MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

Faculty are required to have the outline submitted to the Academic Affairs Office. The course outline is the form used for approval of new courses by the Academic Affairs and Standards Council.

DEPT. Social Sciences COURSE NUMBER: HSER2235

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 3

COURSE TITLE: Special Topic: Childhood Poverty, Exploring the Issues

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: This class will increase understanding of the impact poverty has on children and families, examine unique inherent issues, and promote respect for family strengths. Emphasis is upon providing tools to work productively and in partnership with children and families.

AUDIENCE: Any individual working with children and families (education, child care, social and human services)

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (Leave blank if not applicable)
Area: by meeting the following competencies:
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Area: by meeting the following competencies:

PREREQUISITES OR NECESSARY ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: none

LENGTH OF COURSE: one semester

THIS COURSE IS USUALLY OFFERED:
Every other year □ fall □ spring X summer undetermined □

Four goals are emphasized in course at Minnesota West Community & Technical College:

1) ACADEMIC CONTENT: The academic objectives of this course are to examine definitions, characteristics and effects of poverty, strengths of families, identify techniques to work successfully with children and families including relationship building, and to promote professional ethics and confidentiality.

2) THINKING SKILLS: This course will help students improve the effectiveness of their thinking skills through analysis and discussion of the issues related to childhood poverty. In
addition, students will examine current models of service delivery and compare and contrast levels of effectiveness.

3) COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS: This course will help students improve their oral and written communication skills through on-line discussion, frequent writing assignments, and interviewing assignments.

4) HUMAN DIVERSITY: This course will help students recognize, understand, and appreciate human diversity through reading about experiences of individuals from various racial, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. The students will gain self-awareness regarding their feelings towards individuals of lower socio-economic status.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED: Poverty guidelines, types of poverty, strengths of families, Maslow’s hierarchy, economic class differences, community resources and referral process, development and maintenance of productive relationships, and professional values.

LIST OF EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES:
Students will:
1. Identify effects of poverty upon social structures, behavior, and attitudes.
2. Examine generational and situational poverty
3. Demonstrate understanding of the impact middle class values have upon attitudes toward individuals in poverty
4. Formulate a list of local, state, and national resources for children in poverty
5. Analyze varied models of service delivery
6. Review professional values, ethics, and the importance of confidentiality
7. Analyze strategies for improving outcomes for children in poverty
8. Compare effective and ineffective guidance strategies and teaching techniques
9. Apply their knowledge to identify and understand the strengths and needs of children and families
10 Discuss the challenges of working with children and families in poverty
11. Demonstrate the ability to synthesize information from assigned reading and life experience
12. Improve writing skills through comparing reading from varied sources
13. Prepare a plan for the development and maintenance of relationship building
14. Describe differences between the culture of poverty and middle class culture
15. Analyze differences and similarities in social systems
16. Demonstrate the ability to recognize the strengths of families in poverty
17. Develop an understanding of the importance of respect in a helping relationship.

LEARNING/TEACHING TECHNIQUES used in the course are:
X Collaborative Learning    X Problem Solving
☐ Student Presentations    ☐ Interactive Lectures
☐ Creative Projects        ☐ Individual Coaching
ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THIS CLASS INCLUDE:

- X Reading
- X Tests
- X Individual Projects
- X Oral Presentations
- X Textbook Problems
- X Papers
- X Term Paper
- X Other (describe below)
- X Collaborative Projects
- X Group Problems
- X Portfolio
- X On-line Discussion

To receive reasonable accommodations for a documented disability, please contact the campus Student Services Advisor or campus Disability Coordinator as arrangements must be made in advance. In addition, students are encouraged to notify their instructor.

Veteran Services: Minnesota West is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently. Active duty and reserve/guard military members should advise their instructor of all regularly scheduled military appointments and duties that conflict with scheduled course requirements. Instructors will make every effort to work with the student to identify adjusted timelines. If you are a veteran, please contact the Minnesota West Veterans Service Office.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Student Services Advisor or by calling 800-658-2330 or Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relay service.

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The information in this course outline is subject to revision.