
Course Outline

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CO-INSTRUCTOR: Dana Jennejohn, MSW, RSW

OFFICE LOCATION: A2011

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OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment M-F 9:00 am-5:00 pm

CLASSROOM: TBD

TIME: Tuesday 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

DATES: January 10th - April 11th

TELEPHONE: 867.668.8746 (Dana)

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA COURSE DESCRIPTION

Cultural theories, concepts and related structural issues are considered from personal and professional perspectives. Knowledge, skills and values of the culturally competent northern social worker are explored. Wellness, family, community and helping within an Indigenous historical and contemporary context are examined.

ADDITIONAL YUKON BSW COURSE DESCRIPTION

Self-awareness is critical to practicing cultural humility and engaging in culturally informed social work practice. Students are encouraged to examine their social location and the impact that their cultural background has their perception of the world and how that relates to their social work practice. The course explores concepts of culture, power, privilege, oppression, resilience and resurgence. The themes of caring, community, wellness, culture and culturally informed helping underpin the course.

The course concepts and themes inform discussions and explorations of the history of Yukon First Nations as well as their plans for the future through self-government agreements. Contemporary caring and helping in Yukon First Nations communities are discussed. This course also prepares students for Cultural Camp (SW 352) in a rural community. Cultural Camp is an opportunity to integrate learning done in SW 389 and other social work courses.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Completion of 30 credit hours. Admittance in to the BSW program. SW 389 is a pre-requisite for SW 352: Cultural Camp.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Receiving institutions determine course transferability. Find further information at:

<https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit>

UR LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to demonstrate:

1. An understanding of his/her cultural background and how this has influenced their perspective of the world.
2. Knowledge of theories and sociological perspectives of culture, dimensions of culture and layers of cultural identity.
3. Define and apply principles of culturally informed social work practice.
4. Knowledge about the traditions and values of Yukon First Nation people and how this pertains to current social work practice.
5. Understanding of the influence and impact of historical events on Yukon First Nation people and the implication of this for social work practice.
6. Awareness of political, social, cultural, spiritual, health and economic contexts of First Nation communities today and the implications for social work practice.
7. Understanding of First Nations perspectives on wellness.
8. Knowledge of contemporary caring and helping practice within First Nation communities.
9. Skills for working effectively with diverse groups.
10. Skills to be an ally for groups experiencing social injustices.
11. Knowledge of advocacy for social justice, social change, and the need to actualize First Nations worldviews within the practice of social work.
12. Self-awareness and personal development in the areas of wellness and culturally informed social work practice competence.

COURSE FORMAT

Breakdown of Instructional Hours

Approximately 3 hours in class instructional time per week. Some weeks may include a ½ hour of online activity. It is expected that this course will require approximately 9 hours per week (on average) to complete assigned readings and assignments. It is important to note that the time will vary by individual and depending on the week's assigned readings and when assignments are due.

Delivery Format

This course is delivered in-person at Yukon University. This course will be conducted through lectures, group discussions/activities, student presentations, guest lecturers, and audio-visual displays both in-person and through on-line platforms along with some online discussion. Students are expected take an active role in class by completing readings, participating in discussions and preparing material to share each class. The class will typically be divided into segments: an opening check-in, an informational lecture/guest speaker, group exercise/skill development, group discussion and closing circle.

Students are expected to read the assigned readings prior to class and to actively participate in class discussions and the analysis of concepts and their usefulness for social work are important parts of learning. The course instructors will provide many different learning opportunities inside and outside of class to accommodate a range of learning styles. The extent of students' learning will depend on their level of participation and personal quest for understanding the topics covered in this course.

EVALUATION

Assignment #1	25%
Assignment #2	25%
Assignment #3	25%
Assignment #4	25%
Total	100%

Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation is an expectation of all students preparing themselves for the responsibilities of professional social work practice. Courtesy to others, curiosity about the subject and diligence to the task of learning are all required for a student's success in this course. Readings and assignments are to be completed on schedule, punctuality for class is required, and full engagement in experiential learning within class time is mandatory.

“Regular and punctual attendance is expected of students in their courses. Students who are persistently tardy or absent or who neglect academic work may be subject to disciplinary action and may be excluded from the final examination” (University of Regina, 1996-97, p. 19).

Students who miss more than 2 classes will have 5% of their final grade deducted for each additional class missed or portion thereof. If a student misses more than two classes, they may choose to speak with the instructor and ask for an additional assignment to complete in lieu of this missed class, thereby avoiding a deduction in their term grade. The instructor has discretion over a) whether to grant this option to the student and b) the content and format of the assignment. Without exception this additional assignment must be completed satisfactorily prior to the end of term.

