



Bachelor of Social Work Program

SOWK 4334, Section 110 Environmental Social Work

Semester: Spring 2020

Meeting Time/Place: Wednesday 7-10p.m.

Instructor:

Veronica Molina, MSSW, ACSW
Doctor of Social Work Candidate
Assistant Professor & Assistant Field Coordinator, Title IV-E Director

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Office Hours:

Important Course

Access Information:

Canvas

Portions of this course are delivered via Canvas Online Learning at <https://tamuct.instructure.com/login/ldap>. Please ensure you have access to Canvas.

Email

The social work program, as well at TAMU-CT, corresponds frequently with students via email. In this regard, all students are required to have routine access to email. Personal email addresses should be connected to your A&M email address. For assistance, please contact Information Technology Services at 254-519-5426, its@tamuct.edu, visit them in Founder's Hall room 113 or online at <http://www.ct.tamus.edu/departments/informationtechnology/contact.php>.

The following course has curriculum that prepares students with the necessary casework skills required by 45CFR1356.60 Title IV-E Training Program



**911 Shield: TAMUCT safety application links you directly to the campus safety forces.
Download the App**

Course Description

In this seminar we will explore global—domestic and international—environmental issues from a social work perspective that foregrounds questions of social justice. The field of environmental justice asks for fair treatment of all people regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, economic capacity, national origin, and education level with respect to environmental politics and their implementations. In this and other aspects, the environmental justice perspective differs from traditional environmental philosophies in that it seeks to combine a concern for the natural world with a consciousness of ethnic, class, and gender discrimination. From this vantage point it is argued that throughout the world there are marked and increasing disparities between those who have access to clean and safe resources and those who do not. Often poor and minority communities bear a disproportionately large burden of toxic contamination and suffer the health problems that result from it, while the elite and powerful tend to control the valuable resources. Disparities of this nature may be the result of historical circumstances, contemporary economic and trade relations, and inadequate or inappropriate governmental regulation. They may also be the result of deliberate targeting of disenfranchised communities or weak nations to bear the burden of powerful communities' and nations' unsustainable consumption patterns. Perceived as “paths of least resistance”, minority and low-income communities or nations are targets as sites for dumping of toxic waste and environmentally hazardous substances. This course is web-enhanced and can be online up to 49%.

Prerequisites: None

Nature of Course

This course will provide students an opportunity to explore a range of issues related to environmental social work on the micro, mezzo and macro level. Types of environmental issues will be explored and how students can become effective environmental social work advocates, activists, and allies able to facilitate intra-and intergenerational equity, involving consideration of environmental rights for present and future generations. The course includes a service-learning experiential project.



Teaching Method

The primary teaching approach in this course will be collaborative learning. Material in the course will be presented through class discussions on readings, videotapes, and in-class group exercises. Guest presenters and field trips will provide an in depth view of the current challenges and services.

About Your Professor

As your Instructor, I look forward to providing support and guidance to assist you on your journey to learning about what it means to be a generalist social worker. I hold a Bachelors and Masters in Social Work and worked in child welfare for over eight years. I enjoy being able to share my experiences to better help your understanding of the opportunities, realities and challenges of the social work profession in child welfare. My desire is that your experiences in this interactive course will help you identify an area of social work practice that calls to you.

Program Mission

The mission of the BSW Program at Texas A&M University - Central Texas is to prepare high quality graduates for entry-level generalist social work practice and advanced education. This education is delivered in a rigorous and student-centered learning environment that promotes professional behavior, values and ethics, human and community well-being, respect for human diversity, and a global perspective, and is guided by a person-in-environment framework, knowledge based on scientific inquiry, and social work competencies.

Program Framework

The Social Work Program curriculum is rooted in a framework established by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Specifically, the program endeavors to develop social workers who promote human and community well-being by being able to demonstrate the following 9 core competencies upon graduation:

1. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior
2. Engage diversity and difference in practice
3. Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice
4. Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice
5. Engage in policy practice



6. Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities
7. Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities
8. Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities
9. Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

Each core competency has specific, measurable practice behaviors that help students and their professors determine if the competency has been achieved. There are 31 total practice behaviors. The complete list of practice behaviors can be found at the end of this syllabus or by reviewing the student handbook.

