

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
STEVE HICKS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

Course Number:	SW 310	Instructor:	P. Galan-Cisneros, MA, LMSW, PhD Candidate
Unique Number:	60750	Email:	Patricia.galancisneros@austin. utexas.edu
Semester:	Fall 2024	Office:	Virtual
Meeting Time/Place:	Mondays/Wednesdays	Office Phone:	
	4:00pm- 5:30pm	Office Hours:	By appointment
	Online- Zoom Link TBA Canvas		

Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare
Cultural Diversity Flag Course

I **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This is an introductory social work course in which you will learn about the profession of social work, its history, and the roles the profession plays in addressing social welfare responses to human needs in the United States. Using a social justice lens, the course will explore being a social worker and the ways that laws, policies, and ethics guide social work practice and impact the clients and communities that social workers serve. You will learn about and apply frameworks used by social workers that emphasize diversity and equity in social work practice to address social welfare issues. You also will be introduced to generalist social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

Identities and statuses that make individuals and communities targets of oppression will be studied within the context of social work. You will have the opportunity to assess your identities, strengths, and challenges and identify potential ethical conflicts in working directly with people.

This course carries the flag for Cultural Diversity in the United States. The purpose of the Cultural Diversity in the United States Flag is for students to explore in depth the shared practices and beliefs of one or more underrepresented cultural groups subject to persistent marginalization. In addition to learning about these diverse groups in relation to their specific contexts, students should engage in an active process of critical reflection. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from assignments covering the practices, beliefs, and histories of at least one underrepresented cultural group in the U.S.

II **STANDARDIZED COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the semester, you will be able to:

1. Delineate contexts and settings of generalist social worker practice, including fields and areas of practice and leadership, as well as roles and functions that social workers

perform.

2. Explain the importance of understanding the lived experiences of clients and communities, including the impact of racialization, ethnic origin, class, gender, gender identity and expression, culture, sexual orientation, religion, age, physical and mental disabilities, caste, immigration/refugee status, national origin of communities and tribal sovereign status, in order to provide responsive social work services.
3. Interpret the philosophical base of social work in relation to political and moral philosophy, ethics, logic, empirical knowledge, art, and theory.
4. Apply the major principles of the NASW Code of Ethics to practice and develop an awareness of how your assumptions, identities, values, and beliefs affect your work with clients.
5. Center the perspectives of Black, Indigenous, and other scholars of color, understand how theories that inform anti-racism and anti-oppression, such as critical race theory, can be applied to social problems and can help identify and address policies, behaviors, and beliefs that perpetuate racist ideas and actions.
6. Understand the influence of the environment on individuals by applying principles of ecological systems theory and integrate a strengths-based perspective that puts the strengths and resources of people, communities, and their environments, rather than their problems, at the center.
7. Understand the historical social, economic, and political contexts and ideologies that have influenced the development of social work and social service systems.
8. Trace the historical trajectory of U.S. social welfare policies and services that guide contemporary social work practice and social welfare systems.

III. TEACHING METHODS

This class involves a range of activities to foster a stimulating, creative, collaborative and interactive learning community. Teaching methods include experiential learning and exercises, pre-posted lectures, asynchronous online activities, class discussion, videos, guest speakers, and role plays. For a meaningful experience in this class, you are expected to actively participate, engage your critical thinking skills and attend class regularly.

IV. REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND COURSE MATERIALS

Required Text: Cox, L. E., Tice, C.J., & Long D. D. (2022). Introduction to social work: An advocacy-based profession (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Finn, J. L. (2021). *Just practice: A social justice approach to social work*. Oxford University Press. Electronic copy available in The University of Texas Library System. Log on with your UT EID to access.

Supplemental course materials (worksheets, assignments, resources, articles) will be posted on Canvas.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Due to the format and content of this course, both attendance and contribution are imperative.

The other students in your class are dependent upon you for a quality learning experience; if too many students are absent, the class suffers. Students' participation is highly encouraged, and is both valuable to them and to their classmates.

