



**Renison University College**  
Affiliated with the University of Waterloo  
240 Westmount Road N, Waterloo, ON  
Canada N2L 3G4

Phone: 519-884-4404 | Fax: 519-884-5135 | [uwaterloo.ca/Renison](http://uwaterloo.ca/Renison)

## **Renison University College Land Acknowledgement**

With gratitude, we acknowledge that Renison University College is located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee peoples, which is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

### **Fall 2017**

**Course Code:** SOCWK 120R/SWREN 120R

**Course Title:** Introduction to Social Work

### **Class Times/Location:**

Tuesday and Thursday  
10:00 - 11:20 (Section 001)  
11:30 - 12:50 (Section 002)  
REN 2107

**Instructor:** Dr. Craig Fortier

**Office:** REN 1612A Department of Social Development Studies

**Office Phone:** 519-884-4404 Extension 28715

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays (14:00 – 16:00) Please contact instructor to set a mutually agreeable time to meet outside of office hours.

**Email:** [craig.fortier@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:craig.fortier@uwaterloo.ca)

## **Course Description**

This course introduces the values, principles, ethics and purpose of social work practice in contemporary society. The course traces the historical development of social work as a profession and its connection with the social welfare system. Various theories and approaches of social work practice with

individuals, families, groups and communities (e.g. children, youth, elderly people, women, migrants, LGBTTT2QQI + folks, and Indigenous peoples).

## **Lectures & Case Studies**

This course is set up to be both informative and interactive. The course is set up to include both lectures and case study activities. Each class requires your preparation through keeping up with the readings and your attention and engagement in various activities, case studies and exercises. It is very critical to your success in the course that you make yourself available to actively engage in weekly case studies.

## **Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- A. Acquire an understanding of the major concepts of the social work profession
- B. Understand the history of the social work profession
- C. Gain an appreciation of social work values, principles, and theoretical models
- D. Comprehend different levels of social work practice
- E. Think critically about various fields of social work practice

## **Required Text**

- Ives, Nicole, Myriam Denov, and Tamara Sussman (2015). Introduction to Social Work in Canada: Histories, Contexts, and Practices. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Tamaki, Mariko & Jillian Tamaki (2010). Skim. Toronto: Groundwood Books.

## **LEARN**

Course schedules, assignments, additional readings and announcements are all posted on LEARN. You must become acquainted and proficient in LEARN in order to access some readings and to submit all of your assignments.

What is LEARN? LEARN is an easy-to-use learning management system that your instructor uses to supplement a face-to-face course or deliver a complete online course. LEARN allows you to access course materials online, communicate with others in your class, and submit assignments.

LEARN can be accessed at <http://www.learn.uwaterloo.ca> - Click on SOCWK 120R to access our page.

### Readings Available on LEARN

- Lee, Michael (2016) "Just Because You Do 'Good Work' Doesn't Mean You Are Good" <http://www.michaelleewrites.com/blog/just-because-you-do-good-work-doesnt-mean-you-are-good>
- Kivel, Paul (2007). Social Service or Social Change? in INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence (eds.) *The Revolution Will Not Be Funded: Beyond the Non-Profit Industrial Complex*, pp.129-150. Cambridge: South End Press.

### Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Readings	Evaluation
1	Sept 7	Introduction and Overview of Course	No Readings	
2	Sep 12	Social Work - A Helping Profession? <i>Case: The Great Scrabble Challenge</i>	Lee (link on LEARN) Ives, Chapter 1 (13-22)	Case Study 1 (10%) - Group
	Sept 14	Indigenous Ways of Helping & Healing. <i>Case: Creation Stories</i>	Ives, Chapter 1 (1-9)	Case Study 2 (10%) - Individual
3	Sept 19	Theory & Practice	Ives, Chapter 2	
	Sept 21	<i>Case Study: Understanding Autism - Social Work Approaches</i>	No Readings	Case Study 3 (10%) - Group

