

Summer 2024

BSW/MSW Elective Course Description

HWC 479 Special Topics in Social Work: Models of Change - Trailblazers, 'Good' Troublemakers, & Change Agents

This class will explore human rights advocates and dig deep into the social movements that have driven societal change. This class stresses the need for social workers to use a human rights framework for practice, especially in our interconnected global economy. This course will examine human rights, social work as a human rights profession, and in particular, vulnerable populations. This class will highlight timely issues such as human trafficking and environmental justice and will highlight advocates who like John Lewis "Get in good trouble, necessary trouble, and help redeem the soul of America".

HWC 479/579 Special Topics in Social Work: Food Justice II: Exploring Policy Implications and Prefigurative Imaginings Towards Food rights

This course allows students to delve more deeply into the strengths and limitations of U.S. and global food policy and practice. Specific attention is given to issues of food justice, food sovereignty, and the possibilities of rights-based alternatives to the food system as currently structured. Students are tasked with a critical examination of the U.S. & global food system, and have the opportunity to strengthen skills of policy analysis and development. By deploying their developing social work lens, students will be able to extend their imaginative visions of food-just policies and practice, and craft alternatives which advocate for transformative reforms towards food rights and justice.

When offered as a Summer or Winter elective, this course includes a required service-learning component, i.e., mandatory weekly in-person participation of at least 3 hours (travel time inclusive) with a local food justice organization, or completion of alternative assignment(s).

(Completion of HWC 379 Food Justice I: Advocacy Practice for Food rights is recommended, but not required.)

HWC 536 Special Topics in Social Work: Fathers and Families

This advanced practice elective focuses on engagement, assessment, and interventions with fathers in social work practice. The course provides an historical overview of fatherhood, the socio-cultural context of fatherhood and masculinity, considerations for work with diverse fathers, engagement of men in various settings to enhance fathering, and child support policy in the context of work with men and fathers. This course is offered online with scheduled guest speakers from various father-serving organizations including NYC Office of Child Support Services.

HWC 548 Adolescent Development and Health Promotion

The effect on adolescent development of physiological changes, relationships with peers and family, and societal expectations are examined. Emphasis is on the development of assessment and engagement skills for working with adolescents and their families to help counteract adolescent self-destructive behavior and promote well-being.

HWC 556 Proposal Writing in Health and Human Service Fields

This course provides a comprehensive study of the principles and methods used to prepare program, training, research, demonstration and other types of proposals. Extensive workshop practice in developing appropriate writing skills and in locating and accessing funding sources is included.

HWC 554 Special Topics in Social Work: Legislative Advocacy for Social Workers

The course will introduce students to the role that citizens, and social workers, play in shaping and influencing the legislative process - from elections to researching, writing and passing legislation. This course will primarily focus on the New York State legislature. Students will be introduced to the role that elections take in shaping policy and political accountability; the role that social workers can play in shaping policy; and how to go about influencing policy. Students will develop the skills necessary to succeed in legislative advocacy on behalf of their clients and the profession.

HWC 577 Program Evaluation

This course provides an in-depth analysis of the technical requirements of program evaluation and the organizational and political constraints that influence the evaluation process. Techniques in the design and implementation of evaluation research in the health and human services fields are covered. Prerequisites: HWC 511 and 512

HWC 579 Special Topics in Social Work: Emotionally Focused Therapy for Individual Couples and Families

Emotionally Focused Therapy is an evidence-based, state of the art, new science researched relational therapy with a success rate of almost 75% effective five years after treatment. Students will understand and practice the basic experiential and systemic concepts of an “Emotionally Focused” approach to therapy. Students will be able to view clients interpersonal attachments and conceptualize relationship distress and repair based on theories of attachment and emotion including trauma-informed strategies to address the invisible wounds of those most harmed. Students will develop and practice skills in overcoming common blocks and impasses in individual, couple and family modalities and so shaping core corrective emotional experiences.

HWC 579 Special Topics in Social Welfare: Working Together: Interprofessional Telehealth

This elective provides an opportunity for Medical, Nursing, Dental, and Social Welfare students to collaborate. This four-week elective will focus on the integration of multiple clinical specialties (e.g. medicine; nursing; social work) and the incorporation of telehealth to deliver timely and effective care. It will be offered via a hybrid model blending live virtual meetings on Zoom and off-line asynchronous activities on Blackboard. Students will explore the different roles of a multidisciplinary clinical team, telehealth communication and practice, as well as best practices in addressing cultural diversity and health disparities in virtual care. Drawing from a central clinical case, students will be assessed through live simulation activities, group reflections, group projects, group discussion based on reading assignments, peer and self-evaluations.