



School of Health, Education & Human Services

SW 411

Abuse and Violence

Term: Fall 2021

Number of Credits: 3

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## Course Outline

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**INSTRUCTOR:** Janice Wiens

**E-MAIL:** [jwiens@yukonu.ca](mailto:jwiens@yukonu.ca)

**Phone:** 668-8846

**Class:** Wednesday, 1:00 – 4:00

**Office hours:** Wednesday, 4:00 – 5:00

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines abuse and violence primarily within familial relationships but will also include discussion on various forms of trauma in a broader context. Individual, familial, institutional, and societal responses to abuse and violence will be explored. A victim-centred, trauma-informed social work perspective will be emphasized.

Note: The subject matter of this course can be emotionally difficult. You will be exploring issues that require sensitive, thoughtful and mature responses. You may feel a need for support outside of the classroom.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the BSW Program. Social Work 200 must be completed prior to SW 411 or taken concurrently.

### EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

This is a University of Regina course.

### YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Students who successfully complete the BSW Program will have achieved core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see [www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr](http://www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr)

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

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1. Recognize, define and identify types of interpersonal abuse and violence.
2. Explore **beliefs about** abuse and trauma. Recognize symptoms of vicarious trauma and how to implement preventative self-care strategies.

3. Explore **theories** relating to violence and abuse. Explore the concepts of **power and control** as significant factors in the victimization of women and children.
4. Increase understanding of how abuse **impacts** the individual, their family and community.
5. Recognize and understand trauma-informed practice, **stages of recovery** and **methods of intervention** for working effectively with people traumatized by abuse.
6. Develop **skills** and sensitivity that are essential to working with people who have been victimized.
7. Become familiar with local resources that provide services to those impacted by abuse and violence. Gain a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities played by social workers and others in the social service, criminal justice, and medical fields.
8. Obtain knowledge about **legislation** and policy that influences intervention.
9. Analyse ways of **promoting change within society** to prevent, reduce and eliminate abuse.

## **COURSE FORMAT**

Classes will occur weekly face-to-face for a three-hour block. There will be lecture components interspersed with experiential learning such as role-plays, small group activities and discussions that will allow students to share and explore their thoughts, feelings and skills related to this complex topic.

Time for assignment completion and reading occurs outside of class time. The time required for this varies from student to student, factor in at least six hours a week.

## **EVALUATION**

### **Ethical conduct**

The BSW program strives to prepare students for a profession where personal and professional integrity is essential. Students are expected to know, understand and uphold the Canadian Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics in their interactions with other students, instructors, the university and the community. In addition, BSW students must meet the expectations for student conduct as set out by the University of Regina and Yukon University.

### **Participation**

Participation means being prepared for class by completing the readings and assignments and engaging in experiential activities in a respectful and open manner. This class requires a high degree of self reflection, self-regulation and openness to receiving feedback.

### **Attendance**

Students are expected to be punctual, which means: arriving on time; returning promptly from breaks, and remaining until the end of class. A sign-in sheet is provided at the beginning of class to track attendance. It is your responsibility to ensure that it is completed accurately.

Students who miss more than two classes will have 5% of their final grade deducted for each additional class missed or portion thereof. If a student misses more than two classes, they may choose to speak with the instructor and ask for an additional assignment to complete in lieu of this missed class, thereby avoiding a deduction in their term grade. The instructor has discretion over a) whether to grant this option to the student and b) the content and format of the assignment. Without exception this additional assignment must be completed satisfactorily prior to the end of term

### **Writing Expectations, Due Dates and Penalties**

*Competence in writing is expected. Wherever possible, instructors are expected to conduct their courses in such a way as to obtain evidence of student writing skills, in term papers, essays, reports, or other written work, and to demand competence in writing for a passing grade.* (University of Regina policy)

All assignments must use APA format.

Assignments are to be submitted to the instructor on the due date, unless otherwise stated in class.

Five (5)% of the assignment's value will be deducted for every day late, up to a maximum of five days, after which it will not be accepted.

The instructor is under no obligation to offer you an opportunity to re-submit work. If you *are* given an opportunity to re-submit an assignment for marking, the highest grade that will be provided is 70%.

### **Assignments**

Detailed assignment descriptions will be provided during class.

Assignment 1	25%
Assignment 2	30 %
Assignment 3	35 %
Final Exam	10 %
Total	100%

**Grading Criteria:** University of Regina grading criteria will be followed. Final grade approval rests with the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Regina.

#### **90-99 An outstanding performance with very strong evidence of:**

- an insightful and comprehensive grasp of the subject matter;
- a clear ability to make sound and original critical evaluation of the material given;
- outstanding capacity for original creative and/or logical thought;
- an excellent ability to organize, to analyze, to synthesize, to integrate ideas, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

**80-89 Very good performance with strong evidence of:**

- a comprehensive grasp of the subject matter;
- an ability to make sound critical evaluation of the material given;
- a good capacity for original, creative, and/or logical thinking;
- a very good ability to organize, to analyze, to synthesize, to integrate ideas, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

**70-79 Above average performance with evidence of:**

- a substantial knowledge of the subject matter;
- a good understanding of the relevant issues and a good familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- some capacity for original, creative, and/or logical thinking;
- an above-average ability to organize, to analyze and to examine the subject material in a critical and constructive manner, and to express thoughts both in speech and in writing.

**60-69 A generally satisfactory and intellectually adequate performance with evidence of:**

- an acceptable basic grasp of the subject material;
- a fair understanding of the relevant issues;
- a general familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- an ability to develop solutions to moderately difficult problems related to the subject material;
- a moderate ability to examine the material in a critical and analytical manner, and to express thoughts in writing.

**50-59 A barely acceptable performance with evidence of:**

- a familiarity with the subject material;
- some evidence that analytical skills have been developed;
- some understanding of relevant issues;
- some familiarity with the relevant literature and techniques;
- partially successful attempts to solve moderately difficult problems related to the subject material and to examine the material in a critical and analytical manner;
- basic competence in writing.

**0-49 An unacceptable performance.**

**COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION**

Refer to both the University of Regina and YukonU websites for important dates.

**TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS**

Herman, J. (2015) *Trauma and Recovery*. Basic Books.

Bake, A. (2013) *Intimate Personal Violence in Canada*. Pearson.

Supplementary Books (do not have to purchase)

Linklater, R. (2014) *Decolonizing Trauma Work. Indigenous Stories and Strategies*. Fernwood Publishing.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Yukon University's Academic Regulations & Procedures and the University of Regina's academic integrity policies <https://www.uregina.ca/engineering/academic-professional-integrity/understand-integrity.html> for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities.

Non-academic integrity is also expected (see Ethical Conduct).

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations by contacting the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): [LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca](mailto:LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca).

## **TOPIC OUTLINE**

A detailed syllabus will be provided during the first class to students registered in this course.