

**Baylor University School of Social Work
SWO 5213 Cross Cultural Interactive Seminar**

Professor:
Office:
Telephone:
Email:
Office Hours:

Description and Purpose of Course

Course Description

This course allows students to synthesize learning from the explicit and implicit social work curriculum of the MSW program. Students will have the opportunity to identify major learning gleaned through the program and prepare for reentry into their social work practice in their home country. Emphasis of this seminar will be about synthesizing learning and preparing for future social work practice. Additionally, this seminar provides the opportunity for students to experience support, encouragement, and discussion with international colleagues.

Learning objectives for this course:

1. Synthesize professional growth/learning/development acquired through MSW explicit and implicit curriculum.
2. Prepare for reentry and internship experiences in various global locations
3. Identify strategic next steps for social work practice post internship and graduation
4. Prepare for career engagement and negotiating salaries
5. Execute closure with fellow colleagues, faculty and staff in preparation for graduation and reinvestment in home country

Academic Expectations and Policies

Class Venue

This course will occur in larger allotments of time. The sessions will be held in December, prior to departure for the spring semester, and in May, upon return from advanced placement internship placements. In addition, we will meet individual and collectively as a group, utilizing Big Blue Button, during the semester. The instructor will arrange these times with students in early January.

Course communication will be managed through Baylor University's Canvas system. Please access Canvas regularly to check for course communication. Canvas instruction courses are available through ITS. If you have questions about Canvas, please let me know.

My understanding is that students may purchase needed software through Baylor's computer store for a nominal fee. Information is available through the bookstore. Let me know if you have difficulty with this.

Attendance Policy

1. A significant part of the learning in this course is interactive and experiential. Consequently, your learning and that of your colleagues is dependent on your attendance and the attendance of classmates. **Class attendance is required.** If an unusual situation like a major illness occurs, please contact me at the earliest possible time and determine whether it is possible to arrange appropriate supplemental assignments to make up the work. **Missing any class will impact your class participation grade.** Absence from classes reduces your learning opportunities and negatively affects the interactive process with other students.

Grading policy

You will have two assignments for this class. Your first assignment involves active participation in the course's meetings and discussions. The other assignment involves a creative project you will craft to express key learning you have gleaned through your time in the MSW program at Baylor. This assignment will be due at the end of the semester, giving you ample time to craft this work. This assignment will be due by 5:00pm on the date specified on the course syllabus. An assignment turned in after 5:00pm is late. Assignments will lose one letter grade for each day they are late (e.g. 10 points per day). So an assignment one day late could receive 90 points, at most. Assignments received after four days past the due date will not be accepted for course credit.

Current grading policies of the School of Social Work at Baylor University apply. Grades will be based on the following scale:

A = 93 - 100
A- = 90 - 92
B+ = 87 - 89
B = 83 - 86
B- = 80 - 82
C+ = 77 - 79
C = 73 - 76
C- = 70 - 72
D+ = 67 - 69
D = 63 - 66
D- = 60 - 62
F = Below 60

Learning Reflection Assignment (50%)

This assignment involves reflecting on the learning, personal growth and leadership development that has happened to you throughout your MSW program. The assignment will include:

- A creative expression of your learning- this can be done through a drawing, a diagram, a PowerPoint, a poem, a video, or any other method you would like to use (please consult instructor if needed)
- A 3 page written reflection of core components of your learning
- Two examples of previous assignments that were meaningful learning to you and/or ones of which you are most proud

Preparation and execution of this assignment:

In order to begin this assignment, please reflect on the journal content you identified through the “Reflective Stations” exercise at the December retreat. In addition, take some time to reflect on the courses you took within each semester of your MSW program. As you reflect, begin to identify important areas of growth/learning/development that have occurred in you (intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, professionally, relationally). Allow this reflection to inform the creative learning expression you intend to create.

Create an expression of your growth/learning/development through a creative expression. This can be done through a drawing, a diagram, a PowerPoint, a poem, a video, a slideshow or any other method you would like to use.

In addition, please synthesize these major areas of growth/learning/development into a 3 page written reflection of core components of your learning (including at least three of the following areas of development: intellectual, emotional, spiritual, professional, relational)

Finally, include in your paper submission two examples of previous assignments that were meaningful learning to you and/or ones of which you are most proud.

Due Date: 5/08/2015 by 9:00am or TBD

This paper will be graded as follows:

Organization and Clarity	Points Assigned
Reflection paper: Professionally written (complies with APA 6 th ed.)	20
Flow of paper (organization and structure)	10
Quality of Content of project	
Identification of content areas, demonstration of personal reflection across at least 3 areas of growth/development	60
Submission of 2 assignments that reflect meaningful learning	10

Class Participation (50%)

Participation in the December retreat, the May retreat, and in the Big Blue Button discussions during the spring semester are important for successful completion of this course. Please come to each of our meetings with a willingness to participate in the dialogue/content. A part of your participation grade will be your choosing a book on leadership to read over the semester. We will have a discussion around key points we have learned from this book during our Big Blue Button class discussion we will have in March 2015 (date TBD).

Grades on all assignments are based on:

Completeness:	-Addresses all parts of the assignment.
Competence:	-Demonstrates understanding of concepts (can define/describe in own words) and the ability to apply them (can cite specific examples that illustrate the concept).
Presentation/Organization:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Produces papers and handouts that have a professional appearance. -Uses computer. -Follows APA style. (See BUSSW Style Guide for expectations) -Uses correct grammar and spelling. -Uses headings and subheadings to identify parts of the assignment and relevance of content in each segment. -Communicates clearly and concisely. -Papers and handouts should be well organized, and free from spelling, grammar and punctuation errors. <i>In the event you have, more than 6 such errors on a page, I will return the paper to you without grading it.</i> You will have one week to rewrite and resubmit with a seven point deduction for being late. I won't be able to give you an opportunity for rewrite on any assignment or paper due the last week of class.
Depth/Quality of Thinking:	<p>While your grade in this course will be based on competencies and enrichments accomplished, you will want to think also about the quality of your work and ways to assess that quality. Consider the following: An "A" assignment indicates the submitted assignment excelled in both the level of thinking and the communication of concepts and meets or exceeds all competencies in the rubric.</p> <p>A "B" assignment indicates acceptable thinking and writing and minimum competencies but suggests one or both aspects could and should be improved. A grade lower than "B" indicates either one or both of the areas is not up to graduate level performance and that competencies in the rubric have not been met.</p> <p>At the professor's discretion, assignments that do not indicate graduate level work (below a "B") may be redone one time to bring the grade up to a "B" and meet minimum competencies with the exception of any work completed and turned in the last week of classes.</p>

COURSE CALENDAR

Day Retreat	December 12, 2014
Individual Meetings arranged by Instructor	February 2015 (TBD)
Big Blue Button Meeting/ Leadership Book Discussion	March 2015 (TBD)
May Retreat	May 7-8, 2015
Learning Reflection Assignment due date	8:00am- May 8, 2015