

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Fall 2008
HSE K101
3 Credit Course

Joyce D. Martin, Ph.D., M.S.W.
(860) 892-5701
jmartin@trcc.commnet.edu

INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN SERVICES

Course Description:

This course is designed to familiarize the student with the current theory and knowledge related to human services. The course will include a survey of the helping professions including a history of social welfare and human service agencies. The course will include guest speakers, and an opportunity to observe human service organization. Students will be expected to complete ten (10) hours of volunteer service in the community.

Required Text(s):

Poppo & Leighninger. Social Work, Social Welfare and American Society. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon (2005).

Shelman & Lazoritz. Out of the Darkness: The Story of Mary Ellen Wilson. (2000).

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate understanding of basic concepts of social welfare;
2. Understand the differences among the competing ideological perspectives that influence the social welfare policy-making process;
3. Demonstrate understanding of current social problems;
4. Demonstrate understanding of the historical development of social work profession;
5. Recognize and apply the values and principles of the social work profession;
6. Analyze current social welfare issues, i.e., welfare reform, public education, homelessness, mental illness, crime, poverty, unemployment, aging, etc.
7. Demonstrate ability to understand one's own ideological perspective on social welfare.

Course Assignments:

Assignment # 1:

Each student is to complete a ten (10) hour service-learning project at a social service agency in the community. A typed, 3-page report on the project is required.

Due Date: Thursday, October 9, 2008

Assignment #2:

Submit a 4 – 5 page report on the Mary Ellen Wilson story. The paper must include a brief summary of the story and a detailed, comparative discussion of the current child welfare system, relative to the status of child welfare in the early 1860s in America.

Due Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2008

Assignment #3:

Mid-Term Examination:

Assignment #4:

Final position paper on the centrality of poverty in our society, beginning with its English roots in Europe. Select one of the theoretical perspectives discussed in class (conservative, liberal or radical) as the framework for a position on poverty. Each paper must have a bibliography with at least 10-12 references. References should be cited appropriately in the body of the paper as used. Each paper should include an introduction, body, summary and bibliography. (all papers must be 10-12 pages).

Due Date: Tuesday, December 2, 2008

Disability Statement:

Three Rivers Community College welcomes students with disabilities and strives to make their college experience a successful learning experience. Students with disabilities are guaranteed reasonable accommodation under the provisions of the Americans with Disability Act of 1992. Disclosure is voluntary. Discuss directly with Instructor. For more information, contact the Student Development Center.

Attendance Statement:

Every student is expected to maintain regular attendance. Any student who is absent more than three (3) classes may be in jeopardy of failing the course.

Policy Statement:

Students are notified that cellular phones and beepers are allowed in class or in the Learning Resource Center only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the Instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.