# "WBUlogo"

Plainview, Texas

School of Behavioral & Social Sciences

Virtual Campus

SOCI/JUAD 3322 VC 01

Introduction to Social Work

# UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, lifelong learning, and service to God and humankind.

# COURSE NUMBER & NAME:

SOCI 3322 VC 01 Introduction to Social Work

# **TERM**:

Spring, 2018 Virtual Campus

# **INSTRUCTOR**:

Brandy Heads

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**:

Office phone: Not applicable

WBU Email: brandy.heads@wayland.wbu.edu

Cell phone: Not applicable

# **OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION**:

Contact Instructor via email Monday-Saturday 8:00am- 6:00pm

# **COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION**:

This class meets 100% online

# **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**:

Perspectives, working concepts, goals of social work practice, examination of casework, group-work and community work.

## PREREQUISITE:

**To be successful, online students must be competent users of Blackboard and be able to navigate and search the Internet, use email, attach and upload documents, download and save files, and have** access to and use Microsoft Word. If you are not a competent user of Blackboard, please visit this website to be trained: [Blackboard Tutorial](http://www.wbu.edu/wbu-online/blackboard-tutorials.htm) . \* I recommend for students to go here and click the “test your browser” link at the top of the right panel: [Wayland Baptist University Blackboard](http://wbu.blackboard.com/).

# **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL**:

Ambrosino, Rosaline, Robert Ambrosino, Joseph Heffernan, and Guy Shuttlesworth. 2016. *Social Work and Social Welfare: An Introduction.* Boston, MA: Cengage. [ISBN: 9781305101906]

# **COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES**:

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

* Define social welfare and social work
* Identify and articulate the knowledge, skills and values needed for effective social work practice
* Discuss the various practice areas of social work, their underlying concepts and populations served
* Critically analyze the generalist social work practice and its application to individuals, groups, families, organizations.
* Research the areas of social work profession including licensure and ethics.

# ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

WBU Online (Virtual Campus)

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as **active** participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with

the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much notice as possible to make appropriate arrangements. **Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11-week term, may receive an F for that course.** Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

# **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**:

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

# **DISABILITY STATEMENT**:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations. **Please email documentation in the first two weeks of class.**

# **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**:

**Chapter Readings:** Each week of the course students will read a full chapter of the textbook. Reading the textbook and taking notes is important for participation in the discussion (see below) because discussion questions posted by the instructor will be based on what you have read.

**Lecture Notes:** Lecture notes for each chapter of the textbook are posted on our Blackboard page in the lecture notes folder. These notes will be useful when studying for the exam. Please make sure to watch any video links that are embedded in the PowerPoints.

**Ethics Paper** (1 @50 points = 50 points): Students will read a helping profession’s Code of Ethics and critically reflect on where the principles and their own values intersect and diverge.

**Discussion Board** (5@20 points = 100 points): We will have biweekly discussions about the course via the discussion tab on the Blackboard page. Discussion questions will be posted at least once week in advance of the due date. You are required to participate in the discussion by posting meaningful questions and responses. I will begin the discussion by posting a question and ask you to reply to my post and post one additional question or reply to a student’s question (2 post per week). You should not post until you have read the assigned chapters and completed the assignments, as I expect your discussion posts to be thoughtful and engage the course material. I will grade the quality of your questions and responses and moderate the discussion to make sure it is moving along well. For guidance on how to write and respond to discussion questions in an appropriate manner, please see the discussion folder. After the due date, discussion posts will not be graded. Please see this website for how to create a discussion board post: [Discussion Board Tutorial](http://ondemand.blackboard.com/r91/movies/bb91_student_creating_discussion_board_post.htm).

**Exams** (3 @100 points each = 300 points): Each exam will test your knowledge of the prior weeks’ readings, lectures, and discussions. Exams will typically include multiple-choice, true-false, short answer, or essay questions. The third exam is cumulative in the sense that important core concepts and theories will be reevaluated.

Exam Directions: Students have 1 attempt to complete the exam (no extra attempts allowed). Once you start the exam, you must finish it in the same attempt. Once you click “Begin” you must complete it at that time. I have access to a log of each student’s Blackboard activity. Students are allowed only 75 minutes to complete the exam. Answers will not be available until after all students have taken the exam. After the due date, exams will not be accepted. Please see this website for instructions about how to take exams in Blackboard: [Test Taking Tutorial](http://ondemand.blackboard.com/r91/movies/bb91_student_taking_test_online.htm)

# **GRADING CRITERIA**:

**The University has a standard grade scale**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete.

An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term or within the last two days of a micro term to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long (10 to 15 weeks) term, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

# Student Grade Appeals:

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

# Questions or concerns:

Students are welcome to email me ([brandy.heads@wayland.wbu.edu](mailto:brandy.heads@wayland.wbu.edu)) if they have questions or concerns. However, I created Blackboard Discussion forums for questions satisfying certain criteria. These discussions will be ongoing throughout the course: “questions about the syllabus”, “questions about assignments”, and “I cannot figure out how to”. I will respond to questions with the best of my ability and your classmates can help. Instead of emailing me privately with these types of questions, post to the appropriate discussion forum so that your classmates can help or get help if they are also having trouble.

