



**Spring 2024**

<b>Course &amp; Session Number</b>	<b>SOWK 557.50 S05</b>	<b>Virtual and in India</b>	<b>May 6-June 7, 2024</b>
<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Community Practice in India: Children, Youth and Families in Context</b>		
<b>Day(s) &amp; Time</b>	<b>May 6- June 7, 2024</b>		
<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Angelique Jenney, PhD, RSW</b> <b>Office Hours as indicated in the itinerary</b>		
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**SYLLABUS STATEMENT**

Examines social work practice in specific contexts.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

SOWK 557.50 fosters applied learning and inter-global practices within the contexts of Canada and India. Focusing on critical, intersectional and anti-colonial approaches to knowledge and praxis, learners will engage with key concepts of relationality/reciprocity, experiential learning and collaboration to foster a deeper understanding of Children Youth and Families within a global context.

SOWK 557.50 engages learners in an applied field study of India that begins with a critical examination of socio-economic and political climates of India as they relate to community practice with families and social change. Taken concurrently with SOWK 557.49 or UNIV 501.81, learners participate in a pre-departure session via Zoom and travel to India for the field study as detailed in the itinerary. This course provides students with an introduction to theoretical and practical knowledge and skills to work with families and communities, specifically marginalized and disadvantaged groups, in India. Students examine current theories of child and family development and develop the skills necessary for effective intervention at the individual, family and community levels with a special reference to India. This course includes local and global perspectives and outlines social issues related to environment and international development and their impact on family functioning. This course helps students understand the relationships between individual, family and collective practice and structural change by exploring individual, family and community engagement activities and their applications for individual, family and community social change. This course teaches students about the nature of power and the social networks that it flows through, the skills and practices needed to mobilize diverse voices, and the ethics and values that guide social intervention with individuals, families and communities. The intent of this course is to introduce the idea of community practice as an alternative strategy to other forms of social service and social change. Students will acquire theoretical and applied knowledge through experiential, collaborative and reciprocal learning encounters that include local educators, community leaders, organizers, and other students. A key focus of this course is fostering reciprocal learning and knowledge exchange opportunities with social work students from India (Central University of Himachal

Pradesh, Dharamshala [CU] and Jamia Millia Islamia [JMI]), engaged as co-learners on this course. Centralizing anti-oppressive theory and practices, learners are encouraged to participate in critical self-reflection practice.

### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe and reflect upon the impact of the history, knowledge and geo and socio-political contexts of the specific regions of India in which the course takes place.
2. Increase their understanding of social issues and social policies in India and the impact on families.
3. Critically examine the social service delivery system in India and its impact on how services are delivered to urban, rural, disadvantaged and marginalized families and communities.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the links between micro, mezzo and macro social work practice and how they all work collaboratively to create change.
5. Utilize practice skills used to overcome systemic barriers, and to promote human rights and social justice within diverse contexts and with diverse groups.
6. Develop reciprocal learning and exchange skills with social work students from partner institutions within India.
7. Apply knowledge of child, youth, family and community practice in both local and international settings.

*Research study participation:* Please be advised that within this course, you will have the opportunity to volunteer as a research participant in a study that aims to examine the feasibility and effectiveness of group study programs. Further details will be provided at the start of the course.

### **LEARNING RESOURCES**

#### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND/OR READINGS**

Readings are associated with each class. Please prepare yourself for class by completing the readings for the designated session.

#### **LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

A D2L site is set up for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials. A laptop, desktop or mobile device with Internet access, microphone and speaker is required for D2L and Zoom access.

### **RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COURSES**

SOWK 557.50 is taken concurrently with SOWK 557.49 or UNIV 501.81. The two courses apply a “macro” perspective that is deeply embedded in personal work and transformative learning. The content of this course is complementary to courses that focus on child and family welfare, social policy, political anthropology, community development, international studies/relations, and social justice practice.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Please review the class Itinerary including class schedule and assignments for complete details

#### **ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT AND RELATED INFORMATION**

##### **EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

The Faculty of Social Work acknowledges the inequities experienced by racialized people, Indigenous people, and other marginalized populations. We aim to foster an environment that recognizes and celebrates diverse perspectives. Therefore, we are committed to eradicating all forms of injustices based on race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status, religion, and disability.

##### **GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS IN ONLINE CLASSES**

Students are expected to participate actively in all Zoom sessions. If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected, if they are able, to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.). All students are expected to behave in a professional manner during the session.

