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| Getting Started Document |
| SWK 3402: Applying Evidence |
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# Welcome

Welcome to ***SWK 3402: Applying Evidence.***  During this fourteen-week course, we will read, discuss and develop knowledge and skills to begin applying evidence to the processes of identifying and selecting social work practices at all levels of intervention.

**Week One:** *Introduction and Overview, Scientific Process, Research and Critical Thinking***Week Two:** *Critical Thinking, Pitfalls and Fallacies***Week Three:** *Meta-analysis and Systematic Literature Reviews***Week Four:** *Research Strategies for Information Practice***Week Five:** *Single Subject Designs, Experimental Designs, and Interventions***Week Six:** *Quasi-Experimental Designs, and Interventions***Week Seven:** *Qualitative Designs and Interventions***Week Eight:** *Mixed Methods Research and Statistical Approaches for Analyzing Intervention Data***Week Nine:** *Samples and Intervention Studies***Week Ten:** *Review of Measurement and Finding and Critiquing Instruments***Week Eleven:** *Finding and Critiquing Instruments Continued***Week Twelve:** *Logic Models/Black Box Intervention, Implementation Evaluation***Week Thirteen:** *Fidelity/Flexibility/Adaptability of Interventions***Week Fourteen:** *Research in the Real World*

# Description

This is the second course in the BSSW program sequence preparing students for “Engaging with Evidence” as social work professionals. Through this course students develop the requisite skills and knowledge for beginning to apply evidence to the processes of identifying and selecting social work practices at all levels of intervention. In addition to examining the interplay between theory, evidence, and practice, students will examine principles that apply to evaluating practice, programs, and policy. The methodologies under review include qualitative and quantitative approaches to gathering and analyzing evidence. The types of research questions students will learn to address include client satisfaction, measures of change with and without intentional intervention, and fidelity to intervention protocols.

Course Objectives

Towards these ends, the objectives for students enrolled in this course are to:

1. Find and appraise evidence from literature, client experience, and practice wisdom concerning the efficacy or effectiveness of specific interventions to inform multiple levels of social work practice;
2. Critically analyze the implications of different study design, sampling, procedural, and measurement strategies for different types of intervention-related evidence;
3. Become certified as knowledgeable about the ethical conduct of research involving human participants (i.e., achieve campus certification regarding research with human subjects and Institutional Review Board history, functions, policies, and practices);
4. Demonstrate familiarity with appropriate data-analytic and presentation strategies for interpreting and communicating about various types of evidence with various audiences;
5. Exhibit effective professional writing skills, particularly as related to applying APA style recommendations.

# Audience

The intended audience includes undergraduate students in the social work program.

# Prerequisite

Junior/Senior and admitted to the social work program.

# Timeframe

Here are a few key things to note about the course timeframe:

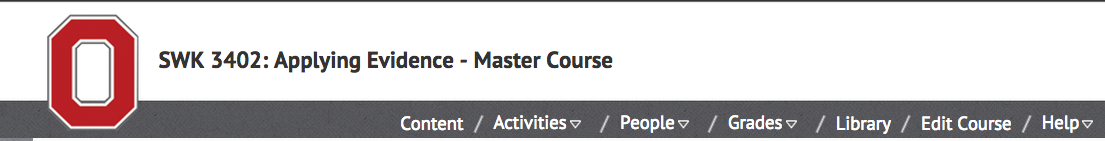
* The course runs from **Monday, January 12, 2015 – Tuesday, May 5, 2015.**
  + Note: **No Class** March 16-21, 2015 due to spring break
* Expect to invest approximately **5-6 hours per week** (give or take)!
* Weekly content will be available at 12:01 am each Sunday

# Organization of Course Site

Take a minute to review the environment structure as this will help guide you where things are in the course.

## Navigation

At the top of the course are **six navigation links**. Below is a description of each tab.



