Geriatric Social Work Integrative Seminar - 693
Course Syllabus, Fall 2013
Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Room 1804
3 credits

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Course Description:
The University of Michigan School of Social Work Geriatric Fellowship Integrative Seminar is a multimethods course designed to supplement the Aging concentration curriculum with further information (a didactic component) and in depth case studies/field examples (a practice-based component). The course will cover several thematic Units (successful aging, diversity, physical health, mental health, end of life issues, and health care system/health policy issues), each of which will include a discussion of practice-based interventions from the four concentration methods: Interpersonal Practice (IP), Management of Human Services (MHS), Community Organizing (CO), and Social Policy and Evaluation (SPE). The seminar will also provide a forum in which Geriatric Fellows can receive practical feedback as well as guidance in networking/job search strategies as they near graduation.

Seminar Format:
Most three-hour seminar sessions will consist of a discussion of the topic for the day, a social justice focus, and a lecture on the topic of the day. Time will be taken for questions, broad discussion, and general support, feedback, and troubleshooting of field issues.

Course Requirements:
• Attend each weekly session
• Participate in all discussions, activities, and presentations.
• Complete the assigned readings for each class.
• Complete assignments

Writing Policy:
Good writing skills to express information accurately and concisely are a requirement for effective social work practice. Therefore, formal writing assignments for this course (both journal entries and papers) will be evaluated for content, ideas presented, and for the clarity of the presentation. Misspelled words, typos, inappropriate use of grammar, and other indications of sloppy work will be graded down. In addition, appropriate referencing is required on all written assignments. You may wish to contact the Sweetland Writing Center (http://www.lsa.umich.edu/swc/grads/support/), located at 435 South State Street, 1139 Angell Hall, 734-764-0429) for assistance in writing and referencing.
Grading:
Scores that reflect an “A” are reserved for student work that shows exceptional individual performance – good mastery of content, application of critical thinking, and clear and concise writing. “A” and “A-“ distinguish the degree of superiority. A grade of “B+” denotes performance just above the mastery level. A grade of “B” is given to students who meet the basic requirement of the assignment. A grade of “B-” is used for student work that is less than adequate, reflecting only moderate grasp of the material. Variations of the “C” grade are given to work that reflects a minimum grasp of the material and poor organization. Final grades will be determined by adding the scores from all assignments.

Policy on Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity should not be taken lightly. Plagiarism and/or “borrowing” material without citing it can result in severe penalties. See website: http://www.lib.umich.edu/academic-integrity/resources-students and http://guides.lib.umich.edu/content.php?pid=43469&sid=338261

Accommodations/Special Needs:
If you have a disability or impairment that requires accommodation, please contact one of us to discuss what modifications are necessary. http://archive.ssw.umich.edu/studentGuide/

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Course Outline and Required Readings

Readings on C-Tools

Session 1  Sept 5  Introduction to the Seminar / Licensing

Karen Schelbert, LMSW, 2010 Grad, Henry Ford Health System Care Counselor/Social Worker, Greater Michigan Chapter, Alzheimer’s Association

READING:
Reading: www.aswb.com- find licensing requirement for states where you want a job


Session 2  Sept 12  Creating a Website / Finding a Job
Beth gone

Kerry Rastigue, LLMSW, 2013 Grad & Suzanne Dubois, MSW Student

Michelle Woods, LMSW, 1994 Grad, Director of Career Services, School of Social Work

READINGS:


Session 3  Sept 19  Managing Your Career

Panel of Grads
Alana Knoppow, LLMSW, 2011 Grad, Volunteer Services Manager, Hospice of Michigan, Oakland County
Denise Stinson, LLMSW, 2010 Grad, Assistant Director, St. Patrick’s Senior Center, Detroit
Jim Dailey, LLMSW, 2012 Grad, Service Coordinator, Hannan Foundation, Detroit

READINGS:


Session 4  Sept 26  Social Work in Long Term Care – Beth

READINGS:
**Session 5**  
**Oct 3**  
**Aging in Place** – Ruth

**READINGS:**


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**Session 6**  
**Beth gone**

**Oct 10**  
**Medication Issues in Older Adults**

**Kristin Phillips**, PharmD, Clinical Pharmacist, Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center, VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System

**READINGS:**

All from Generations 35(4) Winter 2011-12:

Peron, E.P. & Ruby, C.M. A primer on medication use in older adults for the non-clinician.

McLendon, A.N. & Shelton, P.S. New symptoms in older adults: Disease or drug?

