



UNSW Course Outline

SOCF5112 Complex Practice Issues - 2024

Published on the 19 Sep 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : SOCF5112

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Social Sciences

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 12

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This is the final (capstone) course of the MCSW program and brings together the learning in previous courses to critically engage you with the complexities of contemporary social work counselling. In the course, you will identify and critically reflect on a range of theory and practice

ideas that inform complex practice issues. The course integrates learning from the program to enable you to further develop and consolidate counselling methods and practice analysis to explore and apply skills in complex client issues and presentations.

Relationship to Other Courses

This is the final course in the MCSW program. The course focuses on building upon previous courses throughout the program through a focus on select complex practice issues.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Interpret a range of theory and practice ideas that inform complex counselling issues
CLO2 : Apply theories and frameworks to complex client situations and the counsellor client relationship
CLO3 : Understand counselling frameworks which inform integrated social work counselling practices
CLO4 : Critically evaluate interpersonal and practice responses to challenging issues in counselling practice
CLO5 : Articulate a range of theory and practice ideas relevant to your chosen practice issue

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Interpret a range of theory and practice ideas that inform complex counselling issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essay plan• Annotated Bibliography• Counselling Case Work Project
CLO2 : Apply theories and frameworks to complex client situations and the counsellor client relationship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essay plan• Annotated Bibliography• Counselling Case Work Project
CLO3 : Understand counselling frameworks which inform integrated social work counselling practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annotated Bibliography• Counselling Case Work Project
CLO4 : Critically evaluate interpersonal and practice responses to challenging issues in counselling practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essay plan• Counselling Case Work Project
CLO5 : Articulate a range of theory and practice ideas relevant to your chosen practice issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annotated Bibliography• Counselling Case Work Project

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Zoom

Learning and Teaching in this course

As part of this course is online (Zoom seminars) it is necessary to ensure you have the appropriate computer and technical equipment to adequately participate. Access to online seminars is via the Moodle page for this course.

UNSW Moodle supports the following web browsers: Google Chrome 50+ Safari 10+ (Internet Explorer is not recommended; Add-ons and Toolbars can affect any browser's performance). Operating systems recommended are: Windows 7, 10, Mac OSX Sierra, iPad IOS10 For further details about system requirements click here . Log in to Moodle here

For our Online Seminars you will require: A headset with a microphone A camera and via MYUNSW A broadband internet connection (256Kbit/sec or faster)

If you need further assistance with Moodle single sign on. For enrollment and login issues please contact: IT Service Centre Email: itservicecentre@unsw.edu.au Phone: (02) 9385 1333 International: +61 2 9385 1333 Support hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am – 8:00 pm Saturday & Sunday 11:00 am – 2:00pm For all other Moodle issues please contact External TELT Support Email: externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au Phone: (02) 9385 3331 International: +61 2 9385 3331 Support hours: Monday – Friday 8:00am – 10:00 pm Saturday & Sunday 9:00 am – 5:00pm

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Essay plan Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 30/09/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 15/10/2024 11:30 PM
Annotated Bibliography Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 21/10/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 05/11/2024 11:30 PM
Counselling Case Work Project Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 18/11/2024 11:59 PM Post Date: 13/12/2024 11:30 PM

Assessment Details

Essay plan

Assessment Overview

Students will submit an abstract and written plan (Max 1000 words) as preparation for their Counselling Case Work Project (Assessment 3).

Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Interpret a range of theory and practice ideas that inform complex counselling issues
- CLO2 : Apply theories and frameworks to complex client situations and the counsellor client relationship
- CLO4 : Critically evaluate interpersonal and practice responses to challenging issues in counselling practice

Detailed Assessment Description

This assessment lays the foundation for assessment 2 and 3.

Details available on Moodle.

Assessment Length

1000 words +/-10% (excluding reference list)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Permitted use of Generative AI in assessment tasks

You are not expected or required to use GenAI in assessment tasks in SOCF5112. Limited use of UNSW commercial data-protected Copilot is allowed for planning and design assistance. Read the details of allowable use of UNSW Copilot below.

You will need to make a disclosure statement at the end of each assessment task explaining if and how you have used GenAI. Find more details about the disclosure statement on Moodle. We will discuss use of GenAI at the start of the course.

