

**BARBADOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DIVISION OF GENERAL/CONTINUING EDUCATION  
YEAR II: SEMESTER II**

**COURSE CODE:** SOWK205

**COURSE TITLE:** HEALTH AND ILLNESS IN SOCIAL WORK

**DURATION:** 45 HOURS

**CREDITS:** 3 CREDITS

**PREREQUISITES:** SOWK110 CASE MANAGEMENT WITH INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

**CONTACT HOURS:** 3 HOURS PER WEEK

**TUTOR:** JOMO PHILLIPS, MSSW-MFT

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**OFFICE HOURS:** BY APPOINTMENT (EMAIL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to provide students with a broad overview of health, health care policies and programmes as well as service delivery systems and practices that are relevant to social work in health care. It is an integrative course that is intended to facilitate students' understanding of the practice of social work in health care settings and the principles and practice of social work in health care.

The course content presents an overview of the social work practice in health care with particular reference to social service agencies in Barbados. Issues and implications related to values and ethics, cultural competency, intervention, advocacy, the psychosocial impact of illness and program planning and evaluation will be explored in relation to the delivery of health care and social work in Barbados. There will also be an integration of relevant methods and theories with a focus on social work in the hospital setting.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course seeks to:

1. Identify health care settings in which social work is practiced
2. Examine the social, cultural and psychological factors, which contribute to the patterns and practices of health.
3. Examine the dominant themes of policy and practice of social work in health care settings in Barbados of social work practice with health care settings
4. Explore the psychological effects of illness on individuals and families.
5. Develop awareness of the social work role in health care settings
6. Increase sensitivity to various social work methods utilized in direct practice.
7. Examine a practice approach that is based on a systematic evaluation of one's own practice.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **UNIT 1 – Overview of Social Work Practice in Health care in Barbados**

1. Overview of the Health care system in Barbados (primary and Secondary health care provision)
2. The delivery of Social Work Practice in Health Care settings
3. Practicing diversity and cultural sensitivity in health care practice
4. The quality of health care in Barbados
5. Inequalities and injustice related to health care access and provision
6. The implications for Social Work practice in Health Care in Barbados

### **UNIT 2 - HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL WORK**

1. Standards for social work practice in healthcare settings
2. Roles, functions, knowledge and skills of social workers in health care settings
3. The current provision of social work and existing social work roles in relation to the standards of social work practice in healthcare
4. Implications for social work practitioners for the development of social work practice in primary and secondary health care institutions
5. The gaps in practice in relation to social work delivery

6. The function of the interdisciplinary team and the social work role on the interdisciplinary team

### **UNIT 3 - WORKING WITH PATIENTS AND FAMILIES**

1. The psychological, interpersonal, social and economic impact of illness and disability and the effects of crises on individuals and families
2. Identifying and assessing the unique needs of patients and families
3. Identifying appropriate services and developing intervention strategies using relevant theoretical frameworks

### **UNIT 4 - EVALUATION AND RESEARCH IN PRACTICE.**

1. The relevance of evaluation and research to social work practice
2. Areas of research relevant to informing practice in health care at all levels
3. Evaluating the effectiveness of various treatment modalities
4. Methods of data collection
5. Developing and evaluating measuring tools for evaluation of practice

### **INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY**

The course will be presented in seminar and lecture format one class session will be entirely online. Several social workers and professionals working in the health care system will volunteer their time to facilitate some of the class sessions.

## METHODS OF EVALUATION

### IN COURSE:

Syllabus Quiz	2%
Four Pop Quizzes	4%
Online Assignment	6%
Online Mid-Term Test	10%
Final Presentation	14%
Class Participation	4%

### FINAL:

Final Examination	60%
Total	100%

## COURSE POLICIES:

1. Email and Neo LMS will be the official means of communication for this course. You will need to ensure that you have regular access to the Internet throughout the semester. Please make sure you are checking Neo LMS and your email accounts regularly
2. I invite you to bring questions and challenges you are experiencing with regards to your assignments that are respectfully and thoughtfully made. These strategies help us all to examine and consider our own assumptions and ideas. You are not required to agree with the course tutor or another student to earn your grade, other than those established as necessary components to competent practice as a social work professional