4	Sep 26	Social Work with Groups & Communities	Kivel, P. "Social service or social change?" (See LEARN)	Case Study 4 (10%) - Individual
	Sep 28	<i>Case Study: Speaking Fruit</i>	Watch the documentary - Migrant Dreams by Min Sook Lee (see LEARN). <a href="http://tvo.org/video/documentaries/migrant-dreams-feature-version">http://tvo.org/video/documentaries/migrant-dreams-feature-version</a>	
5	Oct 3	Social Work With Individuals & Families	Ives, Chapter 4	Case Study 5 (10%) - Group
	Oct 5	<i>Case: Social Determinant of Health</i>	No Readings	
6	Oct 10	No Class	No Readings	
	Oct 12	No Class	No Readings	
7	Oct 17	Social Work with Children & Youth	Ives, Chapter 7	Case Study 6 (10%) - Individual
	Oct 19	<i>Case: Skim - An Analysis</i>	Tamaki & Tamaki - Skim	
8	Oct 24	Social Work in the lives of Indigenous Peoples	Ives, Chapter 8	Case Study 7 (10%) - Individual
	Oct 26	<i>Case: Sharing Circle at Waterloo Aboriginal Education Centre</i>	No Readings	
9	Oct 31	Social Work with Immigrants & Refugees	Ives, Chapter 9	Case Study 8 (10%) - Group
	Nov 2	<i>Case Study: Grant Application! Art Reach Migrant Youth program application</i> <a href="https://artreach.org/grants/program-guidelines/">https://artreach.org/grants/program-guidelines/</a>	No Readings	

10	Nov 7	Social Work & Sexual and Gender Diversity	Ives, Chapter 10	Case Study 9 (10%) - Group
	Nov 9	<i>Case Study: Let Alvaro Stay</i>	No Readings	
11	Nov 14	Disability & Social Work Practice	Ives, Chapter 11 (290-292, 298-305, 315-316)	Case Study 10 (10%) - Individual
	Nov 16	<i>Case Study: Beyond the Norm</i>	No Readings	
12	Nov 21	Social Work with Aging Populations	Ives, Chapter 12	Case Study 11 (10%) - Group
	Nov 23	<i>Case Study: Working With Elders</i>	No Readings	
13	Nov 28	Social Work Ethics	Ives, Chapter 3 (64-76)	Case Study 12 (10%) - Individual
	Nov 30	<i>Case Study: The Ethics Case Study</i>	No Readings	

## Course Requirements and Assessment

The course **requires students to regularly attend classes**; participate in the emerging discussions by sharing ideas, thoughts and anecdotes; complete classroom activities; read and critically examine the content in the textbook.

Assignment	Quantity	Value	Total
Group Case Studies (5 out of a total of 6)	5	10%	50%
Individual Case Studies (5 out of a total of 6)	5	10%	50%
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100%</b>

## Case Studies

This course is based on the pedagogical philosophy that students best learn in introductory courses through active engagement with the material. This

means that we have moved away from exams and other standardized forms of evaluation and towards the case study approach. The benefit of this approach is that we focus less on memorization and more on engaging directly with issues that social workers face in the real world - including clinical, community, financial, media, and political scenarios. A move towards this type of approach requires a greater time investment for both teaching staff and students with the hopes that it will create a more meaningful learning experience. And for this reason your attendance and participation in class is vital to your success.

## **Grading**

There are 12 case studies in total, each worth 10%. There are 6 case studies that are group submissions and 6 case studies that are individual submissions. ***You must submit a total of 10 case studies over the course of the term.*** You can choose which 10/12 weeks you wish to submit case studies and you can mix and match between individual and group formats.

## **Individual Case Studies Deadlines**

- 1.Week 2** - Case Study #2 - Creation Stories - Deadline: Sunday, September 17th at 11:59pm EDT
- 2.Week 4** - Case Study #4 - Speaking Fruit - Deadline: Sunday, October 1st at 11:59pm EDT
- 3.Week 7** - Case Study #6 - Skim: An Analysis - Deadline: Sunday, October 22nd at 11:59pm EDT
- 4.Week 8** - Case Study #7 - Sharing Circle at WAEC - Deadline: Sunday, October 29th at 11:59pm EDT
- 5.Week 11** - Case Study #10 - Beyond the Norm - Deadline: Sunday, November 19th at 11:59pm EST
- 6.Week 13** - Case Study #12 - The Ethics Case Study - Deadline: Sunday, December 3rd at 11:59pm EST

## **Group Case Studies Deadlines**

- 1.Week 2** - Case Study #1 - The Great Scrabble Challenge - Deadline: Wednesday, September 13th at 11:59pm EDT
- 2.Week 3** - Case Study #3 - Understanding Autism: Social Work Approaches - Deadline: Sunday, September 24th at 11:59pm EDT
- 3.Week 5** - Case Study #5 - Social Determinant of Health - Deadline: Sunday, October 8th at 11:59pm EDT
- 4.Week 9** - Case Study #8 - Migrant Youth Artreach Grant - Deadline: Sunday, November 5th at 11:59pm EST
- 5.Week 10** - Case Study #9 - Let Alvaro Stay - Deadline: Sunday, November 12th at 11:59pm EST
- 6.Week 12** - Case Study #11 - Social Work with Elders - Deadline: Sunday, November 26th at 11:59pm EST

## **Late Penalty**

Please note that all assignments are expected to be submitted on time. If you encounter circumstances that you feel may cause you to be late in submitting any particular assignment you should contact the instructor immediately, explain the circumstances, and we may negotiate an extension. **To do so you must be in contact with your instructor at least 24 hours prior to the deadline to request an extension.** No last minute extensions will be granted.

