SOCW4011 Evidence and Practice Based Research - 2024

Published on the 12 May 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : SOCW4011
Year : 2024
Term : Term 2
Teaching Period : T2
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture
Academic Unit : School of Social Sciences
Delivery Mode : Multimodal
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course focuses on connections between social work practice and research by looking at evidence-based practice (EBP) and practice-based research. You will learn the process of conducting research, and various potentials and limitations of EBP in social work. This course

also provides you with opportunities to extend your understanding of different research methodologies; obtain skills and knowledge related to the research process; learn the importance of conducting research well-grounded in practice; and to understand ethical and political issues related to social work research. These skills and knowledge will facilitate your learning in other courses, field practicum, and future professional practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Identify the importance of research in social work and roles of social workers in evidence-based practice
CLO2 : Critically assess research manuscripts
CLO3 : Examine research methods that are appropriate to research questions
CLO4 : Demonstrate foundational skills required to undertake research

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Identify the importance of research in social work and roles of social workers in evidence-based practice	• Research paper analysis presentation and written report • Report
CLO2 : Critically assess research manuscripts	• Research paper analysis presentation and written report
CLO3 : Examine research methods that are appropriate to research questions	• Research paper analysis presentation and written report
CLO4 : Demonstrate foundational skills required to undertake research	• Report

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Zoom | Echo 360

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research paper analysis presentation and written report Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (7 days)	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 5 presentation day
Report Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 07/08/2024 11:59 PM

Assessment Details

Research paper analysis presentation and written report

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

Students will deliver an individual in-class presentation of 5 minutes on their critique of a research paper.

Students will write a report (1000 words) analysing the research paper using an appropriate quality appraisal framework, and describing personal reflection on their learning journey demonstrating their understanding of evidence-based practice.

A feedback sheet/rubric will be available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within two weeks of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS).

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Identify the importance of research in social work and roles of social workers in evidence-based practice
- CLO2 : Critically assess research manuscripts
- CLO3 : Examine research methods that are appropriate to research questions

<u>Assessment Length</u>

1000

<u>Assessment information</u>

Further assessment information provided on the course Moodle site.

For this assessment task, you may use standard editing and referencing software, but **not**

generative AI. You are permitted to use the full capabilities of the standard software to answer the question (e.g. *you may wish to specify particular software such as Microsoft Office suite, Grammarly, etc.*).

If the use of generative AI such as ChatGPT is detected, it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct and subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00 FL, suspension and exclusion.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Report

Assessment Overview

Students will write a literature review plan (1500 words) about their chosen area within the field of social work. The chosen area can be a theory or concept; a policy; a population group; a type of therapy, intervention or program; or a social or health issue within a local context. This assessment will help you to prepare for SOCW4015 Thesis or SOCW4016 Portfolio essay.

A feedback sheet/rubric will be available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards. Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within two weeks of submission through the University's Learning Management System (LMS).

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify the importance of research in social work and roles of social workers in evidence-based practice
- CLO4 : Demonstrate foundational skills required to undertake research

Assessment Length

1500

Assessment information

Further assessment information provided on the course Moodle site.

For this assessment task, you may use standard editing and referencing software, but **not generative AI.** You are permitted to use the full capabilities of the standard software to answer the question (e.g. *you may wish to specify particular software such as Microsoft Office suite, Grammarly, etc.*).

If the use of generative AI such as ChatGPT is detected, it will be regarded as serious academic

misconduct and subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00 FL, suspension and exclusion.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