Assignments & Points

1.	Learning Reflections	20 pts
2.	Intersectional Identity and Impact Research Paper (Cultural Diversity Paper)	20 pts
3.	Final Critical Thinking & Reflection Paper	5 pts
4.	Discussion Board (Video)	5 pts
5.	Culture Chest	10 pts
6.	Self-Care Facilitation	5 pts
7.	Fishbowl: Research Paper Discussion & Lessons Learned about Culture	5 pts
8.	Group Presentation: Social Work Response to a Social Welfare Issue	20 pts
9.	Attendance & Class Participation	10 pts

Learning Reflections

20 pts

The Learning Reflections provide a forum for you to reflect on your experiences, deepen the learning from course activities, and wrestle with multiple thoughts and feelings arising from the course content. They are an opportunity to share your questions, frustrations, hopes, fears, satisfactions, and ideas with your instructor. It is a way for your instructor to find out what you are learning from the readings, from your experience and discussions with peers, and class. When you respond to something in the readings, please be specific. Learning Reflections need to be 2 pages long using 12-point Times New Roman and into the canvas system on or before the due time/date. You are required to complete five Learning Reflections; each of these reflections is worth 4 pts towards your 20 pts overall score. You will receive one point for completing a learning reflection according to the parameters and an additional point if your reflection integrates learning and demonstrates depth of insight and awareness. Due to the experiential nature of this learning, demonstrated completion of reading and integration of in-class experiences are also factored into the grade for this project.

DUE DATE: See Syllabus

Intersectional Identity and Impact Research Paper (Cultural Diversity Paper)

20pts

There will be a cultural intersectional impact research paper on a population of interest to the student, integrating cultural diversity/intersectionality and the differential and/or unique impact of the selected group within the social justice issue. The course is a UT Cultural Diversity in the United States Flag course and will focus on the underrepresented cultural groups of ethnic minorities, immigrants, refugees, and women. The format will be a 5-8 page, double-spaced 12pt Times New Roman font, 1-inch margin, American Psychological Association (APA) format, final research paper on a topic related to this intersectional group in the United States. Papers are to include a 4-6 relevant peer-reviewed references and a title page in addition to the body of the paper. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complexity of the perspectives of this underrepresented cultural group in the United States. Students will develop a historical understanding of at least one underrepresented cultural group in the United States. Students will examine the forces that led to and maintain the underrepresented cultural group's experience of persistent marginalization and identify systemic barriers to equality and inclusiveness. Students will examine the impact of privilege and power differentials in the U.S. Students will apply diverse cultural perspectives in evaluating complex problems and make recommendations for how the social work profession can improve its mission with this population.

DUE DATE: 10/28

Final Critical Thinking & Reflection Paper

5 pts

The Final Thought Paper reflects your experiences and reactions to our readings, exercises, films, interactions, and other course activities. The instructor will post the questions on Canvas at least two weeks before the paper is due. When you respond to something in the readings, please be specific. Thought Papers need to be 3 pages in length using 12-point Times New Roman, APA format including Title page and references.

DUE DATE: 12/9

Discussion Board (Video)

5pts

Students are required to create and post a 3-5 minute asynchronous video in response to questions posed by the professor regarding the course content. In your video, you should engage with the topics of ethics, social justice, and cultural diversity as they relate to social work. Additionally, you are expected to watch and thoughtfully respond to the videos posted by your classmates, sharing your insights and reflections on their perspectives. Active participation in this discussion is essential for exploring and deepening your understanding of these critical issues in social work. *Students will need to view peer postings and come prepared to discuss*

DUE DATE: Initial Posting – 10/9; In-class Discussion – 10/14

Culture Chest

10 pts

Choose a small box for your "culture chest." Place inside 5 items that represent your social identities (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, religion, social class, nationality, age, size, etc.) that have influenced your worldview or behavior. These items might include photographs, art pieces, jewelry, clothing, or anything you believe significantly influences how you perceive and behave in the world. Decorate the outside of your box with 5 images (e.g., pictures, drawings, words, or phrases) that describe how you think others view these social identities (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, religion, social class, nationality, age, size, etc.) and/or have treated you based on these social identities.