Course Objectives & Related CSWE Practice Behaviors

This course provides content that helps to prepare you, the generalist social work student, to engage in the following CSWE competencies and related practice behaviors:

- 1.1 make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, ethical conduct of research, and additional codes of ethics as appropriate to context;
- 3.2 engage in practices that advance social, economic, and environmental justice.
- 5.3 apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice.

The objectives for this course, that support the CSWE related practice behaviors, are:

- A. Students will develop general understanding of environmental justice and be able to identify factors that contribute to the existence of disparities in environmental outcomes
- B. Students will explore aspects of environmental injustices through semester courses and service-learning
- C. Students will gain an understanding of the role social workers can play to address environmental injustice



The following table shows the relationship between: A) the course objectives, B) the CSWE related practice behaviors, and C) the assignments used to assess your ability to fulfill the objective related to the practice behavior:

A. Objectives <i>(By the completion of the course, it is expected that you will be able to...)</i>	B. CSWE Related Practice Behaviors <i>(This is the practice behavior that objective supports)</i>	C. Course Assignments <i>(This is the assignment used to assess your ability to fulfill the objective related to the practice behavior)</i>
1. Students will develop general understanding of environmental justice and be able to identify factors that contribute to the existence of disparities in environmental outcomes	5.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection Papers • Annotated Bibliography • Presentation • Service Learning
2. Students will explore aspects of environmental injustices through semester courses and service-learning	5.3, 3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection Papers • Annotated Bibliography • Presentation • Service Learning
3. Students will gain an understanding of the role social workers can play to address environmental injustice	5.3, 3.2, 1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection Papers • Annotated Bibliography • Presentation • Service Learning



Course Requirements

- In class field trips
- Participation with environmental impact service-learning project

Required Textbook

Erickson, C. (2018). *Environmental Justice as Social Work Practice*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Online Required Text

- Felten, P., & Clayton, P. H. (2011). Service-learning. *New Directions For Teaching & Learning*, 2011(128), 75-84.
- National Association of Social Workers. (2017). *Code of ethics of the national association of social workers*. Retrieved from <https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code>
- Porter, R. (2013). How Does your Garden Grow? Environmental Justice Aspects of Community Gardens. Retrieved from <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/aa90/7e12ac041d8606540fe9fde0276f7e7e8ce5.pdf>

A. *Final Grades*

A total of 800 points may be earned from the course assignments, as follows:

Course Assignment	Total Points
Environmental Justice News Reflection Papers 5	100
Annotated Bibliographies 4	100
Macro Environmental Impact Service-Learning Project	200
Mezzo Environmental Justice Campaign Presentation	100
Micro Environmental Justice Self- Awareness	100
Class attendance	100
Participation	100
Total	800

Final Class Grades are based on the following:

- A: 90 to 100 (720 points)
- B: 89 to 80 (640 points)
- C: 79 to 70 (560 points)
- D: 69 to 60 (480 points)
- F: 59 or less (400 points or less)



C. *Course Assignments*

The following activities will be completed during the semester.

1. *Environmental Justice News Reflection Papers (20 points each)*

Students will write a short reflection paper in reaction to domestic environmental justice issues in the news. Two paragraphs will be required for this reflection paper. One paragraph will provide a summary of the environmental justice issues, who is affected and the impact it has (10pts). The next paragraph will cover a reflection about what a social worker could do to take action towards this issue (10pts). A minimum of one page will be required for this assignment. **This will be graded on the quality (grammar & APA) and depth (Information and minimum of 5 sentences) of the students' reactions and how well they reflect what the student is learning from the class.** Students will not copy and paste any information. The reflection should be typed, with a cover page no less than one page in length, double spaced, font size 12, Times New Roman font and free of grammatical errors. (RAPB 9, 10)

