

SCWK 3738 - Social Work Methods with Families

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 40836,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Adjunct Professor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Master of Science in Social Administration, Case Western Reserve

Bachelor of Social Work, Youngstown State University

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Course Description

3738. Social Work Methods with Families. In-depth analysis of problem-solving strategies and skills in working with families. Theory and research relating to practice. Social work purposes, functions, and values are addressed from the systems perspective. Prereq.: Social Work Majors Only. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Family Therapy an Overview, 9th edition	Irene Goldenberg, Mark Stanton, Herbert Goldenberg	978-1-305-09296-0

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

Day	Date	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Tue	8/25	Introduction and Review of the Syllabus Chapter 1	Intro, Review & Questions - Syllabus Adopting a Family Relationship Framework	Read Chapter 1
Thu	8/27	Chapter 2	Family Development	Read Chapter 2
Tue	9/1	Chapter 3	Diversity in Family Functioning	Read Chapter 3
Thu	9/3	Chapter 4	Systems Theory & Systemic Thinking	Read Chapter 4
Tue	9/8	Chapter 5	Origins and Growth of Family Therapy	Read Chapter 5
Thu	9/10	Chapter 6	Professional issues & Ethical Practices	Read Chapter 5
Tue	9/15	Chapter 7	Psychodynamic Theory	Read Chapter 7
Thu	9/17	Chapter 8	Transgenerational Model	Read Chapter 7
Tue	9/22	Lecture	Beginning Phase	In class lecture
Thu	9/24	Lecture	Assessment	In class lecture
Tue	9/29	In Class Assessment Reflection Paper Due - (70 pts)	Assessment	In class Assessment with partner
Thu	10/1	Chapter 9	Experiential Models	Read Chapter 9
Tue	10/6	Chapter 9	Gestalt Family Therapy	Review Chapter 9
Thu	10/8	Chapter 10	Structural Model	Read Chapter 10
Tue	10/13	Chapter 10	Structural Family Theory/Therapy	Review Chapter 10

Thu	10/15	Chapter 11	Communications Outlook	Read Chapter 11
Tue	10/20	Review Chapter 11	MRI Interactional Family Therapy	Review Chapter 11
Thu	10/22	Review Chapter 11	Strategic Family Therapy	Review Chapter 11
Tue	10/27	Chapter 12	Behavioral Therapy & Family Systems Intervention Lecture	Read Chapter 12 Intervention Material Passed out in class
Thu	10/29	Chapter 12 Assessment Paper Due (100 pts)	CBT with Families	Review Chapter 12
Tue	11/3	Chapter 13	Solution Focused Brief Therapy Social Constructionist Therapies	Read Chapter 13
Thu	11/5	Chapter 14	Social Construction Models: Narrative Therapy	Read Chapter 14
Tue	11/10	Review Chapter 14	Self-Narratives & Cultural Narratives	Review Chapter 14
Thu	11/12	Chapter 15	Families & Schools	Read Chapter 15
Tue	11/17	Review Chapter 15	Families & Mental Disorders	Review Chapter 15
Thu	11/19	Review Chapter 15	Medical Family Therapy/Gay & Lesbian Families	Review Chapter 15
Tue	11/24	Review Chapter 15 Intervention Paper Due - (100 pts)	Family Violence/Divorce & Remarriage	Review Chapter 15
Thu	11/26	No Class - Thanksgiving Break		
Tue	12/1	Chapter 16	Evidence-Based Family Therapy	Read Chapter 16
Thu	12/3	Chapter 17 Self Assessment Paper Due (90 pts) Last Day of Class	Family Theories - Comparative Overview	Read Chapter 17

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.