You will discuss the objects in and on your box with your group, a peer, and/or the class at large. Criteria for evaluation: • Thoughtful external decoration and internal contents of the culture chest (5 pts) • Sharing of the culture chest during class, including your description of how each item relates to a specific social group membership (5 pts).

DUE DATE: 9/30

Self-Care Facilitation

5pts

Over the course of the semester, each student will have one opportunity to facilitate a session on their self-care practice. This practice should support their mental health and enhance their ability to care for others. Sample ideas for self-care practices will be available on Canvas. Students may be asked to submit a brief paragraph describing their chosen self-care practice and may have periodic check-ins with the professor to evaluate its effectiveness.

Students will present their self-care practice to the class in a 3-5 minute session when it's their turn. This presentation should creatively showcase their practice using various formats such as photos, slideshows, artwork, music, poetry, or any other suitable medium. Additionally, students must include a PowerPoint presentation that provides an overview and description of their self-care practice and an activity to engage the class. Facilitation will occur throughout the semester, with students presenting during different sessions.

DUE DATE: TBA

Fishbowl: Research Paper Discussion & Lessons Learned About Culture **5pts**

Students are to actively participate in a synchronous discussion with a peer group to explore ethics, social justice, and cultural diversity issues related to social work, as well as lessons learned about culture and marginalization/oppression in their research and work on the cultural research paper. Due to the experiential nature of this learning, attendance and actively distributed participation are factored into the grade for this project.

DUE DATE: 12/9

Group Presentation: Social Work Response to a Social Welfare Issue **20pts**

Students will be divided into small groups based on interest in a social welfare issue. Each group will prepare a 15-20 minute presentation on the issue and how it impacts and is impacted by the social work profession – focusing on both historical contexts but primarily on how the issue is being addressed today, why the issue is important, and who is impacted and how, what is being done to address the issue and how effective those strategies are, the roles of the social work profession in addressing the issue, identification of at least one social work-related organization that is focusing on the issue and how, and what other recommendations the group has to address the issue. Cultural Diversity and social justice are to be emphasized. (Note: This issue links to your cultural research paper, as you will notice an intersectional aspect of the mezzo/macro issue and research impact on that marginalized population within your larger social justice issue). As indicated on Canvas, each group will be assigned a different due date. Due to the experiential nature of this learning, attendance and actively distributed participation are factored into the grade for this project.

DUE DATE: 12/2 & 12/4 – SEE SCHEDULE ON CANVAS

Class Participation **10pts**

Attendance and active participation are critical to the teaching and learning in this class. *Your presence is necessary for everyone's success in this course. You are allowed to miss two class meetings. Any absence after the second may impact your engagement with content and ideas shared in class, so I encourage you to remember this. Please be proactive in situations where you will be absent, especially as it may impact experiential labs; please try to make alternative video/zoom arrangements with your peer/group when possible.*

VI. CLASSROOM POLICIES

1. Participation and Attendance

Attendance and active participation are critical to the teaching and learning in this class. *Your presence is necessary for everyone's success in this course. You are allowed to miss two class meetings. Any absence after the second may impact your engagement with content and ideas shared in class, so I encourage you to remember this. Please be proactive in situations where you will be absent, especially as it may impact experiential labs; please try to make alternative video/zoom arrangements with your peer/group when possible.*

1. Late Assignments

Except in the case of extreme emergencies, and then only with the professor's permission, late assignments WILL NOT be accepted without penalty. Students are expected to turn in all required assignments on the agreed-upon due date at the beginning of class. Assignments not

turned in class on the day it is due will be considered late. If accepted, late assignments will be assessed point penalties at the rate of 10% each day late. If the due date is a problem, the student should see the professor and negotiate another date well in advance.

2. Student Achievement

Student Achievement in meeting course objectives will be evaluated on the following written, oral, and in-class experiential assignments, regular and punctual class attendance, and informed class participation based upon class readings/assignments.

3. Student Feedback

Student feedback is welcome either informally or formally about class room learning and content, the teacher's teaching strategies, peer relationships, scheduling, or other items. Students are also encouraged to provide feedback during office hours, by phone, by e-mail, and by appointment if they desire.