# Participation and success:

In traditional college courses, there is a built-in structure provided by the university in the form of a two or three day a week class meeting schedule. It is convenient for students who live off campus, work full-time and/or have families to take online courses because there are no regular class meetings. This is at the core of why online courses are preferred by some students. However, without a built-in structure some students find it difficult to manage online courses. I would argue that while there are important differences between online and traditional courses, **what brings about success in online courses is not different from what brings about success in traditional courses: it takes self-discipline and motivation to complete the course work on time and do well.** I have a recommendation: create your own structure; reserve a **few hours two or three days a week to keep up with the course work. During these designated times, read, complete assignments, and study for exams.**

Since I am assuming that most students have family and/or work responsibilities outside of school, all assignments are due by 8:00pm on Sunday’s **(with a few exceptions due to holidays)** and late assignments will only be accepted by 10:00pm on the due date. Late assignments will receive an automatic 10% deduction (points will vary by assignment).

Visit these websites for more information about being a successful online student:

[Course Checklist](https://www.wbu.edu/wbu-online/online-courses-checklist.htm)

[Online Learning](https://www.wbu.edu/wbu-online/is-online-learning-for-you.htm)

# When will items be posted?

* Lecture notes will be posted at the start of the week for which the reading is assigned
* Exam review sheets will be posted two weeks before the exam
* Exams will open 7 days prior to the due date
* Discussion questions will be posted at the start of the week during which the discussion is to occur

# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

This calendar details our weekly schedule. Weekly assignments are due on Sundays by 8:00pm. Before completing assignments or posting to the discussion, you must read the textbook chapter and the associated notes. The discussion questions will be used on reading and assignments. Although assignments are due on Sundays, you may submit them earlier. Do not wait until Sunday to complete course assignments; instead, develop a schedule that works for you.

**Week 1: Feb 25- Mar 1: History:** Read chapter 1, Read chapter 1 lecture notes, **Welcome Discussion** (Not mandatory but helps me see who “showed up” to class)

**Week 2: Mar 4- Mar 8: Helping professions and the** **Ecological perspective**: Read Chapters 2 & 3, Read Chapters 2 & 3 lecture notes, Post to **Discussion 1** by 8pm on 12/2

**Spring Break: Mar 11- Mar 15**

**Week 3: Mar 18- Mar 22: Ethics:** Read professional code of ethics, Choose code, **Ethics Paper** due by 8pm on 3/24, Review sheet

**Week 4: Mar 25- Mar 29: Social Justice:** Read chapter 4, Reach chapter 4 lecture notes, Post to **Discussion 2** by 8pm on 3/31

**Week 5: April 1- April 5: Individuals/families:** Read chapter 5, Read chapter 5 lecture notes, Complete **Exam 1** by 8pm on 4/7

**Week 6: April 8- April 12: Community Agencies:** Read chapter 6, Read chapter 6 lecture notes, Post to **Discussion 3** by 8 pm on 4/14, Review sheet

**Week 7: April 15- April 19: Poverty:** Read chapter 7, Read chapter 7 lecture notes, Watch **“American Winter”**

**Week 8: April 22- April 26: Health:** Read chapters 8-9, Read chapters 8-9, lecture notes, Post to **Discussion 4** by 8pm on 4/28, Complete **Exam 2** by 8pm on 4/28

**Week 9: April 29- May 3: Children and Family:** Read chapters 10-11, Read chapters 10-11 lecture notes, Review sheet, Post to **Extra Credit Discussion** by 8pm on 5/5

**Week 10: May 6- May 10: Older Adults:** Read chapter 12, Read chapter 12 lecture notes, Post to **Discussion 5** by 8pm on 5/12

**Week 11: May 13- May 17: Criminal Justice:** Read chapter 13, Read chapter 13 lecture notes, Complete **Exam 3** by 8pm on **5/18\***

# Course Policies

**Netiquette:** We will have discussions, use email to communicate, and written assignments will be graded for proper grammar and spelling. Do not write your discussion posts, emails, or papers like text messages. Do not use shorthand, acronyms, or symbols. Communicate with your instructor and classmates using a professional tone.

Here are guidelines on how to compose your emails to the instructor:

1. Be sure to include a meaningful subject line; this helps to clarify what your message is about. Your email subject should begin with the course information (i.e., SOCI3322). This should be followed by a colon; then, provide a glimpse of what your email is about.
2. Just like in a written letter, your email must open with a greeting. This means that I expect your email will address me by name, “Instructor Heads”.
3. Use standard spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
4. Read your email out loud before sending it to ensure the tone is that which you desire.
5. When we are engaging in a conversation that continues for several emails- which means that we have volleyed emails back-and-forth- it is okay to remove the formal greeting and closing, but do not become careless by losing your professional tone.

Visit these websites for more information about being a successful online student:

[Course Checklist](https://www.wbu.edu/wbu-online/online-courses-checklist.htm)

[Online Learning](https://www.wbu.edu/wbu-online/is-online-learning-for-you.htm)

[**Wayland Baptist University Catalog**](http://catalog.wbu.edu/)