General Assessment Information

The specific requirements of each assessment task and their associated assessment criteria, expected performance standards and marking rubrics are provided in a separate document in Moodle. Assessments should be referenced in accordance with the School of Social Sciences Referencing Guide, available at https://socialsciences.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Students must submit both assessments and obtain at least 50% overall to pass the course.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Lecture	Monday Introduction to Evidence-based Practice and Practice-based Research in Social Work Honours Portfolio (SOCW4016) Briefing Thursday Ethics in Social Work Research, Research with First Nations Peoples, and Research Theories Honours Thesis (SOCW4015) Briefing
	Tutorial	Monday Identifying practice-based research topics Thursday Understanding ethics in social work research
Week 2 : 3 June - 9 June	Lecture	Monday Literature Review Part 1 Thursday Literature Review Part 2
	Tutorial	Monday Developing research questions Thursday Developing search strategy
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Lecture	Monday Public holiday. No lesson. Students are encouraged to do self-directed learning using resources in Leganto. Thursday Understanding and Using Evidence from Qualitative Studies
	Tutorial	Monday Public holiday. No lesson. Students are encouraged to do self-directed learning using resources in Leganto. Thursday Analysing qualitative research papers Note: Students are expected to read an article before attending their class. The article will be used for class discussion. It will be uploaded in Moodle.
Week 4 : 17 June - 23 June	Lecture	Monday Understanding and Using Evidence from Quantitative Studies Thursday Understanding and Using Evidence from Mixed Methods Studies
	Tutorial	Monday Analysing quantitative research papers Note: Students are expected to read an article before attending their class. The article will be used for class discussion. It will be uploaded in Moodle. Thursday Analysing mixed methods research papers Note: Students are expected to read an article before attending their class. The article will be used for class discussion. It will be uploaded in Moodle.
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Lecture	Monday Understanding and Using Evidence from Outcome and Program Evaluation in Social Work Practice Thursday Knowledge Transfer SOCW4016 and SOCW4015 preparation
	Tutorial	Monday Tutorial presentation Thursday Tutorial presentation

Attendance Requirements

Partnerships and collaboration between students and educators are particularly important in social work learning. As well, to maintain our accreditation as a provider of social work

education, it is important that each student finds themselves in an environment where they are able to experience all content to a high level of depth and engagement. For this reason, active participation and commitment to attendance is expected of all students. Compassion and concern for student welfare is what we strive for in our provision of social work education and this is enabled by two-way communication. Communication is especially important when a student is experiencing learning barriers, particularly those which affect class attendance and completion of independent learning tasks. To ensure that student learning and wellbeing is at the forefront of all decisions made, we encourage all students to communicate any barrier to attendance to your course convenor, lecturer or tutor as soon as possible, so a collaborative plan can be developed to work around these barriers. If your attendance is affected for a limited period of time, we will refer you to selected alternate tasks we have created to promote your access to vital content in this course. These alternative tasks can also be completed by students whose attendance is exemplary and who wish to extend their learning. We will expect you to take full responsibility and initiative for completing these alternate tasks and to ensure that in completing them you develop a good working knowledge of the content missed. Our aim is to foster an environment where students feel comfortable coming forward regarding concerns about their learning and attendance. Based on experience, if your attendance drops below a certain level it is unlikely you will have the skills and knowledge to effectively achieve the learning outcomes of this course; which is why we highly encourage active attendance and participation. With effective communication and planning we endeavour to avoid situations where students feel they have not adequately engaged with the course, and therefore strongly encourage students to communicate any concerns as early as possible. We want to again emphasise the importance of collaboration and communication, and acknowledge the unique circumstances students may find themselves experiencing. The discipline needs to be able to demonstrate that you experienced this course to a level of depth and engagement as part of the accreditation requirements for the BSW (Hons) program. Note that:

- Lectures in this course are designed to provide essential learning, this means that you must attend or listen to all lectures which are being offered asynchronously/synchronously in T2,
- Tutorials are designed to provide essential application of content, this means that you must attend 80% or more of the tutorials which are being offered face to face in T2,
- If you are unable to attend a class, you must email your course tutor and the course convenor at your earliest convenience, and
- You are responsible for keeping track of your attendance and contacting your course convenor immediately if you are concerned about your attendance record and its impact on your ability to complete your course successfully.

Course Resources

Recommended Resources

See reading list in Moodle.

Course Evaluation and Development

The MyExperience responses form the basis of SOCW4011 ongoing course development. Based on feedback, SOCW4011 has reoriented the content to more directly address the ways in which practitioner wisdom, client preference and existing research combine together to inform evidence-informed practice. In addition, assessments have been changed to better suit the needs of students entering either of the Honours streams – SOCW4016 Social Work Honours Advanced Practice Portfolio and SOCW4015 Social Work Honours Research Thesis. We have further refined teaching materials to make the course more relevant for social work students. Using feedback from 2023 cohort, we have move the course to Term 2.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Abner Poon		Room 169, Morven Brown Building	9065 2315	Wednesday, 10am - 1030am	Yes	Yes
Tutor	Bani Chami					No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;

- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

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 includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original 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 for the purpose of them plagiarising, 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.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. 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 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

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

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, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request Special Consideration as early as possible before the deadline. Support with Time Management is available here.

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Location: Room 159, Morven Brown Building (C20), Kensington campus

Opening Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (except public holidays)

Telephone: +61 2 9385 1807

Email: soss@unsw.edu.au

Web: https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/our-schools/social-sciences