

SWK354 Families and their Issues

Level: 3

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY SEMESTER

Synopsis:

This course builds upon the insights and skills gained in SWK352e Children and their Issues and situates children in the context of their families. It examines demographic and socio-cultural changes that have led to contemporary challenges facing families.

Through a careful study of different types of families, the course will enable students to apply their knowledge in SWK291 Social Work Practice and Skills Lab I: Working with Individuals and Families and SWK352e to situate children within the context of family issues with a view to achieving family integration and appropriate functioning. The emphasis is on a holistic approach that encompasses ecological and systemic frameworks for practice.

Topics:

- Principles of family-centric practice
- Techniques in working with families
- Contemporary interventions in family social work
- Family members with a disability
- Coping with illness in the family
- Grief and loss
- Marginalised families
- Families experiencing poverty
- Living with addiction

Textbooks:

Donald Collins, Cathleen Jordan, & Heather Coleman: An Introduction to Family Work, 4/e <eBook>
4 Cengage
ISBN-13: 9789814875745

Learning Outcome:

- Discuss the needs of different types of families.
- Analyze the multiple needs and strengths of contemporary families in Singapore.
- Explain the socio-economic conditions that create and sustain poverty.
- Formulate approaches which account for ethnic, class, gender, religious, linguistic, cultural, and sexual differences.
- Apply the strengths and empowerment perspective to practice.
- Use generalist practice to empower family functioning and enrich relationships.

Assessment Strategies (Evening Class):

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