1. Course Statement

a. Course Description

This required essentials course is designed to increase students’ awareness, knowledge, and critical skills related to diversity, human rights, social and economic justice. The course focuses heavily on engaging diversity and differences in social work practice and advancing human rights and social and economic justice, through understanding power and oppression across micro, meso, and macro levels. We will explore the knowledge base that underlies skills needed to work towards justice. These include types and sources of power, multiple social locations, social constructions, social processes, social identities, conflicts, and how all these interact. A major emphasis is on self reflexivity and developing skills in critical contextual thinking and analyses, as well as learning to use knowledge and theory to recognize critique, and engage underlying assumptions, and inform working for change. Multiple kinds of understanding are especially important—across groups, between organizations and system levels, and within and between people, related to intersecting social locations.

b. Course Objectives and Competencies

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be better able to: Recognize the extent to which structures, policies, and values may oppress, marginalize, alienate, create or enhance privilege and power (Essential 14, 30, 33, 44; EPAS 1, 2, 3, 5, 6); Explain the cumulative effect of structural discrimination on people with differing and multiple social identities and locations (Essentials 11, 14, 29, 33, 38, 45; EPAS 1, 2, 3, 6); Distinguish between health differences and health disparities, and provide relevant examples of each (Essential 5, 11, 15, 30; EPAS 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8); Discuss the policy reform sought by modern social justice movements in response to police brutality (Essential 6, 13, 14, 30, 32, 44; EPAS 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7); Recognize how policy decisions at the local, state, and national level can exclude and endanger the environmental
health of citizens when their voices are not heard or heeded (Essential 5, 13, 22, 29, 30; EPAS 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9); Utilize strategies and resources to advocate for social, economic, and environmental justice and change, while protecting human rights (Essential 1, 11, 14, 29, 33, 43; EPAS 1, 2, 3, 6, 7); Define and apply your own positionalities and the importance of their intersections (Essential 38, 42, 45; EPAS 1, 2, 3, 6); and Evaluate historical context and its current applications within the profession and practice as an ally (Essential 6, 11, 15, 29, 39, 44, 45; EPAS 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8).

c. Course Design

This class will strive to foster a learning environment where each student can reflect critically on sources of power and mechanisms of oppression and privilege, construct a framework for justice, and examine sources of their beliefs and perspectives. This course will work to create a climate that supports critical analyses, mutual learning, engaging within and across differences and examining sources of power and knowledge. It involves lectures, video, and participation in experiential activities. Additionally, this course will provide a forum to critically examine how our multiple status locations, societal constructions, and social processes shape our beliefs, assumptions, behaviors, and life experiences. Special attention will also be given knowledge about justice and change, and principles of change towards justice.

d. Intensive Focus on PODS

This course integrates PODS content and skills with a special emphasis on the identification of theories, practice and/or policies that promote social justice, illuminate injustices and are consistent with scientific and professional knowledge. Through the use of a variety of instructional methods, this course will support students developing a vision of social justice, learn to recognize and reduce mechanisms that support oppression and injustice, work toward social justice processes, apply intersectionality and intercultural frameworks and strengthen critical consciousness, self-knowledge and self-awareness to facilitate PODS learning.

Specifically, this course centers entirely on engaging with, exploring, and better understanding PODS as related to social work practice on all levels. PODS is infused through this course and its assignments, which require self reflection, group work with practice of skills learned, and application of key concepts to understand social justice issues and social work responses to the myriad of needs connected to PODS, both with clients/communities, and social workers themselves.

e. Curricular Themes

Theme Relation to Multiculturalism & Diversity is addressed from the perspective of critically considering how diverse dimensions (such as ability; age; class; color; culture; ethnicity; family structure; gender - including gender identity and gender expression; marital status; national origin; race; religion, spirituality or worldview; sex; and sexual orientation) are socially constructed, embedded in societal structures across system levels, and maintained through social processes and intra and interpersonal relationships and schemas.

Theme Relation to Social Justice is addressed from the perspective of critically analyzing theories and conceptualizations of justice, current trends and ethical issues and their implications for promoting social justice and social change, by considering the influence of normative rules and conditions. Additional focus will be directed towards how structural and
institutional conditions affect the opportunities and well-being of different populations (advantaged and disadvantaged groups) in society.