##### **MEDIA RECORDING FOR ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING**

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

##### **ZOOM RECORDINGS OF ONLINE CLASSES**

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

#### **ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS**

**Assignment 1:** Situating self within the context of family and community in Canada

**Course Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5 & 6**

**Due in person May 10, 2024: 2 part assignment worth 20% of final grade**

This assignment has two components:

Part 1 (10%): Write a personal reflection situating yourself through your personal lens of considerations of the definition of family, cultural norms regarding childhood, roles and expectations of family life and how that has informed your current worldview (Max 250 words).

Part 2 (10%): 10-minute oral presentation only. Presentation should include 1) brief introduction of yourself, description of area of interest related to infant/child/youth/family in Canada and how this

course will support that learning. Consider any intersections (if any) with your earlier personal reflection. Discuss with at least one other student in your class and then reflect on your learning from this interaction. Oral presentation only – no written component. This will provide an opportunity for you to get to know your classmates and align interests for future group work together.

#### Required Readings:

Turner, L. H., & West, R. (2015). The challenge of defining "Family" In L. H. Turner, & R. West (Eds.), *The SAGE handbook of family communication*. Sage Publications. Credo Reference:

[http://ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/login?url=https://search.credoreference.com/content/entry/sagefamily/the\\_challenge\\_of\\_defining\\_family/0?institutionId=261](http://ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/login?url=https://search.credoreference.com/content/entry/sagefamily/the_challenge_of_defining_family/0?institutionId=261)

Tregaskis, Sharon. "Into the Woods: How a Father's Queries Sparked a New Theory of Human development.(Urie Bronfenbrenner's Dynamic Systems Theory and Ecology of Human Development)." *Human Ecology (Ithaca, N.Y.)*, vol. 43, no. 1, 2015, p. 12–  
<https://content.ebscohost.com/ContentServer.asp?T=P&P=AN&K=102484607&S=R&D=sch&EbscoContent=dGJyMNHr7ESep7c4xNvgOLCmsEuep7ZSsK%2B4TLKWxWXS&ContentCustomer=dGJyMPGut0%2BzrFluePfgex44Dt6fIA>

#### Assignment 2: Giving Voice Expressive Art Project (50%)

Course Learning Outcomes: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Presentation/Content: Expressive Arts are often used as an effective means of intervention with children and families as well as a tool for research and resistance. Using arts based materials (paint, paper etc.), drama (skits, short films), written or spoken word (short story, poetry, lyrics), visual art (photography, collage, media slide shows, digital storytelling), create a project that 'gives voice' to an issue salient to you with respect to children and families in both India and Canada illustrating similarities in understanding the need for child and family centred social policies. **Works should emphasize healing, resilience, advocacy and empowerment that could be used to promote education or engagement about/with the issues and inspire hope for change.**

**General idea (and group if applicable) formed by:** May 13th

10% Written outline and plan for completion; Due May 16th

25% Final Product Presentation/Content; Due May 18th

15% - Required individual component - written explanation/reflection (rationale/process): May 27th

**Final due date:** Presentations will be made on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Written Reflection due by May 27th

**Submission:** The product will be presented in person and posted online to be shared with other students for discussion. The accompanying written explanation and reflection will be sent separately to the instructor and will not be shared with other students.

**Option:** Group or individual assignment (Groups will be evaluated as a group; individual marks will not be assessed; maximum 3 people per group).

Examples:

- Create a short film clip/slide show (5 minutes maximum) to illustrate topic area of interest/educational materials (e.g., PSA, Digital Storytelling Project).
- Write and illustrate a short children's story.
- Create a piece of artwork (any medium that can be shared in the online format – even if it's a photograph or video of a more physical piece of art such as sculpture or large painting)
- Present a short skit/drama therapy concept.
- Compose and perform a poem, song, spoken word etc.

Written explanation/reflection (rationale and process): **Each student** will provide a brief (2-3 pages) personal explanation/reflection outlining their rationale for the project and a reflection on the process for themselves individually and within the group context and how this experience might be incorporated into current learning or future practice. Questions to consider: Why this particular topic? This medium? Changes you experienced or perceived about yourself or the group dynamic while working on the project; thoughts about how this experience might have impacted you personally/professionally in terms of development.

Required Readings:

Ungar, M., Ghazinour, M. and Richter, J. (2013), Annual Research Review: What is resilience within the social ecology of human development?. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 54: 348-366. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/10.1111/jcpp.12025>

de Witte, M., et al. (2021). From therapeutic factors to mechanisms of change in the creative arts therapies: A scoping review." *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.678397>.

