, and skills in human service.
    3. Provide an experience with a disadvantaged.
    4. Provide an experience of a direct contact with client systems preferably contact which, includes some sort of communication/information exchanges; and
    5. Explore personal fit with social work/human services as a potential career Exploration decision.

Reflection Paper (25 pts)

Students are expected to write a **one (1) - two (2) page** reflection paper on their volunteer experience. The paper must be typed and double-spaced with a separate title page. The paper must include the following: (1) description of your agency setting, (2) description of the types of services the agency provides and the mission of the agency, (3) description of the types of individuals employed in the agency and the degrees required, (4) description of the types of services you provided to the client systems who utilize the agency, (5) a reflection of the social work values demonstrated in the agency and that you utilized, (6) a summary of your own responses to the agency, (what were your strengths, weaknesses, discoveries about yourself) and, (7) what your thoughts about your continued involvement in the field of social work. In addition to this summary paper, you must attach (a) a time sheet that has been signed by your agency supervisor, (b) a Volunteer Placement agreement form, (c) and a Volunteer Evaluation form that was completed by your volunteer supervisor.

Please note that if students cannot participate in volunteer activities due to an unforeseen conflict or in cases of national emergencies (i.e., a state of emergency) then the professor will arrange for an alternative assignment that will take place of the volunteer assignment.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

You may earn up to **800** points, as follows: Grading Scale:

Three Exams (100 pts each)	300 pts	A	743 - 825
Quizzes (10 pts each)	150 pts	B	660 - 742
Thought Papers (10 pts each)	150 pts	C	578 - 659
Review Questions (10 pts each)	150 pts	D	495 - 577
Volunteer Experience (50 pts)	50 pts	F	Below 494
Reflection Paper (25 pts)	25 pts		

Work-Based Learning

Work-based learning (WBL) allows students to apply classroom content in professional settings while gaining real-world experiences. These opportunities will provide you with a deeper, more engaging and relevant learning environment. This semester, I will be offering the following WBL activities in order to provide you with the opportunity to explore career options in Computer Information Systems.

WBL Activity Name	WBL Activity Description
WBL Activity 1: Volunteer Experience	Each student will volunteer 25 hours at an agency of their choice. The idea is to shadow social service workers to get an idea of what a social worker does
WBL Activity 2: Guest Speakers	The plan is to have social workers from various agencies in the Imperial Valley present to students of their journey and model social work careers.
WBL Activity 3: University Presentation	There will be a presentation from Northern Arizona University-Yuma Branch Campus. They are the number one feeder school for social work majors.

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Course Policies

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.
- In this course, there will be weekly quizzes, current events and discussion questions. Your attendance is gauged by logging on to CANVAS, completing these assignments.
- If, after reviewing the syllabus and orientation unit, you feel this is not the right course for you, please let me know ASAP, so that you can be dropped from the course and another student can be added in your place. Students who miss more than two graded assignments (quizzes, thought papers, or review questions) may be dropped from the course. In addition, students who fail to log in to the course for 7 consecutive days' risk being dropped from the course. If you are struggling,

having issues accessing this class online, or are seriously ill, please contact me immediately so we can develop a success plan together.

Logging on to CANVAS is not enough to demonstrate attendance.

The deadline to drop all full-term classes with a "W" is NOVEMBER 04, 2023.

Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is to take and present as their own, the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly 'cite a source', you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question. Anyone caught cheating will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following:
  - plagiarism
  - copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment.
  - communicating test information with another person during an examination.
  - allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment.
  - use of a commercial term paper service.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Assignments Due
Week 1 August 14-20	Review of Syllabus & 1st Week Assignment Review Volunteer Assignment	See Canvas Module
Week 2 August 21-27	Chapter 1: What Is Social Work? Chapter 2: History of Social Welfare & the Social Work Profession	See Canvas Module
Week 3 August 28 – September 5	Chapter 3: Poverty and Economic Disparity	See Canvas Module
Week 4 September 4-10	Chapter 4: Human Rights and Social and Economic Justice Chapter 5: Dimensions of Diversity	See Canvas Module
Week 5 September 11-17	Chapter 6: Generalist Social Work Practice	See Canvas Module
Week 6 September 18-24	Exam #1: (Chapters 1 – 5	See Canvas Module
Week 7 September 25-October 1	Chapter 7: Child Welfare: Working with Children and Their Families	See Canvas Module

Week 8 October 2-8	Chapter 8: Gerontology: Working with People Who Are Older	See Canvas Module
Week 9 October 9-15	Chapter 9: Health Care Services	See Canvas Module
Week 10 October 16-22	Chapter 10: Mental Health Services	See Canvas Module
Week 11 October 23-29	Exam #2 (Chapters 6-10)	See Canvas Module
Week 12 October 30-November 5	Chapter 11: School Social Work	See Canvas Module
Week 13 November 6-12	Chapter 12: Substance Abuse	See Canvas Module
Week 14 November 13-19	Chapter 13: Violence, Victims, and Criminal Justice	See Canvas Module
Week 15 November 20-26	Thanksgiving Break – No Assignments this Week!	See Canvas Module

Week 16 November 27 – December 3	Chapter #14: Crisis, Trauma, and Disasters Chapter #15: International Social Work	See Canvas Module
Week 17 December 4-9	Exam #3 (Chapters 11-15)	See Canvas Module

Subject to change without prior notice