4. Assignment Changes

The instructor reserves the prerogative to change class assignments as needed to meet the course objectives. The changes will be discussed with the students in class or by email before implementation.

5. Cell phone and Laptop Use

Cell phones and laptops are permitted in virtual learning class, however the student is expected to be utilizing those devices only for the purpose of accessing or enhancing the classroom learning environment. Failure to comply with this expectation may result in a grade reduction in class participation grade.

Your grade for this course will be based on the following requirements (further guidance for class participation and all assignments is included in the syllabus appendix):

Student Attendance/Participation - Attendance and active participation are critical to the teaching and learning in this class. Your presence is necessary for everyone's success in this course. You are allowed to miss two class meetings. Any absence after the second may impact your engagement with content and ideas shared in class, so I encourage you to remember this. Please be proactive in situations where you will be absent, especially as it may impact experiential labs; please try to make alternative video/zoom arrangements with your peer/group when possible.

Self-Care Project and Moments of Excellence

Over the course of the semester, students are encouraged to come up with a regular practice that supports their own mental health and their ability to best care for their clients. The professor and students will notice the effectiveness of their self-care practices and engage in a practice of accountability throughout the semester to parallel the learning experience in this course. In addition, noticing strengths in others is an essential social work skill, and you are expected to notice your peers' strengths and skills throughout the semester and take notes as well. On the last day of class, students will have two minutes to share with the class about their self-care practice and the person(s) they have selected for moments of excellence.

Learning Reflections – Students will submit learning reflections that integrate content from readings, class sessions, and service-learning experiences using prompts posted on Canvas. Reflections should be two pages and are to be submitted on Canvas.

Case Example Project – All students will provide a dyad role play demonstrating basic social work skills, working with a partner either in the class, or may be done on a video. Students will be assigned a partner and case example at the beginning of the course, and the dyad will use this example in skills labs throughout the progression of the class. The dyad will present the case to the class and provide a sample stage of intervention, with rapport and assessment a clear focus, goals that are defined, the use of a therapeutic modality, and consideration of systemic, race, and other mezzo and macro variables as discussed throughout the class.

"Attendance" and participation for the asynchronous portion of this class will be evaluated based on the completion of journals and book quizzes.

Students are responsible for any material missed due to absences. Course material will be posted in Canvas.

Due Dates and Late Assignments: Assignments are expected to be turned in on time. Assignments are generally due at 11:59pm on the due date. Exceptions to this time will be announced when necessary. Assignments, including papers, are due on the date and time indicated in Canvas. Late assignments will be penalized 5% of the assignment point value for each day late. After 7 calendar days, late assignments will not be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Frequent communication is key when needing to turn in a late assignment. Email and meetings with the instructor to plan for late assignments are expected if a student encounters barriers to turning in an assignment.

Grades: Questions about grades should be raised with the instructor within one week of receipt of the grade.

Use of Cell Phones in the Classroom: Cell phones should be muted when class begins and remain off throughout the duration of synchronous class times unless the student has spoken with the instructor prior to class beginning about an urgent need to have the phone available during class.

VII. GRADES

94.0 and Above	A
90.0 to 93.999	A-
87.0 to 89.999	B+
84.0 to 86.999	B
80.0 to 83.999	B-
77.0 to 79.999	C+
74.0 to 76.999	C
70.0 to 73.999	C-
67.0 to 69.999	D+
64.0 to 66.999	D
60.0 to 63.999	D-
Below 60.0	F

VIII. UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Grading Scale

[No A+]		87.0 to 89.999	B+	77.0 to 79.999	C+	67.0 to 69.999	D+
94.0 and Above	A	84.0 to 86.999	B	74.0 to 76.999	C*	64.0 to 66.999	D
90.0 to 93.999	A-	80.0 to 83.999	B-	70.0 to 73.999	C-	60.0 to 63.999	D-
				<i>*minimum to pass course</i>		Below 60.0	F