**Theme Relation to Promotion, Prevention, Treatment & Rehabilitation** is addressed from the perspective of critically considering how varied ideological, theoretical and empirical perspectives influence the definition of social problems and, subsequently, the ways in which institutional policies and practices address access, promotion, prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation.

**Theme Relation to Behavioral and Social Science Research** will be reflected in the theory, social science literature and research covered characterizing and analyzing macro-level structures, processes and their bearing and implications for the well-being of different vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and populations in society, as well as how marginalized groups exert agency and influence society.

2. **Class Requirements**

a. **Text and Class Materials**

This course has one required book, which is available electronically for free through the University of Michigan library system and is also available in audiobook format:


- In lieu of purchasing, this book is available for free online through the UM library system: [https://search.lib.umich.edu/catalog/record/99187569106906381](https://search.lib.umich.edu/catalog/record/99187569106906381)
- This title can be purchased in hardcover, audio CD, kindle, and audiobook formats. Please choose the version and format that works best for you.

b. **Class schedule**

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>08/28</td>
<td>Warming Up: Welcome and Introductions</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>09/04</td>
<td><strong>NO CLASS / LABOR DAY</strong></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>09/11</td>
<td>Warming Up: Toward Solidarity</td>
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<td>4. *Doin’ the Work Podcast: White Supremacy in Social</td>
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<td>5. <em>Not Too Late</em> (2023) Imagination is a Muscle c</td>
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| 09/18 | 4    | Warming Up: Toward Solidarity | 1. Táíwò (2022), Chapter 1: Introduction  
2. Gumbs (2023), *Heat is Not a Metaphor*  
3. Friedline (2022) *The Day Wells Fargo Closed*  
4. Porter et al. (2022) *The Root of Haiti’s Misery: Reparations to Enslavers* OR Hudson (2021) *How the U.S. Came to Dominate Haiti* |
2. Agbebiyi, Creeks, & Mendoza (2023) *Private Equity (PE) Profits from Destroying Atlanta Forest*  
3. Buell & Stein (2023) *The Role Banks Played in Funding Climate Change through PPP*  
4. Visit and explore the Mazaska Talks (Money Talks) website OR Seedcast Podcast (2022) *He Who Charges with Thunder: A Conversation with Matt Remle*  
5. Visit and explore the Take On Wall Street (2020) website *Is Our Economy Fair?* |
| 10/02 | 6    | Analyzing Structural Power: Debt | “Choose Your Own Adventure” Assignment #2 due on Sat., 10/07/2023  
1. Táíwò (2022), Chapter 3: The Constructive View  
2. Soldier (2017) “38” (a poem, written or spoken version)  
4. Friedline et al. (2023) Credit Scoring as a Carceral Practice  
3. Cavallero & Gago (2021) A Feminist Reading of Debt  
4. Millennials Are Killing Capitalism Podcast (2023) ‘How Do We Relate to Our Ghosts?’ Kris Manjapra’s Black Ghost of Empire  
5. Táíwò & Bigger (2022) Debt Justice for Climate Reparations (or here)  
6. The Dig Podcast (2022) Bonds of Inequality w/ Destin Jenkins |
<table>
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment / Topic</th>
<th>Reading / Assignment</th>
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2. Kneese (2023), Chapter 3: Disrupted Inheritance  
3. Labuski (2023) Labor, Gender, and Disability in a Fossil Fuel Boomtown  
5. The Ezra Klein Show Podcast (2023) Why This Economist Wants to Give Every Poor Child $50,000 (or here) |
2. The Ezra Klein Show Podcast (2023) Katharina Pistor and A Guide to the "Legal Fictions" That Create Wealth, Inequality and Economic Crises (or here)  
3. George et al. (2019) The Plunder of Black Wealth in Chicago OR Legally Stolen Podcast Episode 1, 2, or 3  
4. The Dig Podcast (2023) Colonial Lives of Property w/ Brenna Bhandar (or here) |
3. Harris (2023) Facing the Climate Crisis from a Texas Prison Cell  
4. Heglar (2020) We Don’t Have to Halt Climate Action to Fight Racism |
c. Assignments

This course has 4 assignments. Combined, these assignments are designed to facilitate your critical understandings of diversity and social justice in social work within content on extreme economic inequality. All assignments are due on Saturdays at 11:59pm and uploaded to Canvas.

