

# **SWK201 Legal and Ethical Issues in Helping Professions**

**Level:** 2

**Credit Units:** 5 Credit Units

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Presentation Pattern:** EVERY REGULAR SEMESTER

## **Synopsis:**

Understanding the legal provisions in the social service settings in Singapore is crucial to social workers. This course helps students to understand a wide range of legal provisions in the social service settings in Singapore and helps students to understand a wide range of issues concerning these legislations. It also looks at the social worker as a person and as a professional and how he/she should apply ethical standards in practice with reference to the Code of Professional Ethics of the Singapore Association for Social Workers (SASW).

## **Topics:**

- Introduction to ethics
- SASW Code of professional ethics
- Fundamentals of ethical decision making
- Ethical decision making process
- Legislations concerning vulnerable groups
- Ethical dilemmas
- Social worker's ethical responsibility to clients
- Social worker's responsibility to colleagues
- Social worker's responsibility to practice settings
- Social worker's responsibility as professionals
- Social worker's responsibility to the profession
- Social worker's responsibility to society

## **Textbooks:**

: Ethical Decisions for Social Work Practice, 9/E by Ralph Dolgoff, Frank M. Loewenberg and Donna Harrington. Thomson (eBook) Cengage  
ISBN-13: 9789814591881

**Learning Outcome:**

- Explain the legal provisions affecting social services and how to function within the court system.
- Analyze commonly encountered ethical dilemmas in all areas of social work practice.
- Examine the framework for analyzing and resolving ethical dilemmas.
- Demonstrate how legislations impact the social worker, the agency, and the clients.
- Discuss the Singapore Association of Social Workers' Code of Professional Ethics
- Apply the value of the profession.

**Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):**

<b>Components</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Weightage Allocation (%)</b>
Overall Continuous Assessment	PRE-CLASS QUIZ 1	5
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	35
	DISCUSSION BOARD 1	10
Overall Examinable Components	Written Exam	50
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>

\*The information listed is subject to review and change.