2. *Annotated Bibliographies 25 points each*

The Annotated Bibliography assignment serves as a review of the literature surrounded the environmental justice topic selected by the student. Students will complete four annotated bibliographies that directly support their environmental justice topic. Students will use the TAMUCT library services to research and identify journal articles related to the selected topic. This will consist of two paragraphs and must be a minimum of one page. The first paragraph will be a summary of the peer-reviewed journal article read (10pts). The second paragraph will explain how this information will support their Mezzo Environmental Justice Campaign (10pts). (5pts will cover the grammar & APA) Students will turn in a cover page and a copy of the article. All will be stapled together. APA guidelines should be followed. (Unstapled papers will not be accepted) (RAPB 9,10) At the end of the semester, student will provide a brief presentation about their special topic and what they learned the issues are, and what is being done or what can be done to address the issues.

3. *Mezzo Environmental Justice Campaign Presentation 100 points*

Students will select an Environmental Justice Campaign topic approved by the professor. Students will not be allowed to select the same topic. Students will use any information that is substantial from their Annotated Bibliography research and outside sources. Students will prepare a short power points presentation following APA guidelines that will report the following:

Define the environmental justice issue (20pt)

Describe who is affected and how they are affected by the environmental issue (20pt)

- identify the size of the population affected (within a designated geographic area – county, state or nationally)
- describe the implications for those affected

Identify causes of the environmental justice issue (20pt)

- Identify the proximate (immediate) causes
- Suggest the true (underlying) causes; recognize that there are usually value judgments underlying any description of underlying causes.



Identify and outline a proposed solution (20pt)

- Identify a specific action that can be taken to address the issue and/or
- Describe and make a persuasive argument for a solution which is based upon evidence (established research, best practice or evidence based practice)

Power Point (10pt)

- Consist of a minimum of five slides
- Should be presented in a professional manner, however, include creativity to capture the audience
- Cited & without grammatical issues

References (5pt)

- All listed references used in correct APA format
- Must include the 4 articles of the annotated bibliographies as reference

Overall Presentation (5pt)

4. Macro Environmental Impact Service-Learning Project 200points

The course has an embedded Service Learning opportunity for students to engage in the environmental justice field. The class, through service learning will provide assistance to help organize, promote, set-up and prepare for special service learning project. Discussions in class will be held about updates on the project. Some class days may focus on the development of the seminar activities. Students will be graded based on their engagement and fulfillment of assigned duties:

- Community Impact/Earth Day event, 150
- Service Learning Reflection, 50

5. Micro Environmental Justice Self-Awareness 100 points

- Student self-carbon footprint, 20
- Recycle log, 20
- Community Garden visit, 20
- Houston Toxic Tour, 40 (Alternative assignment for students who cannot travel)



6. Class participation 100 points

The professor expects every student to be an active participant in class. You will learn more from this class if you talk and participate. Ask questions, remembering that there is no such thing as a wrong question. Share your reactions to what is being discussed. Reflect on implications of what we are studying. If you are a student who has never before chosen to talk in classes, this will be a good opportunity for you to start developing a new life skill that will serve you well in the profession of social work. (Students are encouraged not to divulge any personal information they will not be comfortable having their fellow students know about them.) Being an active participant increases understanding of the material for your fellow students as well.

Your class participation grade will be determined by how much you talked during class sessions and by whether your contributions added to the quality of the class sessions. The professor also reserves the right to call on students in class if they are not participating regularly in the discussions. (RAPB 4,5,6,7,8,10,12,13,15)

7. Class Attendance 100 points

Students are expected to be present for every scheduled class session. If your schedule will not permit you to attend this class on a predictable basis, you should not be enrolled in the class. (RAPB 1,2,3,10,14)



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CLASSROOMS

Social work practitioners respect others. Unfortunately, we have had extreme problems with disruptive and disrespectful behavior by students in classes, leading to the development of this code of conduct, which all students are required to follow. Please see the Rubric for Assessing Profession Behaviors.