#1 — “Choose Your Own Adventure” Assignments Proposal — Due Date: Saturday 09/16/2023 @ 11:59pm uploaded to Canvas @ 20 points

Background: Diversity and social justice are broad, diffuse terms. Much of our course content focuses on white supremacy, anti-Black racism, and extreme economic inequality, particularly in the context of climate change; though, diversity and social justice also include social identities like age, gender identity, disability, and LGBTQIA+ and activities like activism and organizing, policy development, and fundraising. Moreover, each student comes to class with different histories, knowledge and skills, and challenges—and different ideas about the learnings they would like to take away from the course. This assignment takes this uniqueness into consideration and lets students develop their own proposal for their learnings across the course. These learnings can be tailored for each individual student.

Purpose(s): To learn and apply concepts of diversity and social justice to extreme economic inequality, including in the context of climate change

Instructions: Develop a proposal for your remaining work throughout the semester. Your proposal should develop and describe 3 assignments that apply different concepts from the
course. One assignment should describe a life trajectory. Two assignments can be described in the formats of your choosing.

Submit a 1-2 page single-spaced proposal that describes your 3 assignments. As an alternative option for submission, you can also complete this assignment by audio recording your proposal. Your proposal should include:

- An introductory paragraph that describes your interests and rationale for proposal
- A description of 3 assignments that include:
  - One learning goal for each assignment
  - A description of the content for each assignment
  - A description of the format for each assignment

Note: One of the 3 assignments must be the Life Trajectory, described below.

Your proposal should describe what you are going to do and how you are going to do it. In other words, your proposal should describe the content and the format of your assignments. Examples of assignment content are provided below, and you can also propose something different!

- Analyze your social identities and positionalities as they relate to your social work education and practice, applying a theoretical perspective to your own experiences
- Identify different levels of racism, sexism, ableism, etc. in a particular area of economic inequality (e.g., income inequality at the individual level compared to inequality at the macroeconomic or structural level)
- Curate content on your experiences with extreme economic inequality and climate change, e.g., a personal reflection, interview, or photo collage
- Examine power by creating a power map of corporations’ or people’s political and financial relationships with LittleSis.org using their oligrapher tool (you will need to create a free log-in, and instructions are provided on how to use their tools to create power maps)
- Conduct an intersectional analysis of an aspect of extreme economic inequality (e.g., differences in how people with simultaneous socially-marginalized identities experience credit, wealth, student loan debt, etc.)
- Write or present examples of community history, knowledge, and power, such as in Layli Long Soldier's poem "38" (here and here), or The Banker Ladies
- Create a census of economic resources and opportunities in the community (e.g., identifying what exists, where is there knowledge and skills, where is there power), such as #BankBlackUSA and Stockton Demonstration’s Stockton Tells the Story or the Stockton Demonstration’s Dashboard
- Write a book report on our assigned text, Reconsidering Reparations, or on another book you’ve read that relates to the themes of the course
- Create an informational guide geared toward social workers that explain money, extreme economic inequality, the racial wealth divides, etc.
- Work with the instructor and possibly other students to screen and accept entries to the School of Social Work Social Justice Timeline, where members of our school community identify dates in history related to social justice as a way of engaging in anti-racist praxis
- Work with Dr. Lalitagauri Kulkarni, a visiting scholar and Fulbright Fellow from India, on a research project related to poor women, technology, and access to credit. Please talk with Prof. Friedline if you are interested in working with Dr. Kulkarni
- Establish a group project around the Sept. 15th to Sept. 17th days of action around the Global Fight to #EndFossilFuels. Please see Prof. Friedline if you are interested in
Examples of assignment formats include—but are not limited to—the following:

- Timeline of events
- Academic paper (~ 5-7 pages)
- Reflection essay
- Book review
- Informational or educational guide
- Public comments submitted to federal regulators
- Archival research (e.g., review of newspapers, flyers, public records, etc.)
- Opinion editorial (800-1200 word compelling article)
- Infographic or zine (e.g., combination of visual and text representations)
- ~10-15 minute classroom presentation (in-person or video submitted to the class on Canvas)
- Podcast
- Interview with another person
- Mix tape (e.g., collection of songs, music, spoken word, etc. that exemplifies the community)
- Artwork, photos, map, comic strip, or other visuals

If choosing an infographic, zine, artwork, mix tape, photos, or other non-text based format, please provide a brief paragraph (~3-5 sentences) along with your submission that identifies the assignment’s learning goal and describes the content related to diversity and social justice.

