UNSW Course Outline

SOCW3006 Socio-Legal Practice in Social Work Settings - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : SOCW3006
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 : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook](#) [Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

In this course, you will explore the legal, professional, and ethical opportunities and constraints of social work practice. Drawing on practice-informed case studies, you will consider the tensions and dilemmas of socio-legal practice through an examination of social work

interventions in select settings. Attention is paid to legal systems, legal concepts, lawmaking processes, sources of socio-legal assistance and interactions between social workers and lawyers.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Explain a range of interactions between social work practice and the law.
CLO2 : Identify and analyse the differences and convergences between methods of conflict resolution in legal and welfare settings.
CLO3 : Evaluate the respective roles of values and ethics in socio-legal practice in social work settings.
CLO4 : Apply basic legal knowledge and apply social justice principles in the analysis of a range of socio-legal contexts.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Explain a range of interactions between social work practice and the law.	• Court Report • Analysis of Context and Practice
CLO2 : Identify and analyse the differences and convergences between methods of conflict resolution in legal and welfare settings.	• Analysis of Context and Practice
CLO3 : Evaluate the respective roles of values and ethics in socio-legal practice in social work settings.	• Analysis of Context and Practice
CLO4 : Apply basic legal knowledge and apply social justice principles in the analysis of a range of socio-legal contexts.	• Court Report • Analysis of Context and Practice

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Court Report Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	50%	Due Date: 13/10/2024 11:59 PM
Analysis of Context and Practice Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (3 days)	50%	Due Date: 24/11/2024 11:59 PM

Assessment Details
Court Report

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

You will prepare a 1500 word report on a topic relevant to course content.

You will receive written feedback, a marked rubric, and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow you to work towards clearly defined standards.

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Explain a range of interactions between social work practice and the law.
- CLO4 : Apply basic legal knowledge and apply social justice principles in the analysis of a range of socio-legal contexts.

<u>Detailed Assessment Description</u>

Further detail about this assessment is available on moodle

<u>Assessment Length</u>

1,500 words

<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

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

<u>Generative AI Permission Level</u>

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other

media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. 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.

Analysis of Context and Practice

Assessment Overview

You will prepare a 2000 word assignment on a topic relevant to course content.

You will receive written feedback, a marked rubric, and a numerical grade within ten working days of submission. The rubric will be available at the start of term to allow you to work towards clearly defined standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Explain a range of interactions between social work practice and the law.
- CLO2 : Identify and analyse the differences and convergences between methods of conflict resolution in legal and welfare settings.
- CLO3 : Evaluate the respective roles of values and ethics in socio-legal practice in social work settings.
- CLO4 : Apply basic legal knowledge and apply social justice principles in the analysis of a range of socio-legal contexts.

Detailed Assessment Description

Further detail of this assessment is provided on moodle.

Assessment Length

2000 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	9th September Time: 4pm-5.30pm Location: Patricia O'Shane G04 (K-E19-G04) • Introduction to the Course and Assessment requirements. • Understanding the Role and Functions of the Law and the Socio-legal Relationship and Socio-Legal Interventions
	Tutorial	Identifying and exploring socio-legal interventions in preparation for the first assessment.
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	16th September Time: 4pm-5.30pm Location: Patricia O'Shane G04 (K-E19-G04) • Legal obligations of social workers • Going to Court
	Tutorial	Interactive case study discussion linked to the lecture topic and informed by the set readings
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	23rd September Time: 4pm-5.30pm Location: Patricia O'Shane G04 (K-E19-G04) • Criminal Law- Social Work role and responsibilities
	Tutorial	Interactive case study discussion linked to the lecture topic and informed by the set readings
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	30th September Time: 4pm-5.30pm Location: Patricia O'Shane G04 (K-E19-G04) • Domestic/ Family Violence and the law
	Tutorial	Interactive case study discussion linked to the lecture topic and informed by the set readings
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Public Holiday ** No lecture this week** • Online lecture: Working with involuntary clients
	Tutorial	Interactive case study discussion linked to the lecture topic and informed by the set readings
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Reading	Flexibility week There are no scheduled classes this week. See Moodle for optional additional readings and video links
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	21st October Time: 4pm-5.30pm Location: Patricia O'Shane G04 (K-E19-G04) • Mental health: Social work role and responsibilities
	Tutorial	Interactive case study discussion linked to the lecture topic and informed by the set readings
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	28th October Time: 4pm-5.30pm Location: Patricia O'Shane G04 (K-E19-G04) • Guardianship: Social work role and responsibilities
	Tutorial	Interactive case study discussion linked to the lecture topic and informed by the set readings
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	4th November Time: 4pm-5.30pm Location: Patricia O'Shane G04 (K-E19-G04) • Refugees, asylum seekers and the law
	Tutorial	Interactive case study discussion linked to the lecture topic and informed by the set readings
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	11th November Time: 4pm-5.30pm Location: Patricia O'Shane G04 (K-E19-G04) • Balancing confidentiality, advocacy, accountability and safety issues
	Tutorial	Interactive case study discussion linked to the lecture topic and informed by the set readings

