

SCWK 2644 - Human Behavior and the Social Environment for Social Workers 2

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 43882,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Patricia Sciarretta MSSA, LSW

Email: pasciarretta@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Adjunct Professor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Master of Science of Social Administration (MSSA), Case Western Reserve University

Bachelor of Social Work, Youngstown State University

Instructor Office Location: Cushwa 3523

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-1598

Course Description

2644. Human Behavior and the Social Environment for Social Workers 2. An ecosystems perspective in understanding families, groups, organizations and communities. Focus on individuals and their transactions with each other and their environment. Application of theory and research to social work. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Human behavior and the social environment: Shifting paradigms in essential knowledge for social work practice (7th ed.). Pearson.	Schraver, J.M.	

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	8/26 Chapter 1	Introductions, Syllabus Review, Discussions of Expectations & Course Framework Human Behavior & Social Environment & Paradigms	Read Chapter 1
8/31	9/2 Continue Chapter 1 & Chapter 2	Understanding Traditional & Alternative Paradigms	Review Chapter 1 & Read Chapter 2
9/7	9/9 Chapter 3	Paradigms, Culture & Social Work, Assessment in Social Work	Read Chapter 3
9/14	9/16 Continue Chapter 3	Continue of Practice Perspective Influencing Social Work	Review of Chapter 3
9/21	9/23 Chapter 4	Strengths Based Perspective, Empowerment Theory, Mindfulness, Spirituality	Read Chapter 4
9/28	9/30 Continue Chapter 4	Complexity Theory, Multi-System Life Course Perspectives, Intersectionality Theory	Review of Chapter 4



10/5	10/7 Chapter 5	Approaches to Individual Development	Read Chapter 5
10/12	10/14 Continue Chapter 5 10/14 HBSE 2 Paper Due	Adult Development, Behavioral Theory, LifeSpan Perspective	Review Chapter 5
10/19	10/21 Chapter 6	Neuroscience/Genetics, Adverse Childhood Experience Study, Trauma-Informed SW Practice	Read Chapter 6
10/26	10/28 Chapter 7	Ethnic & Racial Identity Development	Read Chapter 7
11/2	11/4 Chapter 8	Families & Social Work, Attachment Theory, Family Lifecycle, Blended Family	Read Chapter 8
11/9	11/11 NO CLASS		
11/16	11/18 Chapter 9 & Chapter 10	Social Work with Groups, Classical Theory	Read Chapter 9 & 10
11/23	11/25 NO CLASS THANKSGIVING BREAK	No Class - Thanksgiving Break	No Class - Thanksgiving Break
11/30	12/2 Chapter 11 & Chapter 12 12/2 Social Justice Paper Due/ Presentations	Social Justice Paper Presentations Community Centered Approaches	Read Chapter 11 & 12 Social Justice Paper Presentations - 15 minute based on social justice
12/7	12/9 Finish Social Justice Paper Presentations	Presentation - 15 minute based on social justice paper	

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.