You will receive feedback on your proposal to ensure that you have created an achievable plan that meets the requirements of the course and facilitates your learning.

Examples or models of this assignment are available on Canvas.

**Life Trajectory** — Please include the Life Trajectory, described in greater detail below, as 1 of your 3 assignments for the “Choose Your Own Adventure” Proposal.

**Purpose(s):** To practice intentionally navigating across scales of power and oppression

**Instructions:** Identify a person to invite for an in-depth conversation. Plan for at least 1 90-minute conversation; though, ideally, this conversation is ongoing over several weeks or months to deeply understand a person’s experiences. Listen and aim to understand as fully as possible the person’s life experiences such as economic stability and instability, generational advantages and disadvantages, societal structures, health, wealth, racial and cultural socialization, and experiences with power and oppression that operate on multiple levels.

Submit a maximum 3-page, double-spaced written summary of your interview with 1 audio-visual component (e.g., artwork, graphics, image, timeline, PowerPoint slide, song, video, etc.). A reference page and in-text citations are not required. The written summary should aim for a storytelling approach and address the following areas:

- **Introduction** – Introduce your interviewee (first name only) by leading with a compelling quote, statement, story, or other feature from your conversation. Consider whether it is appropriate to use a pseudonym for protecting the person’s identity and confidentiality.
- **Standpoint** – Establish where the story begins, such as identifying a particular event or
age in a person’s life, and situate the person’s experiences within social, political, economic, and/or cultural contexts.

- Power and oppression – What are the ways that power and oppression have shaped their life experiences with economic stability and instability, generational advantages and disadvantages, societal structures, health, wealth, racial and cultural socialization? And shaped their opportunities for growth and fulfillment?
- Counternarrative – What are ways, either explicitly mentioned in the conversation or that you noticed through listening and reflecting, that the person’s story disrupts assumed or taken-for-granted hegemonic narratives? If there are several ways, consider selecting and describing one example.
- Audio-visual component – Include at least 1 audio-visual component that represents an aspect of your conversation or the person’s life experiences. The audio-visual component can include artwork, graphics, image, timeline, PowerPoint slide, song, video, etc. This can be a website link pasted into the end of your written summary or a file uploaded separately on Canvas. Include a brief description about how the audio-visual component relates to the conversation.

#2 — Your First Proposed Assignment (based on #1) — Due Date: Saturday 10/07/2023 @ 11:59pm uploaded to Canvas @ 20 points

#3 — Your Second Proposed Assignment (based on #1) — Due Date: Saturday 10/28/2023 @ 11:59pm uploaded to Canvas @ 20 points

#4 — Your Third Proposed Assignment (based on #1) — Due Date: Saturday 11/18/2023 @ 11:59pm uploaded to Canvas @ 20 points

d. Attendance and Class Participation

**Attendance.** Class is scheduled to meet in-person each Monday (with the exception of Labor Day and Fall Break). Students are encouraged to attend class each week. This is where we will discuss content, review materials, and push ourselves beyond our growing edges. Moreover, class is an opportunity for us to develop a sense of community. During the semester, the instructor and students may have unexpected life events arise that prevent in-person class attendance. This class will strive to be understanding of these unexpected events and provide flexibility. Students are permitted 2 absences during the semester, no questions asked. To earn a passing grade, students should attend two-thirds of all scheduled classes. For more information, please see the SSW Policy on Class Attendance, which is found in the MSW Student Guide ([https://ssw.umich.edu/msw-student-guide/section/1.09.00/17/policy-on-class-attendance](https://ssw.umich.edu/msw-student-guide/section/1.09.00/17/policy-on-class-attendance)).