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To use UNSW Copilot, you need to Login with you UNSW credentials for the protected version.

See: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/services/students/microsoft-copilot>

You must also reference your use. See <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/assessment/ai>

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use, such as spelling, and grammar checks to complete your assessment. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

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Important Ethical Considerations:

Generative AI tools are never 100% secure, you must not upload into any AI tool:

- Identified OR deidentified client details of any description.
- Other students work (for example their critical review of your work)

Annotated Bibliography

Assessment Overview

Students will submit an annotated bibliography (Max 2000 words) on their chosen topic.

Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Interpret a range of theory and practice ideas that inform complex counselling issues
- CL02 : Apply theories and frameworks to complex client situations and the counsellor client relationship
- CL03 : Understand counselling frameworks which inform integrated social work counselling practices
- CL05 : Articulate a range of theory and practice ideas relevant to your chosen practice issue

Detailed Assessment Description

This assessment builds on assessment 1 and contributes to the preparation of assessment 2. Assessment details available on Moodle. Resources to support your skills in preparing an annotated bibliography are available on Moodle

Assessment Length

2000 words +/- 10% (no reference list required)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

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You must also reference your use. See <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/assessment/ai>

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Counselling Case Work Project

Assessment Overview

Students will submit a research essay (max. 5200 words) on a topic relevant to the course material.

The assessment is designed to allow students flexibility in choosing and constructing their own topic question, and it builds into the second assessment task. The assessment task allows students to demonstrate their capacity to identify and critically reflect on complex practice issues and to articulate a range of theory and practice ideas relevant to their chosen practice issue. The word count provides opportunity for students who so wish to later develop their piece for submission to a peer reviewed or practice journal.

Students will receive written feedback and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The feedback sheet/rubric will be available to students at the start of the course so that they can work towards specified standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Interpret a range of theory and practice ideas that inform complex counselling issues
- CL02 : Apply theories and frameworks to complex client situations and the counsellor client relationship
- CL03 : Understand counselling frameworks which inform integrated social work counselling practices
- CL04 : Critically evaluate interpersonal and practice responses to challenging issues in counselling practice
- CL05 : Articulate a range of theory and practice ideas relevant to your chosen practice issue

Detailed Assessment Description

Available on Moodle

Assessment Length

5000 words +/- 10% (Including citations)

Assessment information

Available on Moodle

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

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You must also reference your use. See <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/assessment/ai>

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General Assessment Information

We will discuss assessments and allowable use of GenAI during the first intensive. Q&A forums are available on Moodle. You will be able to meet with teaching staff to individually discuss your project.

Please use the SOSS referencing guide

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

To pass this course you need to achieve an overall final course grade of 50% and actively participate in the course classes and activities.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Intensive	ON-CAMPUS (online option available when negotiated with Maureen) Friday 13th Sept - Lecturer Maureen MacGinley Course Introduction and Assessments The Territory of Hope and Hopelessness Conversations with Shame Supporting Ourselves in the work - self and collective care Saturday 14th Sept - Lecturer Jeannette Walsh Gendered and Family Violence - working with the legacy of violence (Part 1) Details posted on Moodle closer to the date.
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Other	Individual Assessment Consultations (optional) Online: THURS 19th Sept 4 PM - 7 PM 10 minute booked consult times with Maureen to discuss your planned assessment topic
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Seminar	ONLINE ZOOM CLASS THURS 26 Sept 5.30 Gendered and Family Violence - working with the legacy of violence (continued)
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Assessment	Assessment 1 Essay Draft Due: Monday 30/9/24 11.59PM
	Intensive	ON-CAMPUS (online option available when negotiated with Maureen) Friday 4th October - Lecturer Jeannette Walsh Gendered and Family Violence - working with the legacy of violence (Part 2) Saturday 6th October - Lecturer Maureen MacGinley Therapeutic Impasse, Ruptures, and Repairs Navigating Ethics and Boundaries in Counselling Social Work
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Reading	No classes this week
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Seminar	ONLINE ZOOM CLASS 17TH OCT 5.30 - Lecturer Jane Mowl Grief and Loss
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Assessment	Assessment 2 Annotated Bibliography Due 21/10/24 11.59PM
	Intensive	ON-CAMPUS (online option available when negotiated with Maureen) FRIDAY 25th Oct - Lecturer Jane Mowl Grief and Loss SATURDAY 26th Oct - Lecturers Jessie Chung (morning sessions) and Maureen MacGinley Working therapeutically with Children and Families following Child Sexual Abuse Disclosures Using Theories to Bridge Practice - Unconscious Processes, Attachment and Narrative Good Enough Endings
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Other	Assessment Q&A Online: THURS 31st Oct 5.30 PM - 6.30 PM Live Q&A for anyone interested.
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Seminar	ONLINE ZOOM CLASS Thurs 7th Nov 5.30 PM - Lecturers Maureen MacGinley and Jane Mowl Final Class Consolidation and Review of the course and the MCSW
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Reading	No classes this week
Week 11 : 18 November - 24 November	Assessment	Assessment 3 Major Project Due: 18/11/24 11.59PM Note: There is no short extension option for this assignment. We encourage you to use the special consideration process if you need an extension