Levine, E. G., & Levine, S. K. (Eds.). (2011). *Art in action : Expressive arts therapy and social change*. Jessica Kingsley Publishers. (available online through U of C library)

### **Assignment 3 (Two Options):**

Option 1: **Policy Brief (30%)** OR

Option 2: **Two Blog Posts (15% each) on Child Mental Health Issues**

**Due date: June 7, 2023**

### **Description of Assignment:**

A policy brief is a succinctly written document about a particular issue. It consolidates research, laws, debates and data about the context, causes, and impact of a situation or problem. A policy brief is designed to help decision makers by presenting policy options and recommendations. Readers are typically policy makers. Those who read policy briefs are invested in the issue but may not have in-depth knowledge of the topic. They are interested in getting the writer's insights and recommendations that are based on current evidence. Select a policy topic relevant to social work practice with children and families. Prepare a policy brief related to your selected topic that is geared toward a specific policy maker audience. The policy brief should include:

1. **Statement of the Issue/Problem:** Brief (2-3 sentence) statement describing the issue. What is the problem that this policy brief addresses?

2. **Background:** This includes a review of the topic including an overview of key issues or controversies, with reference to pertinent policy analysis and research literature;
3. **Information Pertinent to the Issue:** This may pertain to current laws needing to be changed, current debate about the issue, and/or data about the issue.
4. **Responses and Policy options:** What has been done (or proposed) about the issue so far? Have other organizations addressed it? Are there pending legislative or regulatory proposals? (include support as needed)
5. **Recommendations:** List recommendations about what different actors should do (Can be formatted as a bullet list if appropriate).
6. **References:** Use endnotes throughout the brief rather than in-text citations.

This should be written in plain English, avoiding the use of jargon or highly technical, professionalized language.

**Maximum length: 2 pages single spaced (not including references or additional resource**

**Criteria for assessment:**

- Clarity of statement of the issue/problem and explanation of the background
- Thoughtful, logical, well-articulated analysis of the issue including laws, debates, and data
- Policy alternatives are identified; recommendations are clearly stated and appropriate to audience
- Use and quality of references

Suggested Readings:

Naidoo, Rowena, et al. (2022). The development of a policy brief on physical activity and health in Africa for children and adolescents with disabilities: COVID-19 and beyond." *African Journal of Disability*, 11(1), e1–e4. <https://doi.org/10.4102/ajod.v11i0.1100>.

Jenson, J.M., & Fraser, M.W. (2016). *Social policy for children and families: A risk and resilience perspective*. (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). SAGE.

Gilligan, R. (2004). Promoting resilience in child and family social work: Issues for social work practice, education and policy, *Social Work Education*, 23(1), 93-104. DOI: 10.1080/0261547032000175728

**OR: Two Blog Posts (each worth 15%) One page Maximum single spaced for each.**

**Description of Assignment:**

Social media has become the new source for information for both young people and their families. Consider a child/family issue related to mental health that is of interest to you based on your experiences during the course and create two blog posts that provide useful information that can be accessed by the general public. Consider two different topics or writing about the same topic but one blog written for parents and the other blog written for young people. Each blog post is to be about 500 words (1 page single spaced). Post your blog on D2L. You are encouraged to facilitate and engage in conversations with your peers (respond to at least one other blog posting). At the end of the course, students who are interested could submit their blog post for consideration for publication on the Wood's Homes Blog. Please include one sentence that indicates your intended audience.

Suggested readings:

How to Write a Blog Post: [https://www.bluehost.com/blog/how-to-write-a-blog-post-in-2021/?irpid=101&clickid=P61C101S570N0B5578A2D4499E0000V133&gclid=Cj0KCQiArsefBhCbARIsAP98hXTkbBqFjdEYXWmiMG-b8UYg4mHSS0kMiAxpq48KnirWk2h1j-9nWjgaAuS9EALw\\_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.bluehost.com/blog/how-to-write-a-blog-post-in-2021/?irpid=101&clickid=P61C101S570N0B5578A2D4499E0000V133&gclid=Cj0KCQiArsefBhCbARIsAP98hXTkbBqFjdEYXWmiMG-b8UYg4mHSS0kMiAxpq48KnirWk2h1j-9nWjgaAuS9EALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds)

Wood's Homes Blog (for examples): <https://www.woodshomes.ca/blog/>

## **ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION INFORMATION**

### **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS**

Students are expected to actively and meaningfully engaged in all activities and discussions. Make-up options are available and must be determined in consultation with the instructor.

### **GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS**

Please submit all assignments electronically through their respective Dropbox in D2L. Assignments may be submitted in Word or PDF format. Assignments should have a file name as follows: "Full name and assignment number" (e.g., Jane Smith Assignment 2). Assignments are due by 11:59pm on their due date. Please note that it is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.

### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

Students should get in touch with the instructor if they require an extension.