**Missing Content.** Nearly all readings, videos, and other assigned content are available via Canvas. Please let the instructor know if any content appears to be missing. If you missed content for a given week, you are able to return to those materials and catch up on anything you missed.

**Staying in Touch.** Please keep in touch with the instructor via email or by scheduling a Zoom meeting. For example, if you have questions about a reading or an assignment, please contact the instructor to discuss your questions.
Late Assignments. The weeks that they are due, assignments should be submitted via Canvas by Saturday nights. Please contact the instructor if you need to negotiate an alternate plan or deadline for submitting your assignments. It will usually be possible, for example, to have a few days’ or week extension on an assignment without any negative consequences to your grade.

Extra Credit or Bonus Points. Not offered on an individual basis. Students are encouraged to submit assignments that represent their best work on their chosen projects.

e. Grading

For an understanding of my approach to grading, please read this excerpt from Jesse Stommel’s book, *Undoing the Grade: Why We Grade, and How to Stop.*

The total number of points earned based on your completion of the below assignments and the number of total available points will be used to determine your letter grade at the end of the semester. Please review the MSW Student Guide for policies on Grades in Academic Courses (http://ssw.umich.edu/msw-student-guide/chapter/1.08/grades-in-academic-courses-and-in-field-instruction) and in Field Instruction (http://ssw.umich.edu/msw-student-guide/chapter/1.18/student-grievances) as well as Student Grievance procedures (http://ssw.umich.edu/msw-student-guide/chapter/1.18/student-grievances) and the policy for grading in special circumstances (https://ssw.umich.edu/msw-student-guide/section/1.08.01/15/grades-for-special-circumstances).

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<tr>
<td>1. “Choose Your Own Adventure” Assignments Proposal (1-page typed, single-spaced paper OR audio recorded version)</td>
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<td>2. Your First Proposed Assignment</td>
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<td>3. Your Second Proposed Assignment</td>
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<td>4. Your Third Proposed Assignment</td>
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GRADING SCALE

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f. Class Recording and Course Materials

Audio and video recording of in-class lectures and discussions is prohibited without the advance written permission of the instructor. Students with an approved accommodation from the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities permitting the recording of class meetings must present documentation to the instructor in advance of any recording being done. The instructor reserves the right to disallow recording for a portion of any class time where privacy is a special concern. If the instructor chooses to record a class, they will decide which classes, if any, are recorded, what portion of each class is recorded, and whether a recording is made available on the course management website. This will be done in consultation with students. On days when classes are recorded, students will be notified a recording is occurring. Class recordings and course materials may not be reproduced, sold, published or distributed to others, in whole or in part, without the written consent of the instructor. Additional information on class recordings can be found the Recording and Privacy Concerns FAQ.

g. COVID-19 Statement

For the safety of all students, faculty, and staff on campus, it is important for each of us to be mindful of safety measures that have been put in place for our protection. Your participation in this course is conditional upon your adherence to all safety measures mandated by the state of Michigan and the University, including compliance with the University COVID-19 Vaccination Policy. Other applicable and additional safety measures may be described in the Campus Maize & Blueprint. Your ability to participate in this course may be impacted by failure to comply with campus safety measures. Individuals seeking an exemption related to the vaccination requirement should submit an exemption request through WolverineAccess. I also encourage you to review the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

h. Health-Related Class Absences

Please evaluate your own health status regularly and refrain from attending class and coming to campus if you are ill. You are encouraged to seek appropriate medical attention for treatment. School of Social Work students who miss class due to illness of any kind will be given opportunities to access course materials online or provided with alternative learning opportunities. Please notify me by email about your absence as soon as practical, so that I can make accommodations. Please note that documentation (a doctor’s note) for medical excuses is not required.