1. Students are not permitted to enter class if they are more than ten (10) minutes late in arriving. Once the class (lecture, discussion, videotape, etc...) has begun, it is too late to come in; if you arrive at that point, you are asked not to enter as this can disrupt the class. Exceptions will be made with prior discussion and approval by the professor only.
2. Once class has begun, students are expected to remain for the duration of the class. It is expected that all students will take care of personal affairs (i.e., get beverages, take care of phone calls, meeting with students and other professors, use the restroom, etc.) before class begins. Students who have a medical/physical condition for which they need to request an exception to this policy need to discuss this with the professor to see if an exception can be granted. Students leaving the class outside of these parameters should not attempt to re-enter the class and will receive a 0 for class participation and/or attendance that day. **Please note:** *During the summer when classes are 2 hours and 30 minutes in length, the instructor will have a minimal 10 minute break built into each scheduled learning period to support student needs.*
4. Students are expected to display professional decorum at all times. This includes, but is not limited to, respecting classmates and the instructor. In this regard, it is expected that students will not speak to/hold conversations with/pass notes to other students once class has begun without recognition by the professor to do so. Talking during lecture, out of turn, or while other students are talking is disruptive to the learning environment, disrespectful to peers, and unprofessional in demeanor. Students are strongly encouraged to engage in discussion in respectful and appropriate manners; hence, it is expected that students apply classroom etiquette and raise a hand if there is something to share or to answer a question. It is also expected that students will display patience in raising a hand and recognize that the professor will eventually call on the student and/or may attempt to vary responses from peers and not call on the student in an effort to do so. Shouting out answers, making loud noises, and/or waving a hand vigorously to capture attention is unprofessional and inappropriate behavior. Consistent display of such behavior will result in consultation by the professor and can potentially impact the attendance/participation grade. **Please note:** *this professor will NOT assign seats to students. If behavior accelerates to such a need, a meeting will be requested with the student, the instructor and potentially the department to address appropriateness to be able to continue with the course. If it is determined that the behavior significantly impacts/impairs learning for other students, the student may be asked to leave the class permanently, resulting in an F for the course.*
5. To support the academic learning environment, students are asked to refrain from sharing personal information in class that will not support/add significantly to the class discussion. Sharing of personal stories and/or issues that are not related to the topic can distract class learning and limit knowledge sharing by the professor and other students. In this regard, please



note that the professor reserves the right to redirect/limit such conversations in class unless students are expressly asked to share such information by the instructor.

6. Use of personal technology or gadgets during class period is prohibited. This includes laptop computers, cell phones, i-pads, kindles, e-readers (unless the student has purchased the class textbook for use in this way, in which case this needs to be discussed with the professor), or any other kind of equipment. Exceptions to this are use of audio recording devices during lecture (with permission) and aid of assisted technology as permitted via a disability accommodation. Failure to adhere to this rule can result in being asked to leave the class and receiving a 0 for class participation/attendance for the day.
7. **All assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class on the day they are due.** Late work will not be accepted or graded unless this has been discussed with and approved by the professor BEFORE class on the due date of the assignment. *Being absent from class on a day when an assignment is due does NOT grant a student an extension to the due date;* the student must still arrange to get that assignment turned in to the professor before class starts. Allowing students to turn in assignments late for a grade is not fair to other students who got their work done on time, disrupts the grading process for the professors, and sends a message that such behavior is professionally “okay,” which it is not. This, as well as all other policies, will be held to strict code, and failure to adhere to this policy will result in a 0 for the assignment. This is inclusive of all assignments.
8. TAMU-CT expects all students to maintain high standards of personal and scholarly conduct and avoid any form of academic dishonesty, for which disciplinary sanctions exist. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (intentional or unintentional), copying another person's work, turning in someone else's work as your own, downloading material from the internet and inserting it into a paper as if it was your own work, taking ideas from classes or readings and putting them in a paper without citations/references, cheating on an examination or other academic work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. Any idea, even paraphrased ideas, used or borrowed must be given credit by showing the source with an appropriate citation or reference. **Any student who violates the university's policies regarding Academic Honesty will receive a failing grade in this course and will be reported to the Director of Student Affairs for additional university sanctions.** More information can be found at www.ct.tamus.edu/studentconduct.
9. Class discussions, oral presentations, and written materials must adhere to professional standards of expression and conform to the style described by the American Psychological Association (APA, 2009). This includes avoidance of the use of language that degrades women, people of color, gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered, and other diverse and at-risk populations. All students are expected to display the utmost respect for all people, regardless of differences.