Late assignments will be accepted up to a week beyond the deadline at a penalty of 2% per day. After the fifth day late assignments will not be accepted for any reason except those outlined in the UW calendar (e.g. medical or family emergencies, or some other such event) and will receive a grade of 0. If an extension is granted, students are expected to submit their assignment at the agreed upon time and date, with the appropriate documentation. Please review the UW policy regarding accommodation for illness for unforeseen circumstances.

[http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom\\_illness.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html)

### **Electronic Device Policy**

Electronic devices are permitted in class. Please be respectful when using them. If you are planning on using your device for non-class related activities, please ask the permission of the students seated within range of your device. Please turn off all sounds and notifications when you enter the classroom and be mindful of how your use of electronic devices changes the learning environment. If someone requests that you refrain from using your device, please turn it off or continue outside of the classroom.

### **Attendance Policy**

Roll call will be taken at the beginning of classes and students unable to attend due to illness or other valid reasons should contact the instructor prior to class.

Attendance is critical to your success in this course. However, you are all free to make the choices that best suit your lived realities and the course is set up in a way that will allow for some absences due to illness or other issues. Chronic and unaccountable absences from class may have a deleterious effect on your grade.

Students are expected to prepare for class by reading the required materials and reflecting on this material in relation to their own experiences. Participation in all class activities is also important. In class, students are expected to contribute to group learning by being present and engaged in the discussion and by sharing their ideas, reflections, questions, and experiences in a manner that is respectful of others.

### **Final Examination Policy**

For **Fall 2017**, the established examination period is **December 7-21, 2017**. The schedule will be available after mid-October. Students should be aware that student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time (see: <https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations>)

### **Accommodation for Illness or Unforeseen Circumstances:**

The instructor follows the practices of the University of Waterloo in accommodating students who have documented reasons for missing

quizzes or exams. See [http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom\\_illness.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html)

### **Academic Integrity:**

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage \(https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage \(https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour) for more information.

**Discipline:** Every student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their own actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration, should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or Academic Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties are imposed under the University of Waterloo Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties \(https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties).

Students should also be aware that copyright laws in Canada prohibit reproducing more than 10% of any work without permission from its author, publisher, or other copyright holder. Waterloo’s policy on Fair Dealing is available here: <https://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory> Violation of Canada’s Copyright Act is a punishable academic offence under Policy 71 - Student Discipline.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70), Section 4 (<https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant, who will provide further assistance.

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline may be appealed if there are grounds. Students who believe they have grounds for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72, Student Appeals \(https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72).

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** [http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic\\_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):** <http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>

### **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

**Note for Students with Disabilities:** The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities, without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AAS office at the beginning of each academic term.

**Intellectual Property.** Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of the instructor, which can include:

- lecture handouts and presentations (e.g., PowerPoint slides)
- lecture content, both spoken and written (and any audio or video recording thereof)
- questions from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams)
- work protected by copyright (i.e., any work authored by the instructor)

Making available the intellectual property of instructors without their express written consent (e.g., uploading lecture notes or assignments to an online repository) is considered theft of intellectual property and subject to disciplinary sanctions as described in Policy 71 – Student Discipline. Students who become aware of the availability of what may be their instructor’s intellectual property in online repositories are encouraged to alert the instructor.

## **A respectful living and learning environment for all**

1. It is expected that everyone living, learning or working on the premises of Renison University College will contribute to an environment of tolerance and respect by treating others with sensitivity and civility.
2. Harassment is unwanted attention in the form of jokes, insults, gestures, gossip, or other behaviours that are meant to intimidate. Some instances of harassment are against the law in addition to Renison University College policy.
3. Discrimination is treating people differently because of their race, disability, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, colour, age, creed, marital status, or other personal characteristics. The Ontario Human Rights Code considers actions and behaviours rather than intentions.
4. If you experience or witness either harassment or discrimination, you may contact the Renison University College Interim Harassment and Discrimination Officer at [megan.collings-moore@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:megan.collings-moore@uwaterloo.ca) (519-884-4404, ext. 28604).

### **Cross-listed course:**

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, an SDS/RS cross-list will count in an SDS major average, even if the course was taken under the Religious Studies rubric.