- **Attendance and Academic Behavior.** At the University of Texas at Austin, regular attendance at all class meetings is expected. Instructors are responsible for implementing an attendance policy and must notify students of any special attendance requirements. See more information at <https://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/academic-policies-and-procedures/attendance/>. Furthermore, students are expected to abide by the Standards for Social Work Education (available at <https://socialwork.utexas.edu/student-resources/bsw/policies-and-procedures/>). The student shows potential for responsible and accountable behavior by being punctual and dependable, prioritizing responsibilities, attending class regularly, observing deadlines, completing assignments on time, and keeping appointments or making appropriate arrangements.
- **Religious Holy Days.** A student who misses classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day should inform the instructor as far in advance of the absence as possible so that arrangements can be made to complete an assignment within a reasonable period after the absence. A reasonable accommodation does not include substantial modification to academic standards, or adjustments of requirements essential to any program of instruction. Students and instructors who have questions or concerns about academic accommodations for religious observance or religious beliefs may contact the Center for Access and Restorative Engagement at <https://community.utexas.edu/care/>. The University does not maintain a list of religious holy days.
- **The University of Texas Honor Code.** The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.
- **Policy on Academic Integrity.** Students who violate University rules on academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and / or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information, please visit the Student Conduct and Academic Integrity website at: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/conduct>.
- **Use of Course Materials.** The materials used in this course, including, but not limited to exams, quizzes, and homework assignments, are copyright protected works. Any unauthorized duplication of the course materials is a violation of federal law and may result in disciplinary action being taken against the student. Additionally, the sharing of course materials without the specific, express approval of the professor may be a violation of the University's Student Honor Code and an act of academic dishonesty, which could result in further disciplinary action. This sharing includes, among other things, uploading class materials to websites for the purpose of distributing those materials to other current or future students.
- **University Electronic Mail Student Notification.** Electronic mail (email), like postal mail, is a mechanism for official University communication to students. The University will exercise the right to

send email communications to all students, and the University will expect that email communications will be received and read in a timely manner. Students can find UT Austin's policies and instructions for updating their e-mail address at <https://it.utexas.edu/policies/university-electronic-mail-student-notification-policy>.

Steve Hicks School of Social Work Policies

- **Professional Conduct and Civility in the Classroom.** The professor expects students to act as professionals in class. This means students should arrive on time for class, be prepared to participate in the class discussion, and show respect for one another's opinions. A course brings together a group of diverse individuals with various backgrounds. Students are influenced and shaped by such factors as race, ethnicity, gender, sex, physical abilities, religious and political beliefs, national origins, and sexual orientations, among others. We expect to learn from each other in an atmosphere of positive engagement and mutual respect. This atmosphere includes working intentionally to recognize and dismantle racism, sexism, heterosexism, and ableism in the classroom. Social Work also deals with complex and controversial issues. These issues may be challenging and uncomfortable, and it would be impossible to offer a substantive classroom experience that did not include potentially difficult conversations relating to challenging issues. In this environment, we will be exposed to diverse ideas and opinions, and sometimes we will not agree with the ideas expressed by others. Nevertheless, the professor requires that students engage one another with civility, respect, and professionalism.
- **Classroom Confidentiality.** Information shared in class about agencies, clients, and personal matters is considered confidential per the NASW Code of Ethics on educational supervision and is protected by regulations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as well. As such, sharing this information with individuals outside of the educational context is not permitted. Violations of confidentiality could result in actions taken according to the policies and procedure for review of academic performance located in sections 3.0, 3.1, and 3.2 of the Standards for Social Work Education.
- **Unanticipated Distress.** Students may experience unexpected and/or distressing reactions to course readings, videos, conversations, and assignments. If so, students are encouraged to inform the professor. The professor can be responsive and supportive regarding students' participation in course assignments and activities, but students are responsible for communicating clearly what kind of support is desired. If counseling is needed, students may contact a service provider of their choosing, including the UT Counseling and Mental Health Center at 512-471-3515 or online at <https://cmhc.utexas.edu/>.
- **Policy on Social Media and Professional Communication.** Public social networks are not private. Even when open only to approved or invited members, users cannot be certain that privacy will exist among the general membership of sites. If social work students choose to participate in such forums, please assume that anything posted can be seen, read, and critiqued. What is said, posted, linked to, commented on, uploaded, subscribed to, etc., can be accessed and archived, posing potential harm to professional reputations and prospective careers.
- Social work students who use social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) and other forms of electronic communication (e.g. blogs) must be mindful of how their communication may be perceived by clients, colleagues, faculty, and others. Social work students are expected to make every effort to minimize material which could be considered inappropriate for a professional social worker in training. Because of this, social work students are advised to manage security settings at their most private levels and avoid posting information/photos or using any language that could jeopardize their professional

image.

