SWRK4002 - Social Work Theory & Practice 6
Course Outline

Course Coordinator  Kylie Agllias
Phone               49217035
Email               Kylie.Agllias@newcastle.edu.au
Room                W227
Semester            Semester 2 - 2010
Unit Weighting      10
Teaching Methods   Experience Based Learning and Workshop

Brief Course Description
This course focuses on preparing students for a career in social work including job application and continuing professional education. Professional workshops are held in areas where students feel that further skills are required. Students are encouraged to write a proposal for evaluation of practice in their field placement agency.

Contact Hours
Workshop for 42 Hours per Term for the Full Term

Course Objectives
This is the final course in the social work stream and has as its objective preparing students for practice, for professional writing and practice evaluation.

Course Content
Career planning including continuing professional education, job application and workshops in specialised areas of practice. Support and supervision in preparing a proposal for practice evaluation.
**Assessment Items**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presentations - Individual</th>
<th>Conference presentation abstract – 200-300 words (10%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DUE: Monday 30th August (week 6) – 9.00am in class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Conference presentation – 20 minutes (40%)</td>
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<td>DUE: Week 12 October (dates and timeslot to be allocated)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Task</td>
<td>Written paper based on conference presentation – 5000 words (50%)</td>
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<td>DUE: Friday 5th November (week 13) – 5.00pm at Hub.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Participation in the organisation and running of student conference – Week 12 October (dates and timeslot to be allocated)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grading: Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory.</td>
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</table>

**Assumed Knowledge**

Third Year Social Work courses, SPSW3070, LGAL1001 or equivalent, PHIL3580, SWRK4001, SWRK4005.

**Callaghan Campus Timetable**

**SWRK4002**

**Social Work Theory & Practice 6**

Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 2 - 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Monday 9:00 - 12:00</th>
<th>[W202]</th>
<th>Wks 3, 6, 9, 10, 11 &amp; 13 only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>and Workshop</td>
<td>Monday 13:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>[W202]</td>
<td>Wks 10, 11 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Workshop</td>
<td>Friday 9:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Week 11 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Workshop</td>
<td>Friday 13:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Week 11 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Workshop</td>
<td>Monday 9:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Wk 12* only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Monday 13:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Wk 12* only</td>
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<tr>
<td>and Workshop</td>
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<td>Tuesday 13:00 - 16:00</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Wk 12* only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And Workshop</td>
<td>Wednesday 9:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Wk 12* only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic integrity, honesty, and a respect for knowledge, truth and ethical practices are fundamental to the business of the University. These principles are at the core of all academic endeavour in teaching, learning and research. Dishonest practices contravene academic values, compromise the integrity of research and devalue the quality of learning. To preserve the quality of learning for the individual and others, the University may impose severe sanctions on activities that undermine academic integrity. There are two major categories of academic dishonesty:

**Academic fraud** is a form of academic dishonesty that involves making a false representation to gain an unjust advantage. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it can include:

a) falsification of data;

b) using a substitute person to undertake, in full or part, an examination or other assessment item;

c) reusing one’s own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);

d) making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination or other assessment item;

e) bringing material or device(s) into an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item; and

f) making use of computer software or other material and device(s) during an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item.

g) contract cheating or having another writer compete for tender to produce an essay or assignment
and then submitting the work as one's own.

**Plagiarism** is the presentation of the thoughts or works of another as one's own. University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

a) copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;

b) using another person's ideas without due acknowledgment;

c) collusion or working with others without permission, and presenting the resulting work as though it were completed independently.

**Turnitin** is an electronic text matching system. During assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

You will be required to submit the following assessment items to turnitin:

- Conference abstract
- Conference paper

**RE-MARKS AND MODERATIONS**

Students can access the University's policy at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html)

**MARKS AND GRADES RELEASED DURING TERM**

All marks and grades released during term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School.

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING ASSESSMENT ITEMS**

*Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations* items must be submitted by the due date in the Course Outline unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension. Unapproved late submissions will be penalised in line with the University policy specified in **Late Penalty** (under student) at the link above.

**Requests for Extensions of Time** must be lodged no later than the due date of the item. This applies to students:

- applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
- whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment.

Students must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, as outlined in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html)

**Note:** different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

**Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:**

- Special Consideration Requests must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of
submission or examination.

