Fall Term, 2015

COURSE TITLE: Philanthropy and Evaluation
COURSE NUMBER: 799 004
CREDIT HOURS: 1

Day 1: Friday, November 20, 2015: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Day 2: Friday, December 4, 2015: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Location: Curtis Center Conference Room (B631, basement School of Social Work)

Faculty Contact Information
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Course Description
This mini course focuses on issues of contemporary philanthropy and the ways in which both philanthropic entities and their grantees can evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness, and impact of the philanthropic exchange. Each participant has interests in evaluation, although there may be different and even competing foci, among other issues. Evaluation issues may focus on particular grants, but also consider grant programs as a larger unit from the perspective of a strategic evaluation. Impacts may be immediate, and/or intermediate and/or long term, a complicating factor when considering programs with a long trajectory, such as preschool interventions.

Course Objectives
Students in this course will: (1) understand the current state of philanthropy issues in the United States, including the difference between operating philanthropies and grant-making philanthropies; (2) be able to identify the different ways foundations approach and use evaluation; (3) be able to address successes and challenges at the intersection of philanthropy and evaluation; and (4) be able to apply basic and advanced principles of evaluation to contemporary issues of philanthropic organizations.
Day 1: Friday, November 20th

9:10-9:20  Introductions
9:20-10:30  What is philanthropy?
10:30-10:45  Break
10:45-Noon  What is the current state of philanthropy in the United States?
Noon-1:00  Lunch on your own
1:10-2:15  Contemporary issues, case example (Rachael Wiener, MSW)
2:15-2:30  Break
2:30-3:30  Hot Topics: Impact, Warehousing, and Self-Evaluation of Foundations
3:30-4:00  Assignment expectations, plans for Day 2

Day 2: Friday, December 4th

9:10-10:30  Overview of evaluation, approaches and steps
10:30-10:45  Break
10:45-11:45  How do philanthropy and evaluation converge?  Evaluation project examples
11:45-12:15  Lunch (provided)
12:15-1:30  The Partnership Between Philanthropy and Evaluation: The Delicate Dance Roundtable Discussion with MSWs Working in Philanthropy
1:30-1:45  Break
1:45-2:45  Roundtable De-brief
2:45-3:45  Professional report writing techniques (Betsy Williams)
3:45-4:00  Closing
Readings (all available on Canvas Course Site)

Day 1: Philanthropy
TED Talk: Katherine Fullerton, “You are the Future of Philanthropy”
http://www.ted.com/talks/katherine_fulton_you_are_the_future_of_philanthropy?language=en


Day 2: Evaluation


Assignment

Professional Memo.
Imagine that you have been sent to the discussion, “The Partnership Between Philanthropy and Evaluation: The Delicate Dance,” by your supervisor. Your supervisor wants a summary of the discussion and potential implications for your organization.

Identify your organization (foundation, non-profit, public agency, university...).

Write a memo using professional writing and professional format, 3-4 pages, single spaced, 1 inch margins, 11-12 point font. References are required.

Assignments are to be submitted on Canvas by Friday, December 12 at 5pm.
Relevant Policies

1. Learning Needs and Disabilities
   Students with specialized learning needs are encouraged to make an appointment with the instructor to discuss the necessary arrangements. If you have a disability or condition that may interfere with your participation in this course, please submit the disability certificate prior to the Drop/Add date. This information will be kept strictly confidential. For more information and resources, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities office at G664 Haven Hall, (734) 763-3000.

2. Attendance
   The School of Social Work attendance policy can be found in the Student Guide. Students are expected to participate in both days.

3. Deadline Expectations
   Project assignment is due on December 12th. Exceptions will need prior permission of the instructor.

4. Grading System
   Students will be graded on a scale of “Satisfactory” (S) or “Unsatisfactory” (U).

5. Incompletes
   Incompletes are not granted unless it can be demonstrated that it would be unfair to hold the student to the normal expectations of the course. The student must formally request an incomplete with the instructor prior to the last class. Please review the Student Guide section on Ethical Conduct in the University Environment. This section addresses plagiarism, harassment and discrimination policies.

6. E-mail Communication/Chat Room
   Please include “SW799” in the subject line of all e-mails to the instructor. Submit evaluation questions to the c-tools chat room that are relevant for the entire class. The instructor will respond regularly to chat room questions and contribute to chat room discussions.