- Students are asked to consider the amount of personal information posted on these sites and are obliged to block any client access to involvement in the students' social networks. Client material should not be referred to in any form of electronic media, including *any* information that might lead to the identification of a client or compromise client confidentiality in *any* way. Additionally, students must critically evaluate any material that is posted regarding community agencies and professional relationships, as certain material could violate the standards set by the School of Social Work, the Texas Code of Conduct for Social Workers, and/or the NASW Code of Ethics.
- Social work students should consider that they will be representing professional social work practice as well as The University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work program while in the classroom, the university community, and the broader area communities.

Resources, Prevention of Discrimination, and Safety

- **Disability Accommodation Statement.** If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Disability and Access (D&A). You may refer to D&A's website for contact and more information: <https://community.utexas.edu/disability/>. If you are already registered with D&A, please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations and how they apply in my class.
- **Behavior Concerns and Covid-19 Advice Line (BCCAL).** If students have concerns about their behavioral health, or if they are concerned about the behavioral health of someone else, students may use the Behavior Concerns and COVID-19 Advice Line to discuss by phone their concerns. This service is provided through a partnership between the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit <https://safety.utexas.edu/behavior-concerns-advice-line>. The Behavior Concerns and COVID-19 Advice Line has been expanded to support The University of Texas at Austin community during the COVID-19 pandemic. By calling 512-232-5050 - Option 2 for COVID-19, students, faculty and staff can be assisted in English and Spanish with COVID-19 support.
- **Covid-19 Related Information.** The University's policies and practices related to the pandemic may be accessed at: <https://protect.utexas.edu/>
- **Title IX Reporting.** In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the University of Texas at Austin is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct on the basis of sex <https://titleix.utexas.edu/>. Faculty, field instructors, staff, and/or teaching assistants in their supervisory roles are mandated reporters of incidents of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, stalking, dating violence, or any other forms of sexual misconduct. Students who report such incidents will be informed of University resources. Incidents will be reported to the University's Title IX Coordinator. Further information, including student resources related to Title IX, may also be found at <https://titleix.utexas.edu/>.
- **Title IX Accommodations for Those Pregnant, Nursing and Parenting.** Pregnant, nursing and parenting students, faculty, and staff are eligible for accommodations through the Title IX Office that support equal access to education and work and prevent discrimination. Students may reach out to the Title IX Office for help with accommodations to make up missed classes, complete missed coursework,

keep them safe in the classroom, apply for leaves of absence, receive priority registration and other related support. Faculty and staff, including undergraduate students who work on campus and graduate student employees, may reach out for assistance with job or schedule restructuring and obtaining modified or additional work equipment. Visit the [Title IX pregnancy and parenting resource page](#) for more information or contact the [Title IX Support and Resources team](#) connect with a Case Manager.

- **Campus Carry Policy.** The University’s policy on campus carry may be found here: <https://campuscarry.utexas.edu>.
- **Safety.** As part of professional social work education, students may have assignments that involve working in agency settings and/or the community. As such, these assignments may present some risks. Sound choices and caution may lower risks inherent to the profession. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of and adhere to policies and practices related to agency and/or community safety. Students should notify the professor regarding any safety concerns.
- **Emergency Evacuation Policy.** Occupants of buildings on the UT Austin campus are required to evacuate and assemble outside when a fire alarm is activated or an announcement is made. Please be aware of the following policies regarding evacuation:
 - Familiarize yourself with all exit doors in the classroom and the building. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
 - If you require assistance to evacuate, inform the professor in writing during the first week of class.
 - In the event of an evacuation, follow the professor’s instructions.
 - Do not re-enter a building unless you are given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.