Readings

Students are expected to attend classes prepared to discuss assigned readings. Most class sessions involve assigned readings from the textbooks and/or handouts. Additional material may also be assigned.

Assignments

Refer to the **Assignment Description** document for the details on these assignments which include information on expectations and evaluation criteria. The University of Regina Grading Rubric is used in the evaluation of assignments. The descriptions will be provided on the first day of classes.

Assignment #1	Due: Week #5, February 7 th	25%
Assignment #2	Due: Week #8, March 7 th	25%
Assignment #3	Due: Week #11, March 28 th	25%
Assignment #4	Due: Week #13, April 11 th	25%

Writing Expectations, Due Dates and Penalties

- Competence in writing is expected in courses. Wherever possible, instructors are expected to conduct their courses in such a way as to obtain evidence of student writing skills, in term papers, essays, reports, or other written work, and to demand competence in writing for a passing grade. (U. Regina Calendar)
- Write assignments using appropriate language. Check grammar and spelling.
- Academic references from professional journals, books, etc. are required for all assignments.
- APA format is to be used for all assignments.
- Assignments are due in class on the date assigned. Assignments handed in after this time must have the date/time of submission noted by an Applied Arts administration assistant. An assignment handed in after 4:00 P.M. of the due date is "late" and penalties will apply. 5% will be deducted for every day late up to a maximum of 5 late days, after which time the assignment will not be accepted.
- The instructor is under no obligation to provide you opportunities to re-do your work after it has been submitted for marking. Rewriting provides an extra burden of work for the instructor and an uneven and potentially unfair evaluation process. If the instructor permits a rewrite, the maximum mark that can be achieved will be 70% for the assignment.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Refer to the University of Regina and Yukon U website for important dates. Each institution has different deadlines for refund and withdraw deadlines.

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIAL

Please note: All texts will be available at the bookstore. All texts are also available for purchase online in either hardcopy or e-book versions. Other assigned readings and course materials are available online and links will be provided in the syllabus and on the SW 389 Moodle site.

Baskin, C. (2022). *Strong Helpers' Teachings: The Value of Indigenous Knowledges in the Helping Professions* (3rd Ed.). Canada: Canadian Scholars' Press, Inc.

Johnson, A. (2018). *Privilege, Power and Difference* (3rd Ed.). United States: McGraw Hill Higher Education.

Mitchell, S. (2018). *Sacred Instructions. Indigenous Wisdom for Living Spirit-Based Change*. United States: North Atlantic Books.

Other required readings will be available on the SW 389 Moodle site.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT (UNIVERSITY OF REGINA CALENDAR)

Please refer to the University of Regina calendar for other forms of academic misconduct. Students are bound by University academic integrity policies. Please review online calendar for further information. http://www.uregina.ca/gencal/ugcal/attendanceEvaluation/ugcal_77.shtml.

5.14.2 Academic Misconduct

Acts of academic dishonesty or misconduct contravene the general principles described in §5.14.1. In this section, some of these acts are described. Others which are not explicitly described here may also be considered academic misconduct. All forms of academic misconduct are considered serious offences within the University community. For the penalties, see §5.14.5.

5.14.2.1 Cheating

Cheating is dishonest behaviour (or the attempt to behave dishonestly), usually in tests or examinations. It includes:

- unless explicitly authorized by the course instructor or examiner, using books, notes, diagrams, electronic devices, or any other aids during an examination, either in the examination room itself or when permitted to leave temporarily;
- copying from the work of other students;
- communicating with others during an examination to give or receive information, either in the examination room or outside it;
- consulting others on a take-home examination (unless authorized by the course instructor);
- commissioning or allowing another person to write an examination on one's behalf;
- not following the rules of an examination;
- using for personal advantage, or communicating to other students, advance knowledge of the content of an examination (for example, if permitted to write an examination early);
- altering answers on an assignment or examination that has been returned;
- taking an examination out of the examination room if this has been forbidden.

5.14.2.2 Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty in which one person submits or presents the work of another person as his or her own, whether from intent to deceive, lack of understanding, or carelessness. Unless the course instructor states otherwise, it is allowable and expected that students will examine and refer to the ideas of others, but these ideas must be incorporated into the student's own analysis and must be clearly acknowledged

through footnotes, endnotes, or other practices accepted by the academic community. Students' use of others' expression of ideas, whether quoted verbatim or paraphrased, must also be clearly acknowledged according to acceptable academic practice. It is the responsibility of each student to learn what constitutes acceptable academic practice. The Department of English Style Guide is available inexpensively from the University Bookstore. Students may also consult online resources such as the University of Toronto Writing Centre's "How Not to Plagiarize": www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html.