### **EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING**

All assignments will be assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented and referenced in APA 7<sup>th</sup> edition format. If you need writing support, please connect with the Student Success Centre, at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

It is expected that all work submitted in assignments is the student's own work, written expressly by the student for this particular course. Students are reminded that academic misconduct, including plagiarism, has serious consequences, as set out in the University Calendar: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

<b>GRADING</b>
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A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. It is not necessary to pass each assignment separately in order to pass the course. The University of Calgary [Undergraduate Grading System](#) and Faculty of Social Work Percentage Conversion will be used. This grading system overrides the grading system in D2L.

Grade	Grade Point	Description	Percentage Range
A+	4.0	Outstanding performance	95-100
A	4.0	Excellent performance	85-94
A-	3.7	Approaching excellent performance	80-84
B+	3.3	Exceeding good performance	77-79
B	3.0	Good performance	73-76
B-	2.7	Approaching good performance	70-72
C+	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance	67-69
C	2.00	Satisfactory performance	63-66
C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance	60-62
D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	57-59
D	1.00	Minimal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.	50-56
F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.	Below 50
CG		Credit Granted. Not included in the GPA calculation. See section <a href="#">F.1.3</a> for additional detail.	
CR		Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.	



## COURSE EVALUATION

Feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University and Faculty of Social Work course evaluation forms. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor.

## ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED READINGS

- Dhungel, R. (2022). SOAR as an effective community-based response in anti-trafficking Movements. *Journal of Advanced Academic Research*, 9(1), 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.3126/jaar.v9i1.44039>
- Dhungel, R. (2020). Resiliency and empowerment in the HIV community during COVID-19: Equity and human rights lenses. *International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change* (Special Edition-Sep), 302-319.
- Dhungel R. (2020). "No more interviews please": Experiences of trafficking survivors in Nepal. In: Winterdyk J., Jones J. (eds) *The Palgrave International Handbook of Human Trafficking*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-63058-8\\_13](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-63058-8_13)
- Dhungel, L., lama, S., & Khadka, A. (2019). Hearing our voices: Pathways from oppression to Liberation through community-based participatory research. *Space and Culture*, 6(5), 39-55.
- Lorenzetti, L. & Dhungel, R. (2020). Community-led transformative research tools and applications: From Canada to Nepal. *Canadian Journal of Action Research*, 20(3), 36-54.
- Nikku, B. (2015). Living through and responding to disasters: Multiple roles for Social Work. *Social Work Education*, 34(6). 601-606. Doi:10.1080/02615479.2015.1090942.
- Ong, T., Mellor, D., & Chettri, S. (2019). Multiplicity of stigma: The experiences, fears and knowledge of young trafficked women in Nepal. *Sexual & Reproductive Health Matters*, 27(3), 32-48. Doi: 10.1080/26410397.2019.1679968
- Samiksha, K. (2020). Female journalists' experience of online harassment: A case study of Nepal. *Media and Communication*, 8(1), 47-56. Doi: 10.17645/mac.v8i1.2541
- Shrestha, S. K (2013) *Introduction to social work*. Tajelu Publication.
- Sondaal, A., Tumbahangphe, K., Neupane, R., Manandhar, D., Costello, A., & Morrison, J. (2019). Sustainability of community-based women's groups: Reflections from a participatory intervention for newborn and maternal health in Nepal. *Community Development Journal*, 54(4), 731-749. Doi: 10.1093/cdj/bsy01

Will add further local recommended readings on the advice of Nepali educators.

## **UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS**

### **PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

As members of the University community, students and staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Students and staff are also expected to demonstrate professional behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. Consistent with the aims of the Social Work Program and the University of Calgary, all students and staff are expected to respect, appreciate, and encourage expression of diverse world views and perspectives; to offer their fellow community members unconditional respect and constructive feedback; and to contribute to building learning communities that promote individual and collective professional and personal growth. While critical thought and debate is valued in response to concepts and opinions shared in class, feedback must always be focused on the ideas or opinions shared and not on the person who has stated them.

Students and staff are expected to model behaviour in class that is consistent with our professional values and ethics, as outlined in the Canadian Association for Social Workers, Code of Ethics (2005) and the Alberta College of Social Work Standards of Practice (2019). Both can be found online at:

<https://acsw.ab.ca/site/practice-resources?nav=sidebar>

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS). SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>

### **RESEARCH ETHICS**

"If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics Website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is

prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Sexual-Violence-Policy.pdf>

### **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- **Wellness and Mental Health Resources**
- **Student Success**
- **Student Ombuds Office**
- **Student Union (SU) Information**
- **Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information**