The aforementioned policies are designed to create and foster a positive and rewarding learning environment for all students. Failure to adhere to the aforementioned class policies, as well as university policies, demonstrates a potential inability to conduct oneself professionally in the field of study. These policies are applicable throughout the program and, as such, students who consistently fail to comply with this code of conduct will be considered inappropriate candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Social Work at TAMU-CT as their behavior is considered inappropriate for a social work practitioner.



Students need to understand that the way you behave in class and the degree of responsibility you demonstrate in approaching your school work are used by the professors as a measure of your readiness to be formally admitted to the social work major, accepted for a field agency placement, and allowed to graduate with a BSW degree. Students who consistently fail to comply with this code of conduct will be considered inappropriate candidates for any of these measures of success in social work education because their behavior is considered inappropriate for a social work practitioner.

I. POLICIES

1. In any classroom situation that includes discussion and critical thinking, there are bound to be many different viewpoints. These differences enhance the learning experience and create an atmosphere where students and instructors alike will be encouraged to think and learn. On sensitive and volatile topics, students may sometimes disagree not only with each other but also with the instructor. It is expected that faculty and students will respect the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions.
2. Information shared in class about agencies and clients is considered confidential according to the NASW Code of Ethics regarding the sharing of information for supervisory purposes. Agencies are aware that information is shared in class for this purpose. However, discussions that are held outside of class regarding clients, supervisors, or agencies are a breach of confidentiality. Breach of confidentiality is grounds for removal from the Social Work Program.
3. Reading assignments: Students are expected to read the assigned materials (both in the textbook and in the class notes from the professor) prior to the class for which they are assigned. Students are responsible for the information in the assigned readings (whether or not the material has been discussed in class) and for the materials and videotapes presented in class. While in class, students are expected to raise any questions they have about material in the reading assignments they did not understand.
4. The professor will occasionally give out handouts in class. Due to the expense involved in printing and copying, only one copy will be given to each student. If you lose your copy, you will need to copy it from another student at your own expense. Copies will NOT be emailed to you for the same reason. Do NOT ask the professor for a second copy of any handouts or the syllabus.
5. Students should not bring their children with them to class. If an emergency arises that would require bringing a child to class, permission must be given by the Professor prior to the start of class.

1. Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a Drop Request Form[https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf]

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop



deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Integrity.

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student’s academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student’s work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university’s Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university’s standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

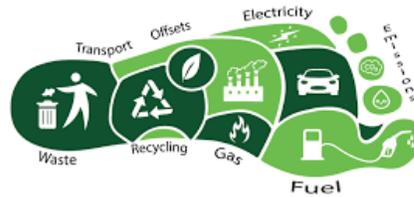
Academic Accommodations.

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the University’s programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html) webpage [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html].

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and guidance from US Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs’ Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. For more information, please visit <https://www.tamuct.departments/index.php>. Students may also contact the institution’s Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines online](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf), please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender – including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central



Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Division of Student Affairs at 254-501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring.

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. On-campus subjects tutored include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at 254-519-5796, or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log-in and receive FREE online tutoring and writing support. This tool provides tutoring in over forty subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Writing Center: Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10am-5pm Monday-Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday-Thursday from 6:00-9:00pm. Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) at [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu to schedule an online tutoring session. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process.

While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the University Writing Center is here to help!

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu.



University Library.

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On-campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/) [https://tamuct.libguides.com/].

Textbook Purchasing

A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

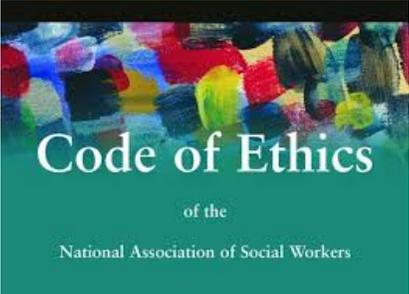
The professor reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time, as needed.