IX. COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Assignment Due	Reading
Week 1			
8/26	Introduction/ syllabus review; Kolb's Learning Cycle		Review syllabus Textbook Readings Cox, Tice & Long Chapter 1
8/28	Social Work and Social Justice		Textbook Readings Finn Chapter 1 NASW Code of Ethics (posted on Canvas)
Week 2			
9/2	Labor Day Holiday- No Class		
9/4	The History of Social Work		Textbook Readings Cox, Tice & Long Chapter 2
Week 3			
9/9	Functions and Focus of Social Work	Learning Reflection #1 Due	Textbook Readings Finn Chapter 2 Cox, Tice & Long Chapter 3 pg 74-78
9/11	Ethics and Theory		Textbook Readings Finn, Chapter 3 Cox, Tice & Long Chapter 3, pg 59-70

Week 4			
9/16	Why Theory is Important		Textbook Readings Finn, Chapter 4
9/18	Library Research Day (Group Work)	ASYNCHRONOUS	Preparation for Group Presentation
Week 5			
9/23	Mezzo and Macro Practice: Communities & Advocacy	Learning Reflection #2 Due	Textbook Readings Cox, Tice & Long Chapter 3 pg 70-74; Chapter 4
9/25	Cultural Chest	ASYNCHRONOUS	Planning and Implementation
Week 6			
9/30	Culturally Respectful Practice	Culture Chest Due	See Canvas for Reading Assignment
10/2	Intersectionality		See Canvas for Reading Assignment
Week 7			
10/7	Social Justice Group Perspectives	Guest Lecture	See Canvas for Reading Assignment
10/9	Family and Child Welfare	Initial Posting of Discussion Board (Video) Due	Textbook Readings Cox, Tice & Long, Chapter 6
Week 8			
10/14	Social Work in Schools	Discussion Board (Video), In-class Discussion Due	See Canvas for Reading Assignment
10/16	Social Work and Public Health, our unique history		See Canvas for Reading Assignment
Week 9			
10/21	Poverty and Inequality	Learning Reflection #3 Due	Textbook Readings Cox, Tice & Long, Chapter 5
10/23	What is an Advocate?		See Canvas for Reading Assignment
Week 10			
10/28	Social Work and Physical, Cognitive, Developmental, and Neuro-Diverse Individuals	Intersectional Identity and Impact Research Paper (Cultural Diversity Paper) Due	Textbook Readings Cox, Tice & Long, Chapter 8
10/30	Library Research Day (Group Work)	ASYNCHRONOUS	Preparation for Group Presentation
Week 11			
11/4	Mental Health, Trauma, and Substance Use/Abuse	Guest Lecture	Textbook Readings: Cox, Tice & Long Ch. 9 & 10

11/6	Social Work and Older Adults	Learning Reflection #4 Due	Textbook Readings: Cox, Tice & Long Ch. 11 Canvas Posting Court rules that care facilities have a free speech
Week 12			
11/11	Social Work and Criminal Justice		Cox, Tice & Long Ch. 12 Posted on Canvas: Forney, Restorative Justice: Finding a Better
11/13	Social Work and the Housing Crisis	Guest Lecture	Textbook Readings: Cox, Tice & Long Ch. 13 Canvas Posting: Nothing about us without us: Seven principles of homelessness
Week 13			
11/18	Social Work and Veterans		See Canvas for Reading Assignment Cox, Tice, & Long Ch: 15
11/20	Social Work and Environmentalism	Learning Reflection #5 Due	Textbook Readings Cox, Tice & Long Chap 16 Canvas Posting
Week 14			
11/25		Fall Break/Thanksgiving	
11/27		Fall Break/Thanksgiving	
Week 15			
12/2	Group Presentation: Social Work Response to a Social Welfare Issue		
12/4	Group Presentation: Social Work Response to a Social Welfare Issue		
Week 16			
12/9	Fishbowl: Research Paper Discussion & Lessons Learned About Culture	Fishbowl: Research Paper Discussion & Lessons Learned About Culture Due Final Critical Thinking & Reflection Paper Due	
12/11	University-Wide Study Day		

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