Course Title:
Human Behavior and The Social Environment: Individuals, Families, and Treatment Groups

Course Number:
SWK 5233-101

Course Description:
Within a social systems framework and biopsychosocial perspective, students learn empirically-based theories which deal with life-span development; family theory, and an introduction to small group dynamics and development. This course provides a theoretical foundation for micro and mezzo level generalist practice.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
Dates: October 21-22, November 4-5, 18-19 & December 2-3, 2011
Location: OCCE, 1704 Asp Avenue, Norman, Oklahoma. Classroom located in the Thurman White Forum building.
Hours: Friday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm & Saturday 9:00 am-5:00 pm.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: September 22, 2011

Campus Map and Parking Information: A map of the campus can be found on the OU website at: http://www.ou.edu/map/. The entire campus is open for parking from Friday at 4:00 pm until Monday at 7:00 am. Students can park almost anywhere on campus including the parking garages, permits are not required and meters don’t have to be paid. OUPD will ticket illegal parking such as fire lanes, handicap areas and yellow curbs.

Site Director:
Cathy Yeaman. Assistant: Jan Plavchak. Phone: 405-325-3333; Fax: 405-325-9148; email: apnorman@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Steven P. Wells, MSW, Ph.D. (Licensed Clinical Social Worker)
Mailing Address: O.U. School of Social Work
Room 303, Rhyne Hall
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: 405-325-1064
Fax Number: 405-325-4190
E-mail Address: spwells@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion.bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-1557 (outside the U.S.).

2. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: A complete course outline, additional readings, and a pre-course assignment will be posted by August 12, 2011 on Desire to Learn. Access D2L at [http://learn.ou.edu](http://learn.ou.edu); enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

**Course Objectives:**

Given regular class attendance, participation in class activities, completion of assigned readings, and successful completion of course assignments, students should, at the conclusion of the course, have the ability to:

1. Identify, describe, and integrate perspectives, conceptual frameworks, and theories to develop a theoretical basis for generalist social work practice consistent with social work values and ethics;
2. Use social systems theory to describe micro and mezzo level transactions which, and ways they promote or deter people in maintaining or achieving health and well-being;
3. Describe how biology influences human development over the life span;
4. Describe current theory of cognitive processing and development over the life-span;
5. Describe the primary concepts central to understanding operant conditioning, respondent conditioning, and social learning theories;
6. Describe theories of identity development which explain gender, cultural, spiritual, family, and psychosocial development over the life-span;
7. Understand structural family theory within a systems perspective;
8. Understand small group processes, dynamics, and developmental stages; and,
9. Use theoretical knowledge to identify and describe the distinctive developmental features of populations-at-risk in society.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

Please check the course website on Desire to Learn for Course Outline, Additional Readings, and a Pre-Course Assignment.

Grading: This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

NOTICE: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy.

Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Steven P. Wells, MSW, Ph.D.
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Education

- 1972 Central State University (Oklahoma), B.A. (Education/Language Arts)
- 1985 University of Oklahoma, M.S.W.
- 2006 University of Oklahoma, Doctor of Philosophy (College of Education – Early Childhood Education Specialty)

Current Positions

- 1988 to 1997 Adjunct Assistant Professor – University of Oklahoma School of Social Work
- 1997 – present Clinical Assistant Professor – University of Oklahoma School of Social Work
- 2007 – present Undergraduate Program Director

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- Human Behavior and the Social Environment
- Generalist Practice

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Child Welfare Social Worker
- Family Mediator
- Counselor (Intimate Partner Violence and Sexually Abusive Families)
- Consultant
- Generalist Practice
- Human Behavior and the Social Environment
- Child Welfare and Sexually Abusive Families
- Advanced Integrated Seminar
- Advanced Direct Practice
- Interviewing Skills
- LEND Core Faculty Member

Representative Publications and Presentations

- Child Sexual Abuse Specialist Curriculum
- CORE Training – Interviewing Skills Practice
- Parenting the Sexually Abused Child
- Grief Models for Foster and Adoptive Parents
- Parents, Disability, and Change
- Foster Parents and Parental Involvement in Schools
- Motivational Interviewing

Major Professional Affiliations

- National Association of Social Workers – Oklahoma Chapter
- Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers – Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Board Approved Supervisor
- LEND Interdisciplinary Leadership Training Program
- Oklahoma Child Abuse Training and Coordination Council
- Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program