

Course Name	Family and Child Practice				
Course ID	13120				
Area & Cat No.	WELF 4014				
Units	4.5	Career	UG	BUGE	No
School	SWP	Campus(es)	Magill	FOE	ASU
Components	Workshop	Mode	Internal/External/ Online	Final Exam	No
Syllabus Plus	Yes/No?				

Prerequisite(s)

All third year courses

Aim

To extend the student's ability to critically analyse and apply contemporary family and child theory to practice in the context of a rapidly changing, multi-cultural Australian society.

On completion of this course students should be able to:

- demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of current trends and discourses in family policy and practice in Australia
- critically analyse contemporary practice approaches to families and children and their relevance to families and children from diverse socio-cultural backgrounds
- select appropriate theories and strategies to empower families and children from diverse cultural backgrounds and in differing social work practice contexts
- explain the impact of gender, sexuality, class, race, ethnicity, age, ability and language on family functioning
- identify and explain child abuse and neglect and domestic/family violence and the impact on individual and family functioning
- interview children and adolescents and identify appropriate intervention strategies
- explain the impact of grief and loss on children and adults and identify appropriate intervention strategies
- demonstrate an understanding of mediation techniques, strategies and skills for effective practice with families and in conflict
- identify and explain the effect of colonisation on Aboriginal family well-being
- further refine an individualised professional practice framework around an integrated, contemporary theoretical and ethical base.

By undertaking this course, students will progress in the development of the following qualities:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Graduate quality	Body of knowledge	Lifelong learning	Effective problem solving	Work alone and in teams	Ethical action	Communicate effectively	International perspective
Indicative unit weighting	2.0	0.5	0.5	-	0.5	0.5	0.5

Syllabus

History and the cultural, economic and political context of social work practice with families and children; contemporary family discourses; a family relationship framework - prevention and early intervention; family life cycle development - continuity and change; the family as a psychosocial system; contemporary theoretical approaches to social work practice with families and children including: solution-focused therapy, narrative therapy and family mediation, critiques of family concepts and practice approaches; gender, power and family violence; child protection; grief, loss and reunification issues; rights discourses and child-centred practice; strategies, techniques and skills for practice with children and adolescents; culturally-sensitive and ethical practice; Indigenous and international perspectives.

Teaching and learning arrangements

This course will be delivered using the following means:

Internal Mode Weekly (13 weeks) workshops.

Assessment

Minor paper (1500 words) 40%
Major paper (3000 words) 60%

Textbook(s)

A book of readings will be provided.

References

- Allen-Meares, P. (1995) *Social Work with Children and Adolescents*, New York: Longman Publisher,.
Australian Institute of Family Studies' publications, Australian Government - <http://www.aifs.gov.au/>
Australian Institute of Family Studies' National Child Protection Clearing House publications <http://www.aifs.gov.au/nch/pubs.html>
Carlson, J, Sperry, L, and Lewis, J, (2004) *Family Therapy. Ensuring Treatment Efficacy*, Brooks/Cole: Pacific Grove.
Charlesworth, S., Turner, J., Foreman, L. (2000) *Disrupted Families. The Law*. The Federation Press: NSW
Cook, S, and Bessant, J, (1997) (eds), *Women's Encounters with Violence: Australian Experiences*, Melbourne, SAGE Publishers
Kruk, E. (Ed) 2000, *Mediation and Conflict Resolution in Social Work and the Human Services*, Nelson-Hall, Chicago.
Wordern, W (2003) *Grief Counselling and Grief Therapy: A Handbook for the Mental Health Practitioner*. New York: Springer Publishing.

Course coordinator: Dale Bagshaw