SOCW2006

Social Work Practice - Community Work

Term Three // 2020

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Linda Bartolomei	linda.bartolomei@unsw.edu.au	Mondays 1pm - 3pm	Level 1 Morven Brown	02 9385 1859

Tutors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Joanna Brooke	joanna.brooke@unsw.edu.au	By arrangement		

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course introduces you to community work concepts and practice in national and international social work contexts. Drawing on human rights and strengths based approaches you will analyse the changing political contexts in which community work is located. It aims to develop knowledge of the theories and skills you will need to engage in effective community work practice. Applied field examples will be used to assist you to understand and examine the difference between working at the grass roots level, national and international levels, with diverse groups of people. Using case studies from a range of fields of practice, including community work with social housing communities, children and youth and refugee and migrant communities, you will explore the history and politics of community work. Critical and creative skills in the 'doing' of community work will be developed. These include skills in community engagement, consultation and needs assessment, working with at risk and marginalised populations, cross-cultural communication, working with interpreters and in advocacy.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify skills needed for assisting communities to bring about social change in economic, social, cultural and environmental conditions
2. Develop competence in the application of selected skills and strategies around decision-making and taking action
3. Understand values and ethics involved in community work practice
4. The capacity for analytical and critical thinking and for creative problem-solving

Teaching Strategies

Rationale:

The first weeks of the course introduce students to the key principles of community work and build a framework for analysis. These key principles include community involvement, collaborative working, experiential learning, social justice, participation and respect for diversity .The subject encompasses a participatory approach to education, which most suits the requirements of community work. It is based on the belief that learning is most effective when it uses individuals' existing knowledge and experience as building blocks. It values both group based and individual learning tasks.

Assessment

Detailed assessment guidelines will be provided in class and on Moodle.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Conceptual Briefing Paper	35%	TBC	1,3
Simulation	20%	Weeks 8, 9 and 10	1,2,3
Community work simulation write up	45%	TBC	1,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Conceptual Briefing Paper

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 1000 words

Details:

Identify a social problem facing Australia today and prepare a 1500 word briefing paper which outlines how a community development approach might contribute to addressing this problem. Electronic feedback is provided within two weeks of submission.

Additional details:

A detailed assessment guide will be posted on Moodle and discussed in the tutorial in week 1

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

Assessment 2: Simulation

Start date:

Length: 30 minutes

Details:

In small groups, you will prepare and lead an interactive 30-minute simulation of a community work project which draws on course learning. Peer and tutor feedback is provided in class following the presentation and electronic feedback will be provided within two weeks of the presentation.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 3: Community work simulation write up

Start date:

Length: 2000 words

Details:

You will prepare a 2000 word individual theoretical analysis of the situation addressed in the simulation and a rationale for the community development strategies used. Electronic feedback is provided within two weeks of submission. This is the final assessment in the course.

Additional details:

A detailed assessment guide will be posted on Moodle and discussed in the tutorial in weeks 2 and 3

Submission notes: Due one week following presentation of the simulation

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

Attendance Requirements

- Lectures in this course are designed to provide essential learning, this means you must attend or listen to all 9 lectures which are being offered synchronously as well as being recorded with the lecture link posted on Moodle. If you miss or do not catchup on lectures you will struggle to complete and pass the course assignments
- Tutorials are designed to provide essential application of content; this means you must attend 80% or more of the tutorials which are being offered face to face/synchronously online in T3.

If you are unable to attend a tutorial, you must email your course tutor at your earliest convenience. If you attend less than 80% of tutorials, you may be refused final assessment. This means that if you do not attend at least 80% of possible tutorials your final assignment may receive a mark of zero. You are responsible for keeping track of your attendance and contacting your course convenor Dr Linda Bartolomei 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 Community Simulation write-up worth 45% 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.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 14 September - 18 September	Lecture	Introduction: What is community? Exploring the concept of community work.
	Tutorial	Introductions -What is community? Exploring the politics of community development Discussion about assignments (1) Conceptual paper , (2) and (3) The in-class community work small group simulation and write-up
Week 2: 21 September - 25 September	Lecture	Community development: a conceptual framework for practice
	Tutorial	Working in partnership with communities Interactive small group tutorial exercises to build conceptual and practice skills.