Attendance Requirements

Partnerships and collaboration between students and educators are particularly important in social work learning. As well as maintaining our accreditation as a provider of social work education, it is important that you find yourself in an environment where you 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. We are excited to be delivering SOCW3006 as a face to face course in T3 2024. You will need to attend lectures EACH Monday (either online or face to face) and the tutorial you are enrolled in. If you are unable to attend a lecture or your nominated tutorial please contact either Pip (p.evans@unsw.edu.au) or your tutor as soon as practical.

If your attendance is affected for a limited period of time, we will refer you to alternate tasks to support you to cover the missed content. 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 you feel comfortable coming forward regarding concerns about your learning and attendance. Communication is especially important when you are experiencing learning barriers, particularly those which affect class attendance and completion of independent learning tasks. 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 you 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.

Pip and the tutoring team

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Course text

Chris Maylea, (2020) Social Work and the Law: a guide for ethical practice, Red Globe Press,

London.

This can be purchased from the UNSW Bookshop in online or hardcopy format.

Hard copy: https://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au/details.cgi?ITEMNO=9781352008364

Online: https://www.vitalsource.com/en-au/products/-v9781352008371

Weekly readings including several key chapters from the prescribed and recommended texts will be available on Leganto via Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Recommended Text

Simon Rice and Andrew Day [Eds.] (2018) Social Work in the Shadow of the Law Federation Press, Annandale.

Available in hard copy from the UNSW bookshop: https://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au/details.cgi?ITEMNO=9781760021

You are expected to use the UNSW Library: http://www.library.unsw.edu.au

You will benefit from using GoogleScholar (http://scholar.google.com) as a key search engine foracademic publications and reports. You can set up the preferences to link to the UNSW Library evenwhen you are not on campus.

Go to Google Scholar> settings> library links, and enter 'University of New South Wales' in the box for"Library":

You can sign up for Table of Contents (TOC) Alerts from the homepages of relevant journals, to receive an email whenever new articles are published in that journal. Journal websites will often carryinformation on the most viewed and most cited articles; these are likely to be interesting and ofteninfluential contributions. Google Scholar will also point you to articles that have cited a particular articleand hence will be related to the topic.

In addition to the readings on Moodle there are a number of other resources that students may wish toconsider for more detailed information and their assessments:

• The law handbook: your practical guide to the law in New South Wales. All chapters are from

the 15th edition of The Law Handbook provided by Thomson Reuters for publication on the Find Legal Answers website. This edition is up to date as of October 2019. Available at: https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/find-legal-answers/books-online/law-handbook-your-practical-guide-law-nsw

• The Australian Law Reform Commission and the NSW www.alrc.gov.au/ . The Federal Australian lawreform body that has instrumental in recommending reforms to law since 1975. There are also different Law Reform Commission's in various State jurisdictions which also produce many interesting reports on legal matters.

Course Evaluation and Development

Feedback from students has helped to consolidate the choice of lecture topics covered this year as well as last year introducing more content on what constitutes a socio-legal intervention. Further feedback will be gathered periodically using, among other means, UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation process and through less formal channels such as email and small group feedback throughout the course. Student feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements will be made to the course based in part on such feedback.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Dr Phillipa Evans		115 Level 1 Morven Brown Building	+61 2 9065 3563	By appointment	Yes	Yes
Tutor	Eva Benjamin				Please email to make an appointment	No	No
	Dominic Van Gestal				Please email to make an appointment	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 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

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