



SER 225: Social Work Issues: Diversity and Oppression

Social Workers promote social justice and social change, are responsive to cultural diversity and address all forms of oppression and discrimination. This course introduces the student to the life-long learning process of (1) addressing issues of power and privilege and (2) developing culturally competent social work practices. We will explore issues related to working with diverse groups of people locally and globally with regard to gender, ethnicity, race, citizenship status, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic level, ability status, age, and faith. Emphasis will be placed on defining and developing skills for culturally competent social work generalist practice through students' self-reflection, experiential learning, and critical analysis of privilege and social inequalities. This course aims to ground students in a strengths-based/ empowerment model and to support students in their work towards a more socially just world. Prerequisite: SER 101. Three lecture hours per week. Gen Ed Competency met: Ethical Dimensions.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to: 1. Define power, privilege, and oppression using historical trends and local and global comparisons. 2. Analyze key social justice issues relevant to the field of human services. 3. Describe ways to advance human rights and social and economic justice. 4. Analyze interactions among individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations. 5. Analyze personal values, beliefs, attitudes, and ethics regarding the intersectionality of course concepts and how these affect practice.

Credits: 3

Program: Human Services