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Attend all classes it is a College requirement that to do examinations you must attend **80%** of class sessions; if you have any challenges please make me aware
2. You are responsible for retrieving all class materials, including PowerPoint notes and readings make sure that you bring your own copy (paper or electronic) of PowerPoint notes, handouts, and readings to each class
3. Complete unit readings and review notes before class every week as assigned because the semester will go quickly and you want to make sure that you do not fall behind the schedule
4. Participate in class failure to do so affects your final grade
5. Engage **RESPECTFULLY** with your classmates and tutor this is basic expectation of College students and social work professionals
6. Turn off your cell phone and other electronic communication devices when you are in class this facilitates you being engaged in the learning process
7. Complete the final examination
8. Submit your assignments promptly. Late assignments will receive a grade deduction of **ONE (1)** point per day beyond the scheduled submission

date. For pop quizzes you have to be present at class to be scored.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

Plagiarism is presenting another person's work as your own. This is a form of cheating and hence it is clearly against social work ethics and those of the Barbados Community College. Plagiarism includes any paraphrasing or summarising of the works of some one else without acknowledgment, including the submission of another student's work as one's own. Plagiarism frequently involves a failure to acknowledge in the references or footnotes the quotation of paragraphs, sentences, or even a few phrases written or spoken by someone else. The use of research or completed papers or projects prepared by someone else including another student is plagiarism. Failure to indicate the extent and nature of one's reliance on other sources is also a form of plagiarism. Evidence of plagiarism in an assignment will result in a grade of **F** in the assignment and you can face the risk of failing the course. Please see the Student Handbook for a full description of the College's policy on academic honesty.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

Gehlert, S. & Browne, T. (Eds.). (2012). *Handbook of health social work* (2nd ed.). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Heyman, J. C. & Congress, E. P. (Eds.). (2018). *Health and social work: Practice, policy & research*. NY: Springer Publishing.

**Both books are available in Pdf format under course resources**

In this course we will also use a collection of readings and articles that are available in the Neo LMS (see the reading list below).

## Reading List

- Borrell-Carrió, F., Suchman, A. L., & Epstein, R. M. (2004). The biopsychosocial model 25 years later: Principles, practice, and scientific inquiry. *The Annals of Family Medicine*, 2(6), 576-582. doi: 10.1370/afm.245
- Bradby, H. (2012). *Medicine health and society*. London: Sage.
- Bury, M. (2005). *Health and illness*. Malden, MA: Polity Press.
- Davidson, K. W. (1990). Evolving social work roles in health care: The case of discharge planning. In K. W. Davidson & S. S. Clarke (Eds.) *Social work in health care: A handbook for practice (Part 1)*, pp. 181-202. New York: The Haworth Press.
- Engel, G. L. (1977). The need for a new medical model: A challenge for biomedicine. *Science*, 196(4286), 129-136.
- Entwistle, V. A., Renfrew, M. J., Yearley, S., Forrester, J., & Lamont, T. (1998). Lay perspectives: advantages for health research. *BMJ: British Medical Journal*, 316(7129), 463.
- Falck, H. S. (1990). Social work in health settings. In K. W. Davidson & S. S. Clarke (Eds.) *Social work in health care: A handbook for practice (Part 1)*, pp. 63-78. New York: The Haworth Press.
- Fields, G. (1990). The anatomy of discharge planning. In K. W. Davidson & S. S. Clarke (Eds.) *Social work in health care: A handbook for practice (Part 1)*, pp. 177-180. New York: The Haworth Press.
- Gabel, S., & Peters, S. (2004). Presage of a paradigm shift? Beyond the social model of disability toward resistance theories of disability. *Disability & Society*, 19(6), 585-600.
- Galderisi, S., Heinz, A., Kastrup, M., Beezhold, J., & Sartorius, N. (2015). Toward a new definition of mental health. *World Psychiatry*, 14(2), 231-233. doi: 10.1002/wps.20231
- Germain, C. B. (1990). An ecological perspective on social work practice in health care. In K. W. Davidson & S. S. Clarke (Eds.) *Social work in health care: A handbook for practice (Part 1)*, pp. 51-62. New York: The Haworth Press.
- Huber, M., Knottnerus, J. A., Green, L., van der Horst, H., Jadad, A. R., Kromhout, D., ... & Schnabel, P. (2011). How should we define health?. *BMJ*, 343, d4163. doi:10.1136/bmj.d4163
- Jacob, C. M., Baird, J., Barker, M., Cooper, C., & Hanson, M. (2015). The importance of a life course approach to health: chronic disease risk from preconception through adolescence and adulthood. *Southampton: University of Southampton*. Retrieved from: <https://www.who.int/life-course/publications/life-course-approach-to-health.pdf>
- Kane, R. A. (1990). The interprofessional team as a small group. In K. W. Davidson & S. S. Clarke (Eds.) *Social work in health care: A handbook for practice (Part 1)*, pp. 277-294. New York: The Haworth Press.
- Mullings, J., & Paul, T. J. (2007). Health sector challenges and responses beyond the Alma-Ata Declaration: a Caribbean perspective. *Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública*, 21, 155-163.