McCullough, D. Medication use in late life and at end of life: A slow medicine approach.

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**Session 7**  
**Oct 17**  
**Field Trip to Chelsea Retirement Community**

**Ruth gone**

**John Thorhauer**, CEO/President, United Methodist Retirement Communities

**READINGS:**


Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (2011). Quick facts about PACE.

Session 8  Oct 24  Detroit’s Seniors: Healthcare Consumer Issues  
Consortium & Poster Presentations  
Sharon R. Williams, Principal, Williams Jaxon Consulting, LLC  
Panel of responders

READINGS:  


Session 9  Oct 31  Debrief 10/17 & 10/24  
Poster Presentations to class  
Job Interviews

READINGS:  
TBD

Session 10  Nov 7  TBD  
Poster Presentations to class  
Job Interviews

READINGS:  
TBD
Session 11  Nov 14  **Fund Raising Among Seniors**

**Cedric Ritchner**, Ritchner and Rictchner, Inc.

READINGS:


Session 12  Nov 21  **Understanding & Responding to Serious Mental Illness in Older Adults**

**Suzanne Keller**, PhD, Geriatric Psychiatry, WSU

READINGS:


Nov 28 – THANKSGIVING

Session 13  Dec 5  **TBD**

Poster Presentations to class

READINGS:
TBD

**Graduation Dessert** in honor of graduates and their families and friends (all students invited).
**December 13, 2013** (the night before graduation)

Where: Ruth Dunkle’s home, 1460 Arlington Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI
Course Assignments and Expectations

Students are expected to complete all assigned reading assignments prior to class AND SUBMIT 2 in-depth discussion questions via CTOOLS on the Forum by Tuesday evening (midnight deadline) prior to class on Thurs. It is expected that students will submit work on schedule. Failure to meet these expectations may result in reduction in grades (½ grade per day without instructor’s permission).

It is further expected that students will attend all classes unless legitimate reasons exist for absences or tardiness. Legitimate absences include those due to health problems that can be documented, unanticipated family emergencies, and observance of religious holy days.

Any such absences or tardiness should be discussed directly with the course instructor, and students must make arrangements to complete class work which is missed.

Assignments: All assignments must focus on gerontological topics.


3) Assignment of finding 2 jobs that you would likely apply for:
   a. Write a one page description of why EACH would be good for you. Specifically describe how the job demands mesh with your strengths and experience
   b. Submit to C-Tools the job description along with the link to the job by Sept 19th.

4) Preparation of portfolio website: 25%. Due Dec 5.


   This 10-12 page paper should be about an area of gerontological social work where you would like to be employed. Consider this an opportunity to research and educate yourself about that employment area. The paper should answer the following questions:

   a. What is the target issue, older adult population that you are addressing?
   b. What is the current status of research about this issue or population? (Cite literature here using APA format.)
   c. What has been done thus far to deal with the issue? (Cite literature here)
   d. How successful have these approaches been?
6) Pass Licensing Exam with a score of: 75=A, 70=B, 65=C, 64 and below=D. You may take it multiple times. Email best score to Beth by Dec. 5. 10-40%* (Advanced practice students please talk with instructors).

7) Poster on Internship Project 10-30%. **Poster presentation at October 24** Consortium Meeting. *

*You allocate the percentages for assignments 6 AND 7. They must add up to 40%. The minimum percentage for one assignment is 10%. You must email the percentages to Beth by midnight on October 23rd. We recommend that you take the licensing exam at least once prior to that time.

8) Class participation and attendance: 10% Class is responsible for reading articles prior to class AND SUBMITTING in-depth QUESTIONS ON EACH TUESDAY BEFORE CLASS BY MIDNIGHT VIA “FORUM” IN CTOOLS. See guidelines.

9) Check out licensing website for States where you might want to work. (www.aswb.org)

**Assignment Summary:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Includes attendance, participating in class discussion and on-line forum, skills assessment, job search and job interview (this one is optional).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills Assessment</td>
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<td>Due Sept. 12</td>
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<td>Two job descriptions and draft resume and blurb</td>
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<td>Due Sept. 19</td>
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<td>Poster presentation</td>
<td>10-30%*</td>
<td>Draft due Oct. 17; final due Oct. 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licensing exam</td>
<td>10-30%*</td>
<td>Due Dec. 5</td>
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<td>*You decide % allocation by Oct 23.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
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<td>Due Nov. 14</td>
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<td>Website</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Due Dec. 5</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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