Subject Description Form

| Subject Code | APSS5783 | APSS5783 | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|------------------|--|--|--|
| Subject Title | MSW Fieldwork I | | | | | |
| Credit Value | 4 | | | | | |
| Level | 5 | | | | | |
| Pre-requisite | APSS 5790 Social Work Prac | APSS 5780 Advanced Social Work Theory and Practice I APSS 5790 Social Work Practice Workshop APSS 5792 Critical Introduction to Social Work | | | | |
| | Attendance of 53 hours of Preparatory Workshops & 20 hours of Social Work Induction Workshops | | | | | |
| Assessment Methods | 100% Continuous Assessment | Individual Assessment | Group Assessment | | | |
| | Fieldwork assignments and activities e.g. casework, group work, community work, community development projectsetc | 100% | | | | |
| | The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned to the five areas of assessment; The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject; and Student must pass the specific component(s) (standard of passing) if he/she is to pass the subject. For MSW Fieldwork I and II (APSS5783 and APSS5784), a student must achieve at least Grade C for graduation with the award in order to meet the requirements for an application for registration as a Registered Social Worker (RSW) with the Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) in Hong Kong. The use of generative AI (GenAI) tools is not allowed in Fieldwork, as GenAI poses a significant number of privacy and ethical risks. | | | | | |
| Objectives | To enable students to develop competence in social work practice through exposure to real life situations and handling of social work assignments in a social service setting. | | | | | |

2. To facilitate students to pursue the integration of theory and practice as well as the development of ethical and professional qualities in becoming a social worker.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the subject, students are able to:

- (a) practice according to social work values and ethical principles;
- (b) demonstrate a sense of awareness of social problems and current issues towards the well-being of people;
- (c) acquire knowledge relevant to social work practice;
- (d) develop competencies in generic social work practice;
- (e) integrate knowledge and theories to practice; and
- (f) accepting accountability in service delivery and their own learning.

Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus

A student is assigned to a social service agency to carry out the roles and tasks of a student social worker in performing the followings:

- 1. practicing the basic assumptions and values of social work;
- 2. developing social awareness and commitment to service;
- 3. understanding the client system, the cultural, historical and socio-political context and the organization;
- 4. expanding knowledge on social welfare policies and services;
- 5. observing, relationship building and collecting information;
- 6. assessment, formulation, intervention, termination and evaluation;
- 7. integration of classroom learning;
- 8. application of theories and concepts in direct practice; and
- 9. producing relevant reports.

Teaching/Learning Methodology

Each student is supervised by an experienced practice teacher to carry out direct practice assignments and activities in a social service setting. Students will receive regular individual and group supervision, live observation and demonstration. Students are also required to submit various written works to enhance their learning experiences.

Through regular supervisions, students are enabled to recognize and perform social work values in fieldwork practice, integrate and apply basic knowledge into practice, develop competence to serve people in need, make personal and contextual reflections and deepen their own self-understanding. Students are encouraged to take an active role in supervision meetings during which on-going feedback on their performance is provided.

Written evaluation will be completed by both the student and supervisor at the midstage and end of the placement. The evaluation will incorporate feedback from both the supervisor and agency staff.

| Assessment |
|--------------------------|
| Methods in |
| Alignment with |
| Intended Learning |
| Outcomes |

| Specific assessment methods/tasks | % weighting | Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate) | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | a | b | c | d | e | f |
| Direct social work practice and fieldwork activities | 100 % | V | V | √ | √ | V | V |
| Total | 100 % | | | | | | |

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

Ongoing assessment of students' performance through regular supervision, midplacement and final evaluation on the following five areas of assessment:

| Areas of Assessment | Weighting | |
|--|-----------|--|
| 1. Professional Attitude and Values | 25% | |
| 2. Knowledge Areas | 15% | |
| 3. Practice Competence | 30% | |
| 4. Integration of Theory and Practice | 20% | |
| 5. Learning and Service Accountability | 10% | |
| Total | 100% | |

The feedback from placement agency staff, as well as the students' self-assessment through their written logs, reports, reflective journals, and self-evaluation report will be considered.

Student Study Effort Expected

| Nature of contact: | | |
|--|-----|------|
| Direct fieldwork | 400 | Hrs. |
| Other student study effort: | | |
| Preparation and recordings | 200 | Hrs. |
| Total student study effort | 600 | Hrs. |
| | | |

Reading List and References

Essential

Department of Applied Social Sciences, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. (2025). *Social Work Fieldwork Manual 2025/26*. Retrieved from

https://www.polyu.edu.hk/apss/spis/fieldwork-administration/fieldwork-manual/

| Readings relevant to the nature of clients and settings will be assigned by the supervisors. | |
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