- Scott, P. (2001). Caribbean people's health beliefs about the body and their implications for diabetes management: a South London study. *Practical Diabetes International*, 18(3), 94-98.
- Scully, J. L. (2004). What is a disease?. *EMBO Reports*, 5(7), 650-653.
- Zola, I. K. (1972), Medicine as an institution of social control. *The Sociological Review*, 20, 487-504. doi:10.1111/j.1467-954X.1972.tb00220.x

## TUTORIAL DELIVERY SCHEDULE

Date & Week	Topics	Readings	Assignment	Date Due
Wk: 1 19/01/21	<b>NO CLASS</b> <b>Errol Barrow Day Holiday</b>			
Wk: 2 19/01/28	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of basic concepts related to health &amp; illness</li> </ul>	Heyman et al. – Chp 1 Scully – <b>On Neo</b> Bury – Chp 1 – <b>On Neo</b> Huber et al. - <b>On Neo</b> Galderisi et al. – <b>On Neo</b>	Review the Course syllabus & do the syllabus quiz <b>(2%)</b> Introduce yourself to your classmates in the course forum & identify what you would want to gain from this course	19/02/24 @ 9:00 am
Wk 3 19/02/04	<b>ON LINE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The medical model</li> <li>The biopsychosocial model</li> <li>Implications for SW practice</li> </ul>	Gehlert & Browne – Chp 2 Engel– <b>On Neo</b> Borrell-Carrió et al. – <b>On Neo</b>	Online Assignment <b>(6%)</b>	19.02.11 @ 9:00 am
Wk 4 19/02/11	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> Theoretical Perspectives on Health & Illness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Functionalism</li> <li>Conflict theories</li> <li>Feminism</li> <li>Interactionism</li> <li>Phenomenology</li> </ul>	Bradby – Chp 2 - <b>On Neo</b>		
Wk 5 19/02/18	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> Theoretical Perspectives on Health & Illness Cont'd <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social constructionism</li> <li>Newer approaches: life course perspective &amp; disability theory</li> </ul> Theory & SW practice in health care	Bradby – Chp 2 - <b>On Neo</b> Gabel & Peters - <b>On Neo</b> Jacob et al. (pp. 1-10) – <b>On Neo</b>		
Wk 6 19/02/25	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lay perspectives on health care</li> <li>Lay perspectives &amp; SW practice</li> </ul>	Enwistle et al. – <b>On Neo</b> Scott – <b>On Neo</b>		
Wk 7 19/03/04	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Barbadian Health Care System</li> </ul>	Mullings & Paul – <b>On Neo</b> B'dos Strategic Plan for Health – <b>On Neo</b> B'dos Health Sys Profile – <b>On Neo</b>		
Wk 8 19/03/11	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health inequality</li> <li>SW roles in health care</li> </ul>	Heyman & Congress – Chp 3 Gehlert & Browne – Chp 2	Mid-Semester Test – Online <b>(10%)</b>	19.03.12 @ 11:59 pm



		HDI Barbados – <b>On Neo</b> The Millennium Develop't Goals Report – <b>On Neo</b> PAHO Country Report – <b>On Neo</b> Kane – <b>On Neo</b>		
Wk 9 19/03/18	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> • Function knowledge & skills of SWs in health care	Falck – <b>On Neo</b>		
Wk 10 19/03/25	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> <b>Panel Presentation SWs in Health Care in B'dos</b> <b>To Be Confirmed</b>			
Wk 11 19/04/01	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> <b>Guest Presentation</b> • Biopsychosocial SW assessment in health care	Heyman & Congress - Chp 5 Germain – <b>On Neo</b>		
Wk 12 19/04/08	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> <b>Guest Presentation</b> • Discharge Planning	Davidson – <b>On Neo</b> Fields – <b>On Neo</b>		
Wk 13 19/04/15	<b>FACE TO FACE</b> • <b>Understanding Health Group Presentations</b> • Course Review		Group Presentation (14%)  Online course evaluations  Class Participation Self- Evaluation (4%)	In class  19/04/18 @ 11:59 pm  19/04/19 @ 11:59 pm
Wk 14 19/04/22	<b>NO CLASS</b>			