- Rescheduling Exam requests must be received no later than 10 working days prior the first date of the examination period.

_Late applications may not be accepted._ Students who cannot meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak firstly to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

**STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS**

University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator. Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au. As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester. For more information on confidentiality and documentation visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

**CHANGING YOUR ENROLMENT**

Students enrolled after the census dates listed in the link below are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term.

_http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/fees/censusdates.html_

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

**Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term,** except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online go to myHub: [https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au](https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au)

**STUDENT INFORMATION & CONTACTS**

Various services are offered by the Student Support Unit: [www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/)

_The Student Hubs_ are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia. Student Hubs are located at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Callaghan Campus</th>
<th>Port Macquarie students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Precinct</td>
<td>contact your program officer or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Hub &amp; Information Common, University House</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phone 4921 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Singapore students</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah)

Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria

### OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Websites</th>
<th>Dean of Students Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/</a></td>
<td>The Dean of Students and Deputy Dean of Students work to ensure that all students receive fair and equitable treatment at the University. In doing this they provide information and advice and help students resolve problems of an academic nature. <a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/dean-of-students/">http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/dean-of-students/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/</a></td>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 5806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/</a></td>
<td>Fax: 02 4921 7151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:Dean-of-Students@newcastle.edu.au">Dean-of-Students@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards</strong></td>
<td>The University is committed to maintaining and enhancing fair, equitable and safe work practices and promoting positive relationships with its staff and students. There is a single system to deal with all types of complaints, ranging from minor administrative matters to more serious deeply held grievances concerning unfair, unjust or unreasonable behaviour. <a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/complaints/">http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/complaints/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html">www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html</a></td>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 5806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards</strong></td>
<td>Fax: 02 4921 7151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000306.html">www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000306.html</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:Complaints@newcastle.edu.au">Complaints@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards</strong></td>
<td><strong>Campus Care</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General enquiries</strong></td>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 8600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie</td>
<td>Fax: 02 4921 7151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 5000</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:campuscare@newcastle.edu.au">campuscare@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
<td><strong>Ourimbah</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:campuscare@newcastle.edu.au">campuscare@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
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School of Humanities and Social Science
This course outline will not be altered after the second week of the term except under extenuating circumstances with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of the change.

**Mandatory Program Component**
This course is a mandatory program component. Refer - [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000647.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000647.html) (section 2).

**Essential Criteria in Assessment**
This course contains compulsory components or assessment items that must be satisfactorily completed in order for a student to receive a pass mark or better for the course. These essential elements are described in the CTS. Refer - [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000648.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000648.html)

**Studentmail and Blackboard:** Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)
This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

**Important Additional Information**
Further course details are available on your Blackboard site. Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)
ASSESSMENT TASKS

Tasks and assessment in this course all relate to organising and presenting at the annual 4th Year Student Conference.

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE
4TH YEAR SOCIAL WORK STUDENT CONFERENCE 2010 Week 13

“Australian social work: Inspirations, challenges, and new directions”

Over the past three decades Australian social workers have witnessed considerable change. Post welfare reform brought ‘workfare’ ideologies and a focus on mutual obligation (McDonald & Chenoweth, 2009; Western et al., 2007). Neoliberal market principles have been applied to the welfare sector and the Government’s National Competition Policy has created a system of contracting for services for even the smallest of funding (Australian Council of Social Services, 2005). At the same time there have been significant increases in spending in the human and social services, increased levels of practitioner education, and new career paths have emerged in response (Lonne, 2009). More recently, the Federal Government has stated a re-commitment to social democratic principles and the strategic balancing of the market economy with state regulation (Rudd, 2009).

Graduating social workers will enter a work environment where there is an expectation that practice interventions are thoughtfully examined in the context of such social and political trends as well as informed by the critical appraisal of research literature. This conference provides graduating social workers from the University of Newcastle with the opportunity to present to social workers and fellow student their analyses of chosen areas of social work practice, and to comment on the inspirations, challenges, and new directions in this chosen area.

Students are required to select a topic for their conference presentation, prepare an abstract (brief summary) of the topic, give a verbal presentation at the conference (with powerpoint) and subsequently submit a written paper. Students are also responsible for aspects of planning and coordinating the conference, ensuring that it runs smoothly and professionally on the day/s. The conference participants will be student peers (from the 4 years of the BSW) and interested social work practitioners. The conference theme is ‘Australian social work: Inspirations, challenges, and new directions’. Students will need to think about how to shape conference presentations / papers to fit within this broad theme.

