

**Arizona State University
School of Social Work
Master Syllabus
2008**

Lead Instructor: **Dr. Robin Bonifas**

I. Name and Number of Course: SWG 603 Social Work Practice in Health/Behavioral Health Settings

II. Program Level: MSW 600: ADP Concentration

III. Course Requirements: Credit: 3 semester hours
Required: Health/Behavioral Health Specialization
Prerequisite: SWG 502, SWG 511 and SWG 542

IV. Course Description:

Advanced social work practice in health and behavioral health settings, focusing on enhancement of client functioning and quality of life.

V. Rationale for the Course

- A. This course is designed to serve as the core course in the health/behavioral health specialization. It is designed to prepare students to assume leadership roles in health and behavioral health care environments. The course focuses on the acquisition of theories and information on culturally competent health and behavioral health service delivery systems designed to enhance social functioning and quality of life for client populations and communities, with a special emphasis on populations of the Southwest.
- B. The course provides the context for health/behavioral health practice focusing on the philosophy, history, and theories of practice as applied to this specialization. Major mental health paradigms will be examined, the influence of language and culture, assessment models and intervention will be addressed. Special emphasis is given to recovery, self-help, and consumer models of care. Social service delivery models, continuum of care, managed care, policy and ethics will be addressed.

VI. Course Objectives:

After completing the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate ability to build upon foundation skills to apply a strength/resiliency perspective to health/behavioral health services utilizing a whole person health perspective.

2. Demonstrate understanding of the historical and current context of health and behavioral health services in Arizona, Arizona Tribal communities, the United States, in the Bi-national Mexican and American borderlands. Describe the influences of the major health care reforms on the health/behavioral health care delivery systems.
3. Student will acquire an understanding of cultural considerations in social work practice by articulating and assessing the variables of race, gender, age, ethnicity, nationality, sexual identity, culture, and spirituality, which have an influence on health and behavioral care beliefs and practices. Student will identify and examine disparities/inequities in health and behavioral health resources and services for individuals from oppressed groups, and discuss strategies for advocacy of fair and just allocation of resources and services.
4. Demonstrate understanding of cultural factors in implementing culturally competent assessment, treatment planning, interventions, and evaluation of practice.
5. Explain concepts of evidence-based prevention and intervention models used by social workers in health/behavioral health settings.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of families' experience and the ability to collaborate with consumers, families and other support systems involved in health/behavioral health systems.
7. Demonstrate how to engage clients in the use of multiple types of intervention strategies across system levels in advanced generalist mental health practice.
8. Demonstrate ability to collaborate as part of a multidisciplinary team that includes the consumer, family, other support networks, and community supports.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of effective professional leadership in the multidisciplinary environment.
10. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of managed care.
11. Apply the NASW Code of Ethics to analyze and design strategies to resolve ethical dilemmas that commonly occur in health and behavioral health environments.

VII. Course Units:

1. Introduction to Health Behavioral Health Specialization
2. Bio-psychosocial conceptual framework, Historical context
3. Stigma, labeling, and public attitudes
4. Contemporary service delivery models

5. Service delivery systems: continuum of care
6. Managed care and health delivery systems
7. Race, ethnicity, poverty and cultural dimensions
8. Interventions with Persons with Mental Health Problems: theories, concepts, and philosophies for the behavioral system
9. Recovery model, self help and consumer-run services
10. Family support interventions, psychoeducational treatment
11. Legal and ethical issues, advocacy

VIII. Key Course Concepts:

Confidentiality
 Evidence-based models of service delivery
 De-institutionalization
 Social Service Delivery systems
 Health disparities
 Integrative care
 Locus of care
 Managed Care Concepts
 Promotoras
 Prevention: universal, selective, and indicated
 Psychoeducational
 Public health model of prevention
 Risk
 Quality of life model
 Recovery model
 Stigma/discrimination
 Social Epidemiology
 Wrap around system

IX. Required Text

Sands, R. G. (2001) *Clinical Social Work Practice in Behavioral Mental Health: A Postmodern Approach to Practice with Adults*. Needham Height, MA: Allyn & Bacon

Dziegielewska, S. (2003) *The Changing Face of Health Care Social Work: Professional Practice in Managed Behavioral Health Care, Second Edition*.

X. ASU Policies:

Students are responsible for reviewing and complying with all ASU policies, including the following:

Academic Integrity Policy:

http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic_integrity.htm

Student Code of Conduct:

<http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/>

Computer, Internet, and Electronic Communications Policy:

[https://techbase.asu.edu/wiki/index.php/Computer, Internet and Electronic Communications](https://techbase.asu.edu/wiki/index.php/Computer,_Internet_and_Electronic_Communications)

School of Social Work Student Academic Integrity Policy:

<http://ssw.asu.edu/portal/filelib/students/PlagiarismPolicy.pdf>

Social work students are responsible for reviewing and complying with the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics:

<http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code.asp>