VIII. Course Schedule

Date	Class Activities	Assignments								
1/15 	Welcome Review Syllabus									
1/22	Chapter 1 Environmental Justice and Social Work Practice Felton and Clayton Article: Service Learning Review Video Clip <table border="1" data-bbox="326 772 1084 926"> <thead> <tr> <th>Direct Service</th> <th>Indirect Service</th> <th>Advocacy</th> <th>Research</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Clean up a block or neighborhood</td> <td>Using social media, help spread information to other students about a local environmental advocacy group</td> <td>Attend a local government meeting and/or write a letter to your legislators</td> <td>Research a local environmental justice issue (include surveys and collected data) and create a fact sheet</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Direct Service	Indirect Service	Advocacy	Research	Clean up a block or neighborhood	Using social media, help spread information to other students about a local environmental advocacy group	Attend a local government meeting and/or write a letter to your legislators	Research a local environmental justice issue (include surveys and collected data) and create a fact sheet	
Direct Service	Indirect Service	Advocacy	Research							
Clean up a block or neighborhood	Using social media, help spread information to other students about a local environmental advocacy group	Attend a local government meeting and/or write a letter to your legislators	Research a local environmental justice issue (include surveys and collected data) and create a fact sheet							
1/21 	ONLINE	Environmental Justice News Reflection 1 Carbon Footprint Due								
1/29	Chapter 2 Social Work's Foundational Concepts: Values and Skills for Environmental Justice Service Learning Discussion/Activity 									
2/5	ONLINE	Environmental Justice News Reflection 2 Annotated Bibliography 1								
2/12 	Chapter 3 Theoretical Foundations: Systems, Narrative, and Structural Theories Service Learning Discussion/Activity 									



2/19	ONLINE	Environmental Justice News Reflection 3 Annotated Bibliography 1
2/26	Chapter 4 Ethics for Environmental Social Work National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics Service Learning Discussion/Activity Video Clip 	
3/4/2020	ONLINE	Environmental Justice News Reflection 4 Annotated Bibliography 1
3/11	SPRING BREAK	
3/18	Chapter 5 Understanding Yourself and the Natural Environmental Service Learning Discussion/Activity Video Clip	
3/25	ONLINE	Environmental Justice News Reflection 5 Annotated Bibliography 1
4/1	Chapter 6 Phases of Social Work Practice for Environmental Justice Porter Article: Community Gardens Service Learning Discussion/Activity Video Clip	



<p>4/8</p> 	<p>Houston Toxic Tour led by Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Series</p> 	
<p>4/15</p>	<p>Chapter 7 Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families Toward Environmental Justice Chapter 8 Social Work Practice with Groups and Communities Toward Environmental Justice Service Learning Discussion/Activity Video clip</p>	
<p>4/22</p>	<p>EARTH DAY EVENT</p> 	<p>Macro Environmental Impact Service-Learning Project</p>
<p>4/29</p>	<p>Chapter 9 Social Work Practice with Policies and Organizations Toward Environmental Justice Video Clip</p>	<p>Community Garden Visit Reflection Service Learning Reflection</p>
<p>5/6</p>	<p>Mezzo Environmental Justice Campaign Presentation</p>	<p>Recycle Log Due</p>
<p>5/13</p> 	<p>Mezzo Environmental Justice Campaign Presentation</p>	



Rubric for Assessing Professional Behaviors (RAPB)

Students must demonstrate the ability to maintain scores of 3 or 4 in each of the following 15 professional behavior areas listed below to be considered for a field placement, as these are the expected professional behaviors of social work interns and professional social workers.