References


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Due date</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individual Tasks</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>30/8/2010 9.00am (in class)</td>
<td>250 – 300 words</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Abstract</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Presentation</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Week 12 Timeslot to be allocated</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>05/11/2010 5.00pm (to Hub)</td>
<td>5000 words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Paper</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference Organisation and participation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactory/ Unsatisfactory</td>
<td>Timely preparation for Conference Week 12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Group Task</strong></td>
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**Individual Task 1: Abstract – Due 31st August**

The abstract should be 250 – 300 words in length and should contain the following:

1. **Title of the paper:** This should capture the audience’s attention while being informative and providing an accurate indication of the topic and content of the paper.
2. **A summary of the paper’s contents:** Usually an abstract comprises a single paragraph which outlines the topic area, the paper’s content and highlights key themes and issues which will be addressed in the presentation.
3. **A maximum of 3 key references.**

All abstracts will be included in the conference program. After your abstract has been marked, you may incorporate any feedback prior to finalising your abstract. All abstracts will be posted on the Blackboard site and included in the conference program. You are expected to read all the abstracts so that you can get a feel for the final shape of the conference and so that you can highlight resources that you come across that might be beneficial for your classmates. To this end, each student is required to post a critical reflection on the blackboard discussion board. Your critical reflection can be questions or comments about specific abstracts or more general questions or comments about issues raised by the abstracts, and or the contribution the conference will make to the broad theme of *Australian social work: Inspirations, challenges, and new directions*.

**Assessment Criteria for Abstract**

- Clear outline of the nature of the paper: Subject matter, practice context, issue, purpose, and question being addressed.
- Clarity of purpose, rationale and focus of the paper.
- Demonstrated understanding of the chosen area of research.
- Appropriate professional writing and referencing style.
- Appropriateness to audience and purpose of conference.
Individual Task 2: Conference presentation – 20 minute presentation and respond to questions at the conference: Week 12

&

Individual Task 3: Conference paper – 5000 word paper, based on conference presentation. Due: 5th November

Your conference presentation and the associated written paper will be on a social work practice topic of your choice and should relate in some way to the broad conference theme: “Australian social work: Inspirations, challenges, and new directions”. You should address this theme within the context of your specific chosen area of social work practice. Teaching staff will be available to assist with feedback and consultation as you prepare for the presentation and write the paper. Feel free to email social work teaching staff or make a time for a face-to-face consultation. Whilst your reading for these tasks will rely on your own literature searches relating to your specific topic area in the library and on electronic databases, provided below is a list of resources that will assist in a reflective and evaluative approach to your conference paper.

NB: Your conference presentation should be appropriately paced and delivered in an engaging way. You may use a powerpoint presentation to support your oral presentation. Whilst your presentation and paper will be based on the same content, you will need to carefully consider what is appropriate for an oral presentation and how this differs from a written presentation of the same material. People in the audience will have the opportunity to ask questions at the end of each presentation.

Assessment Criteria for Paper and Presentation

- Clarity of focus, subject matter, practice context, issues, purpose, and question being addressed.
- Rationale for and critical analysis of topic.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the literature relating to the area of study.
- A well argued position on the topic, supported by literature, research and other evidence.
- Appropriate, professional presentation (appropriate to audience, purpose and context – including accurate referencing for written paper).

Group Task – Conference organisation and participation

In addition to presenting at the conference and writing up your conference paper, you are required to participate in the organisation and running of the conference. There will be 5 or 6 groups of students running concurrent sessions. Each group will be required to:

- Draft a program for their concurrent session that can be incorporated into the overall conference program.
- Promote the event to peers, practitioners, and interested parties.
- Manage the day including setting-up, meeting and greeting participants, chairing, introducing speakers, time-keeping, and general housekeeping.
- Organise and provide peer feedback.
- Attend for the whole conference.
- Participate in reflection and evaluation of conference proceedings in class on 2nd November.

Whilst you are away from the University, undertaking your field placement, you will be required to participate in the online discussion forum in relation to organisation of the conference program and logistics. The quality of the final conference will depend on the input of all involved.
References on Reflective and Evaluative Approaches