Week 3: 28 September - 2 October	Lecture	Foundations of community work (human rights and social justice)
	Tutorial	Tools to support effective community engagement Interactive small group tutorial exercises to build conceptual and practice skills.
Week 4: 5 October - 9 October	Lecture	Applying a rights-based approach to community work -Film and case studies. Available online in lieu of the lecture which falls on a public holiday.
	Tutorial	Humna Rights and Social Justice in practice Interactive small group tutorial exercises to build conceptual and practice skills.
Week 5: 12 October - 16 October	Lecture	Advocacy and social action at local, national and international levels.
	Tutorial	Social action Advocacy: From the grassroots to the UN, examples of advocacy: video 'Only Rape'
Week 6: 19 October - 23 October	Reading	Flexibiity week - No sheduled classes this week
Week 7: 26 October - 30 October	Lecture	Community work in practice: Case Study 1
	Tutorial	In Class Group Community Project simulation development.
Week 8: 2 November - 6 November	Lecture	Community work in practice: Case Study 2
	Tutorial	In Class Group Community Project simulations x 2
Week 9: 9 November - 13 November	Lecture	Community work in practice: Case Study 3
	Tutorial	In Class Group Community Project simulations x 2 Course Evaluation
Week 10: 16 November - 20 November	Lecture	Drawing the threads together: Key skills, concepts and debates
	Tutorial	In class Group Simulations x 2 Class evaluation.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Essential readings: In this subject, it is expected that you will seek out specialist journals on topics related to yours and others' presentations.

Below are useful journals in the area:
Community Quarterly
Community Development Journal
Critical Social Policy
Housing Studies
International Journal of Urban & Regional Research
Just Policy
Journal of the American Planning Association
Local Government Studies

Recommended Resources

The readings listed in Leganto and Moodle are provided as preliminary background reading. Each has been selected to provide an introduction to the key course theoretical and practical principles. It is expected that students will have read the nominated readings prior to the scheduled class and that they will draw on these in their written assignments. However, students are expected to do their own research at the library additional to the recommended readings and class handouts. Thus, although a recommended text for this course is listed below, it is up to you to make the link to lectures and to read the relevant chapters in preparation for tutorials.

Recommended texts

Kenny, S & Connors, P (2017), *Developing communities for the future*, 5th edn, Victoria Cengage Learning, Melbourne.

To purchase the hard copy go to https://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au/details.cgi?ITEMNO=9780170254717

To purchase an electronic copy go to https://unswbookshop.vitalsource.com/products/-v9780170279215

Ife, J (2016) Human Rights from Below, Cambridge University Press

To purchase the hard copy go to https://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au/details.cgi?ITEMNO=9780521711081

To purchase an electronic copy go to https://unswbookshop.vitalsource.com/products/-v9780511849527

Students wishing to obtain high grades for assessment will have to demonstrate individual research and application of theory to descriptions of policy and practice. Unless using references for historic purposes, never use books or articles older than ten years, the more recent the better, and ensure that documents you are discussing are current.

Course Evaluation and Development

Student evaluative feedback is gathered periodically using, among other means, UNSW's myExperience process. Informal feedback and class-generated feedback are also important. Student feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based in part on such feedback. Significant changes to the course are communicated to subsequent cohorts of students taking the course. The course content, teaching and assessment methods are regularly reviewed and updated taking student feedback into account. Based on student feedback in 2016 an additional tutorial session was included early in the course to assist students to identify skills and concepts required for the Community Event assignment. Based on the combined student feedback from 2016 and 2017 the requirement to attend a local Council meeting has now been removed and the brief reflective assignment has been replaced by a 1000 word Conceptual briefing paper to better scaffold student learning of the key theoretical frameworks which underpin community work. Student feedback in 2019 called for deeper engagement with community work theory in order to provide a stronger framework for practice and to assist them in their assessments. To address this request the lecture topics have been revised in order to introduce a wider range of relevant theoretical frameworks and of applied case studies. Due to COVID 19 the major assessment has been revised. Students are no longer required to attend and evaluate a community event or project. Instead, you will prepare a theoretical analysis of the group community work simulation which is now assessment two. I look forward to your feedback on these changes and to your suggestions for further revisions which might further strengthen this course.

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/

Image Credit

Picture by Linda Bartolomei, UNSW Centre for Refugee Research, New Delhi 2015. Permission was granted by the women featured.

CRICOS

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.