Professional Behaviors	1 Unacceptable	2 Needs Improvement	3 Acceptable	4 Outstanding
1. Attendance: Attends classes and related meetings (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)	Student has missed a significant (more than 6) number of classes and/or a sufficient number of meetings to impair performance.	Student has missed several (4-5) classes and/or a moderate number meetings such that it impacts performance.	Student attends almost all classes (missing no more than 3) and/or attends almost all meetings such that absence does not impact/impair performance.	Student attends all classes and/or meetings.
2. Punctuality: Is punctual and present (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)	Student has been significantly late to class/meetings or left early from class/meetings 3 or more times in a semester.	Student has occasionally (no more than 2 times) been late to class/meetings or left early from class/meetings in a semester.	Student is on time to class/meetings and stays until the end except in truly rare or unusual circumstances that are considered excusable by the professor.	Student is always on time and stays until the end of class/meetings.
3. Initiation of Communication: Initiates communication with the professor/supervisor (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1; 2.1.3)	Student rarely contacts the instructor/supervisor to inform of tardiness/absence, and/or student provides no reason for tardiness/absence.	Student may contact the professor/supervisor to inform of tardiness/absence, but generally does so after the occurrence.	Student almost always contacts the professor/supervisor prior to the occurrence to inform of tardiness/absence. In rare instances when this is not done prior, the student contacts the professor/supervisor immediately after.	Student always contacts the professor/supervisor prior to the beginning of class to inform of anticipated tardiness/absence except in an emergency, and then contacts the professor immediately thereafter.



Professional Behaviors	1 Unacceptable	2 Needs Improvement	3 Acceptable	4 Outstanding
4. Respect: Demonstrates respect and support in relationships (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)	Student is frequently disrespectful to and non-supportive of classmates, staff, faculty, and/or community members.	Student is occasionally disrespectful to and non-supportive of classmates, staff, faculty, and/or community members.	Student is rarely disrespectful to classmates, staff, and/or faculty. Student almost always demonstrates support in these relationships/interactions.	Student is never disrespectful to classmates, staff, and/or faculty. Student always demonstrates support in these relationships/interactions.
5. Self-Awareness: Demonstrates self-awareness (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)	Student rarely shows self-awareness about the impact of verbal and non-verbal communications.	Student occasionally shows self-awareness about the impact of verbal and non-verbal communications.	Student almost always maintains a high level of self-awareness about the impact of verbal and non-verbal communications.	Student always maintains a high level of self-awareness about the impact of verbal and non-verbal communications.
6. Diversity Awareness: Demonstrates awareness and responsiveness to diversity (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1; 2.1.4)	Student's classroom or other student related interactions rarely reflect respect for and appreciation of diverse opinions, experiences, and/or people.	Student occasionally reflects respect for and appreciation of diverse opinions, experiences, and/or people in the classroom or during other student related interactions.	Student's classroom or other student related interactions almost always reflect respect for and appreciation of diverse opinions, experiences, and/or people.	Student's classroom or other student related interactions always reflect respect for and appreciation of diverse opinions, experiences, and/or people.
7. Collegiality: Demonstrates collegiality and collaborative interactions (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)	Student rarely demonstrates collaborative skills in work with others, and/or student has poor relationships with classmates or others involved in student learning.	Student is occasionally reluctant to collaborate with others and/or struggles with maintaining positive relationships.	Student almost always works collaboratively with team members, and/or student almost always engages positively with others.	Student always works collaboratively with all team members, and/or student always engages positively with others.