Attendance Requirements

Active participation and attendance in all learning tasks, activities, readings, and classes

is required to meet the learning outcomes for all MCSW courses. This includes attendance at intensives and online Zoom seminars. Research supports that high attendance correlates with better engagement and success. By punctually attending and actively participating in your classes you not only increase your own opportunities for success, but you also help build a learning community with other students. <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/attendance>

Attendance for less than 80% of class time (intensives and Zoom classes) will compromise your ability to meet the learning outcomes for the course. For this reason, it is not generally possible

to approve absences of more than 20% of class time. Students who fail to meet attendance or participation requirements, and who do not have approval of their Course or Program Convenor (Maureen MacGinley)

may receive a failure or reduced marks for the course, and may be referred to academic risk for further support.

You are responsible for keeping track of your attendance and contacting your course convenor (Maureen MacGinley) if you are unwell, experience unforeseen circumstances, or are concerned in any other way about your attendance record and its impact on your ability to complete your course successfully. In person attendance at the SOCF5112 intensives is optimal for learning in this course.

We recognise that it might not be possible to always attend on-campus owing to illness or other extenuating circumstances. If you cannot attend on-campus, please contact the course convenor (maureen.macginley@unsw.edu.au) to arrange online attendance.

General Schedule Information

INTENSIVES

Attend In Person on campus 09.15- 16.30 on Friday and Saturday in Weeks 1, 4 and 7 (13 & 14 Sept, 4 & 5 Oct, 25 & 26 Oct).

If there are specific circumstances that align with attendance requirements which means you need to request online attendance for intensives, please contact Maureen.

NOTE VENUE FOR INTENSIVES IS DIFFERENT ON FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS:

ALL FRIDAY INTENSIVES: Venue: Mathews 105

ONLINE CLASSES

Attend Online 1730-1930 on Thursdays Weeks 3, 6, and 9 (26 Sep, 17 Oct, 7 Nov). Zoom links available under the relevant weekly sections on moodle.

See the weekly schedule for the outline of topics covered. See Moodle for further details and mandatory and suggested readings.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

There are no set textbooks for this course. A reading list is provided with access through the moodle site.

Recommended Resources

N/A

Additional Costs

N/A

Course Evaluation and Development

Complex practice issues was evaluated positively in 2024, with 100% of students responding to MyExperience and 100% agreeing that 'Overall they were satisfied with the quality of the course'.

As you know MyExperience is only one form of feedback we use to help shape this course.

Through MyExperience comments and feedback received throughout the course we continue to plan and implements changes. This course has been informed by feedback received from previous students and from you during the course of your MCSW study.

Feedback from past groups have contributed to the following changes in 2023 which have been refined and built upon in 2024:

- Shaped the current assessment tasks - with the introduction in 2023 of an annotated bibliography assignment. Now the first two assignments both support the final assignment. In 2024 the annotated bibliography assignment has also been modified and based on 2023 feedback
- Informed selection of the course topics and opportunities for more interaction in practice seminars

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Maureen MacGinley		Morven Brown Room 134		Flexible, please email for an appointment	Yes	Yes
Lecturer	Jane Mowll				Please email for an appointment	No	No
	Jeannette Walsh					No	No
	Jessie Chung					No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Student equity and disability;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Examination information;
- Review of results;

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This 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

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](#).

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

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>