

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Spring 2013

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HSE K 241

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Work With Agencies and Communities

Course Description: An Introduction to the study of community organization as a method of social work practice, which has at its major objective, the practice, planning and implementation of programs directed toward some aspect of community change. The skills, methods and functions of community service workers will be explored and integrated into other skills and methods of social science practice, which are a part of a student’s overall learning experiences in the social service program.

Required Text:

Community Organizing in a Diverse Society (Rivera and Erlich), 1998.

Learning Outcome Objectives:

- . To help students to have a better understanding of and a more informed knowledge of the historic, social, economic and political context of community organization as a method of social work practice;
- . To acquaint students with the various practice settings for community organization;
- . To help students understand the various roles of the professional community organizer; and
- . To provide learning opportunities for students to make practical applications of community organization skills.

Social Change Issue: Food Insecurity in America

Assignments:

. Each student must submit a 5-6 page paper on “food insecurity,” emphasizing a particular population group (families with children, elderly, disabled, poor, homeless, working class, etc. All papers must include at least 10-12 references and must include references from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. All papers must quantify, as well as qualify the issue of “food insecurity.” 25 percent of final grade.

Due: February 16, 2013

. Mid-Term Examination (TBD)

25 percent of final grade

. Analysis of a Community Problem. (10-12 pages).

25 percent of final grade

Due: April 27, 2013

. Public Forum on Food Insecurity (25 percent of final grade)

Attendance is critical for all students, as the class will be planning and developing a public event in May at the College. Poor attendance and/or participation will be reflected in final grade.