Professional Behaviors	1 Unacceptable	2 Needs Improvement	3 Acceptable	4 Outstanding
<p>8. Course Engagement: Demonstrates appropriate engagement in class activities/discussions (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)</p>	<p>Student rarely engages in class activities/discussions and does not make an effort to do so following feedback. Or student frequently monopolizes the learning space, limiting others' engagement and/or inhibiting the learning environment.</p>	<p>Student occasionally engages in class activities/discussions and makes some effort to do so following feedback. Or student occasionally monopolizes the learning space, limiting others' engagement and/or inhibiting the learning environment.</p>	<p>Student almost always engages in class activities/discussions and rarely monopolizes the learning space in a way that it limits others' engagement and/or the learning environment.</p>	<p>Student always engages in class activities/discussions and never monopolizes the learning space in a way that it limits others' engagement and/or the learning environment.</p>
<p>9. Written Expression: Strives for a high level of written expression (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1; 2.1.3)</p>	<p>Student's writing shows significant impairment in content, grammar, spelling, structure, and/or flow. Writing grades are/would be a D or F.</p>	<p>Student's writing shows moderate impairment in content, grammar, spelling, structure, and/or flow. Writing grades are/would be a <u>low</u> C.</p>	<p>Student's writing demonstrates good content, grammar, spelling, structure, and/or flow. Writing grades are/would be a <u>high</u> C.</p>	<p>Student's writing demonstrates very good to excellent content, grammar, spelling, structure, and/or flow. Writing grades are/would be a B or A.</p>
<p>10. Initiative & Reliability: Demonstrates initiative, reliability and dependability (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)</p>	<p>Student rarely takes initiative to plan work and complete it in a timely manner, and/or student rarely gets assignments done and submitted on time.</p>	<p>Student only occasionally takes initiative to plan work and complete it in a timely manner, resulting in coming to class minimally prepared and occasionally missing assignment due dates.</p>	<p>Student almost always takes initiative to plan work and complete it in a timely manner, and/or work is almost always submitted on time.</p>	<p>Student always takes initiative to plan and complete work in a timely manner, and/or work is always submitted on time.</p>
<p>11. Responsiveness to Feedback: Demonstrates evidence of motivation to improve oneself. (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)</p>	<p>Student has not demonstrated receptiveness to suggestions and feedback from others and, therefore, makes no effort to adjust performance accordingly.</p>	<p>Student is usually receptive to suggestions and feedback but does not adjust performance accordingly.</p>	<p>Student is almost always receptive to suggestions or feedback and adjusts performance accordingly.</p>	<p>Student is always receptive to suggestions or feedback from others and adjusts performance accordingly.</p>



Professional Behaviors	1 Unacceptable	2 Needs Improvement	3 Acceptable	4 Outstanding
12. Compliance with Professional Requirements: Demonstrates compliance with the professional conduct policy in the BSW Program, Texas A&M University-Central Texas Code of Conduct, Field Education Manual, and, as applicable, Field Agency Policies. (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1; 2.1.2)	Student demonstrates significant problems in complying with Program requirements, University requirements, and/or the Field manual.	Student occasionally demonstrates non-compliance with the Program requirements, University requirements, and/or the Field manual.	Student almost always demonstrates compliance with the Program requirements, University requirements, and/or the Field manual.	Student always demonstrates compliance with the Program requirements, University requirements, and/or the Field manual.
13. Compliance with the NASW Code of Ethics: Demonstrates compliance with the Code of Ethics in its entirety (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1; 2.1.2)	Student is consistently non-compliant with one or more components of the Code of Ethics.	Student is only moderately compliant with components of the Code of Ethics.	Student is almost always compliant with the Code of Ethics.	Student consistently demonstrates compliance with the Code of Ethics.
14. Quality and Quantity of Work: Strives for high quality work that meets assignment guidelines. (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)	Student submits assignments that frequently lack neatness, accuracy, organization, and thoroughness, and/or the work submitted is incomplete.	Student submits assignments that occasionally lack neatness, accuracy, organization, and thoroughness, and/or the work submitted is somewhat incomplete.	Student rarely submits assignments that lack neatness, accuracy, organization, and thoroughness. The work submitted is generally complete.	Student always submits assignments that are neat, accurate, organized, and thorough. The work submitted is always complete.
15. Professional Appearance: Displays professional appearance that does not interfere with professional relationships/responsibilities. (CSWE EPAS 2.1.1)	Student's professional attire and presentation is consistently inappropriate for professional and classroom settings.	Student's professional attire and presentation is frequently inappropriate for professional and classroom settings.	Student's appearance is routinely appropriate for classroom and professional settings.	Student's appearance is consistently appropriate for classroom and professional settings.

(Adapted from the University of Vermont Department of Social Work, created 6/17/10)

Comments (regarding ratings):

Professor's signature: _____

Date: _____