Plagiarism includes the following practices:

- not acknowledging an author or other source for one or more phrases, sentences, thoughts, code, formulae, or arguments incorporated in written work, software, or other assignments (substantial plagiarism);
- presenting the whole or substantial portions of another person's paper, report, piece of software, etc. as an assignment for credit, even if that paper or other work is cited as a source in the accompanying bibliography or list of references (complete plagiarism). This includes essays found on the Internet.

Students who are uncertain what plagiarism is should discuss their methodology with their instructors.

5.14.2.3 Other Examples of Academic Misconduct

The following list contains other examples of dishonest acts. It is not intended to be comprehensive.

- Falsifying lab results;
- Padding a bibliography with works not read or used;
- Helping another student in an act of academic dishonesty; for example, writing a test or paper for someone else, or preparing materials for another student's studio project;
- Providing false or incomplete information or supporting documents/materials on an application for admission, re-admission, or transfer (see also §2.1.2);
- Providing false information to obtain a deferral of term work or examination;
- Altering or falsifying, or attempting to alter or falsify, grade information or other records of academic performance (one's own or someone else's);
- Obtaining or attempting to obtain an academic advantage by non-academic means such as bribes or threats;
- Hindering other students in obtaining fair access to University materials and facilities; for example, cutting an article out of a Library copy of a journal;
- Theft of another student's notes;
- Alteration or destruction of the work of other students;
- Behaviour that interferes with the evaluation of another student's work, such as failure to participate in a group project.

The two acts listed below may be considered to be academic misconduct unless authorized by the course instructor.

- Submitting the same or substantially the same work for credit in more than one course. Students who wish to submit work they have prepared for

another course must consult the course instructor and receive permission to do so.

- Working jointly, with another student or group of students, on an assignment that is to be graded. If no explicit instructions are given by the instructor about group work, students who wish to work together must request the instructor's permission in advance.

SOCIAL WORK STUDENT CONDUCT

As future social workers, students must subscribe to a set of social work values and ethics, which include equality, justice, non-discrimination, advocacy, confidentiality, discretion, trust and utmost good faith (from Faculty of Social Work, University of Regina). Social workers are expected to behave in courteous, mature and respectful ways towards others. This is also the expectation of social work students. Appropriate behaviour is required between students in the classroom, with the instructor and at any time when students are approaching others in relation to projects originating from this class.

Part of professional conduct involves being punctual, prepared and self aware. Being present in class, prepared for class (by completing the readings and assignments on the dates due) and fully participating in class activities is expected.

More information on expectations of student academic and non-academic conduct is found in the University of Regina Undergraduate Calendar (5.14) and the University of Regina Faculty of Social Work website (Policy and Procedures Related to Unsatisfactory Professional Development).

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Yukon University is committed to providing a positive, supportive, and barrier-free academic environment for all its students. Students experiencing barriers to full participation due to a visible or hidden disability (including hearing, vision, mobility, learning disability, mental health, chronic or temporary medical condition), should contact [Accessibility Services](#) for resources or to arrange academic accommodations: access@yukonu.ca.

GRADING DESCRIPTIONS (University of Regina Calendar)

90-99 An outstanding performance with very strong evidence of:

- an insightful and comprehensive grasp of the subject matter;
- a clear ability to make sound and original critical evaluation of the material given;
- outstanding capacity for original creative and/or logical thought;
- an excellent ability to organize, to analyse, to synthesize, to integrate ideas, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

80-89 Very good performance with strong evidence of:

- a comprehensive grasp of the subject matter;
- an ability to make sound critical evaluation of the material given;
- a good capacity for original, creative, and/or logical thinking;
- a very good ability to organize, to analyse, to synthesize, to integrate ideas, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

70-80 Above average performance with evidence of

- a substantial knowledge of the subject matter;
- a good understanding of the relevant issues and a good familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- some capacity for original, creative, and/or logical thinking;
- an above-average ability to organize, to analyse and to examine the subject material in a critical and constructive manner, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

60-69 A generally satisfactory and intellectually adequate performance with evidence of:

- an acceptable basic grasp of the subject material;
- a fair understanding of the relevant issues;
- a general familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- an ability to develop solutions to moderately difficult problems related to the subject material;
- a moderate ability to examine the material in a critical and analytical manner, and to express thoughts in writing.

50-59 A barely acceptable performance with evidence of

- a familiarity with the subject material;
- some evidence that analytical skills have been developed;
- some understanding of relevant issues;
- some familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- partially successful attempts to solve moderately difficult problems related to the subject material and to examine the material in a critical and analytical manner;
- basic competence in writing.

0-49 An unacceptable performance.