* **Content:** Here you will find course materials and instruction.
* **Activities:** Here you will find the following items: Class Discussion, Dropbox, Quizzes/Tests and Surveys. Just click on this area to receive the dropdown list with all the above choices.
* **People:** Here you will find the following items: Classlist, Groups, Attendance, and Email.
* **Grades:** This link will take you to your grades for the course.
* **Library:** This link will take you to the library homepage.
* **Help:** Here you will find help for the following: System Check, Supported Browsers, Instructor Help, Student Help, and Workshops.

*Note: Are you trying to return to* ***Course Home?*** *Simply click on the course name at the top of the screen and this will direct you back.*

## Weekly Format

Each week of instruction (found in the **Content** link) will use the following format.

* **Introduction, Objectives, & Tasks:** Introduction of what will be covered for the week.
* **Coursework :** Lectures, videos, reading, and other components to address the objectives.
* **Class Discussion:** Collaborative discussion about the topics reviewed.
* **Checkpoint:** Assignments and/or reminders of what is due for the week.
* **Wrap-up:** Summary of the weekly content with a sneak peek into the next week.

## Group Work

This course provides the opportunity for students to work together in groups and to create group presentations for their peers analyzing specific articles assigned. Your group will also be responsible for meeting through Adobe Connect to record your presentation.

* **Group Placement –** You will be able to locate your group placement by selecting the “group” link on the course navigation bar at the top of the course.
* **Work Area –** As you are required to work together throughout the semester, you are provided a private discussion area to answer questions or topics posted by your instructor in the Checkpoint area. You may find this area by accessing the Class Discussion link at the top of the course or by selecting the Group Work Area link provided to you in the Checkpoint area.

# Expectations of Online Participants

We are on this learning journey together! As the instructor, my role is to guide you through the learning process. We are not only learning from the content in the course, but also from each other. Here are a few course expectations:

## Expect from Instructor

* Timely feedback to activities and email
* Good faith assurance that the course content and components are working properly
* A solid knowledge base and enthusiasm for the content
* Professional online communication

## Expect from Students

* Expect to invest an average of 5-6 hours per week to the course
* Provide constructive feedback in the discussion forums
* Participate fully in the group work activities
* Professional online communication

# Feedback and Grading

Students will get feedback throughout the course. Students will get their grades back for assignments a week after turning these in. A note about email communications: I will do my best to reply in a timely fashion. Generally, I will get back to students during the week between 24-48 hours; on the weekends I will try to respond within 72 hours.

# Technical Requirements

Below are the minimum technical requirements for the class. If you have questions about any of these requirements, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Collaboration Tools  (Instructor will provide login) | Supported Browsers  (Choose One) | Word Processing  (Choose One) | Other |
| * Carmen (Learning Management System) * Adobe Connect Web Conferencing (Required for some courses) * Skype (optional) | * Chrome (newest) * Internet Explorer 9 * Firefox 10 or higher * Safari 4.0 or higher | * Microsoft Word 2007 or higher * Google Docs | * Adobe PDF Reader * Computer Speakers * Computer Microphone /Web Cam (Optional) * Microsoft Silverlight 5.0 or higher (for lecture recordings, will prompt you to install) |

# Technical Support and Help

Following are the resources available for technical support and help.

* **Carmen Help for Students**

Carmen is the Learning Management System used for this course. Help resources:

* + Go to <http://elearning.osu.edu/carmen-help/students/index.htm>
* **IT Service Desk**

Contact ITS Help Desk (ocio.osu.edu/help/) at 8help@osu.edu OR 614-688-7357 (688-HELP)

# Instructor Contact Information

**Name:**

**Email:** @osu.edu

# Disclaimer

Please remember as you are working on assignments throughout the duration of this course that you are using the Internet and World Wide Web as the basis for learning. More importantly, remember that sometimes we do not have control over the advertisements that appear on sites listed in this course. Although the goal is to choose only reputable sites, we cannot control your non-linear use of the sites, nor can we control the constant change that happens on the Net. Know that it is never our intention to ask you to pay for sites or to cause you any computer problems.