3. Resources for Students  

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1 Descriptions of these resources are slightly adapted from syllabi developed and publicly posted by current and former University of Michigan School of Social Work faculty, including Drs. Christina Bares, Shanna Katz Kattari, and Michael Spencer.
**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** This course is intended for all U-M students, including those with mental, physical, or cognitive disabilities, illness, injuries, impairments, or any other such condition that tends to negatively affect one’s equal access to education. If, at any point in the term, you find yourself not able to fully access the space, content, and experience of this course, you are welcome (and not required) to contact me by email, phone, or during office hours to discuss your specific needs. I also encourage you to contact the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office at [http://ssd.umich.edu](http://ssd.umich.edu). If you have a diagnosis, SSD can help you document your needs and create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through SSD, you can ensure appropriate accommodations without disclosing your condition or diagnosis to course instructors. For more information and resources, the University's Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD), located at G664 Haven Hall and available via phone (734) 763-3000 or website [http://www.umich.edu/~sswd/](http://www.umich.edu/~sswd/).

**Student Mental Health and Wellbeing:** The University of Michigan is committed to advancing the mental health and wellbeing of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of support, services are available. For help, contact Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at (734) 764-8312 and [https://caps.umich.edu](https://caps.umich.edu) during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or through its counselor physically located in the School of Social Work, (Megan Shaughnessy-Mogill) at (734) 763-7894 or by email mshaughm@umich.edu. You may also consult University Health Service (UHS) at (734) 764-8320 and [https://www.uhs.umich.edu/mentalhealthsvcs](https://www.uhs.umich.edu/mentalhealthsvcs), or for alcohol or drug concerns, see [www.uhs.umich.edu/aodresources](http://www.uhs.umich.edu/aodresources). The MSW student Guide to Health and Wellness can be found at [http://www.ssw.umich.edu/current/Health_Wellness_Guide.pdf](http://www.ssw.umich.edu/current/Health_Wellness_Guide.pdf).

**Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness.** The University of Michigan’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center (SAPAC) promotes healthy relationships, teaches non-violence and equality, supports survivor healing, and fosters a respectful and safe environment for all members of the university community. All services are free and confidential. Visit SAPAC’s website [https://sapac.umich.edu](https://sapac.umich.edu/) and contact them via their 24-hour crisis line at (734) 936-3333 or office phone at (734) 764-7771.

**Safety & Emergency Preparedness:** All University of Michigan students, faculty and staff are required to familiarize themselves with emergency procedures and protocols for both inside and outside of the classroom. In the event of possible building closure (i.e. severe weather conditions, public health notices, etc.) you may contact (734) 764-SSWB (7793) for up-to-date School closure information. For more information view the annual Campus Safety Statement at [http://www.dpss.umich.edu/](http://www.dpss.umich.edu/). Register for UM Emergency Alerts at [http://www.dpss.umich.edu/emergencymanagement/alert/](http://www.dpss.umich.edu/emergencymanagement/alert/). In the event of an emergency, dial 9-1-1 from any cell phone or campus phone.

**Dependent Care Resources:** For students with child or parenting/elder care responsibilities, please consult the Students with Children website ([http://www.studentswithchildren.umich.edu](http://www.studentswithchildren.umich.edu)). This site is dedicated to the needs of students at UM who juggle parenting/elder care, study, and work. Resources include child care, financial assistance, social support, housing, and health care information. The website was created by the former Committee on Student Parent Issues (COSPI). For additional information on work/life support please also visit the Work/Life Resource Center site ([http://www.hr.umich.edu/worklife/](http://www.hr.umich.edu/worklife/)) and the UM Child Care gateway ([http://www.hr.umich.edu/childcare/](http://www.hr.umich.edu/childcare/)).
Student Code of Academic and Professional Conduct: All students should be familiar with the Student Code for Academic and Professional Conduct (http://archive.ssw.umich.edu/studentguide/2014/page.html?section=12&volume=1) which holds students to the highest standards of academic and professional conduct. Unacceptable academic behavior refers to actions or behaviors that are contrary to maintaining the highest standards in course work and includes such actions as cheating, plagiarism, falsification of data, aiding and abetting dishonesty and impairment. Any suspected situations of academic misconduct will be discussed with the student and then reported to the Associate Dean for Academic Programs.

Additional School and University policies, information and resources are available here: https://ssw.umich.edu/standard-policies-information-resources. They include:

- Safety and emergency preparedness
- Mental health and well-being
- Teaching evaluations
- Proper use of names and pronouns
- Accommodations for students with disabilities
- Religious/spiritual observances
- Military deployment
- Writing skills and expectations
- Academic integrity and plagiarism