



SOWK12010 Theories of Change for Professional Practice II

Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 16/07/2025 05:03 am

All details in this unit profile for SOWK12010 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit examines a range of theories that have informed professional social work practice. You will be offered with learning opportunities to identify and critique key theories as well as apply them to contemporary social work practice. You will examine the usefulness of theories alongside their strengths and limitations in informing social work interventions in various fields of practice. In addition, you will engage in critical reflection to support your emerging ethical theoretical framework for professional social work practice.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

SOWK11015 Professional Communication in Human Services, or SOWK11012 Introduction to Social Work A and SOWK11013 Introduction to Social Work B.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2024

- Online

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Creative work**

Weighting: 20%

2. **Case Study**

Weighting: 40%

3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 40%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from SUTE data

Feedback

The unit and lectures were well organized.

Recommendation

Continue with the general format of the unit delivery in Moodle

Feedback from SUTE data

Feedback

Breaking the prerecorded lecture content into smaller (2 or 3 recordings) would make a positive difference and help stay focused.

Recommendation

Review this recommendation around producing shorter videos.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Analyse how key philosophies inform the delivery of human services and the practice of social work.
2. Analyse social work practice through a theoretical and social work values lens.
3. Justify the importance of integrating a philosophy, ideology or theory into your emerging professional practice framework.
4. Analyse the social context and how it influences social workers' understanding of individual issues or problems and how to initiate change.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

 N/A Level	 Introductory Level	 Intermediate Level	 Graduate Level	 Professional Level	 Advanced Level
---	--	--	--	--	--

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Case Study - 40%	•	•	•	•
2 - Creative work - 20%		•		•
3 - Written Assessment - 40%	•	•	•	

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Communication	•	•	•	•
2 - Problem Solving	•	•	•	•
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy	•			
5 - Team Work	•			
6 - Information Technology Competence				
7 - Cross Cultural Competence	•	•	•	
8 - Ethical practice	•	•	•	•
9 - Social Innovation				
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures				

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

SOWK12010

Prescribed

Modern Social Work Theory

Edition: 5th (2020)

Authors: Payne, M.

Bloomsbury

ISBN: 9781352011098

Binding: eBook

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Agnieszka Sobolewska Unit Coordinator

a.sobolewska2@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 08 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to the unit	Readings and resources on Moodle	

Week 2 - 15 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Systems	Readings and resources on Moodle	

Week 3 - 22 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to critical social work practice	Readings and resources on Moodle	

Week 4 - 29 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Feminisms	Readings and resources on Moodle	

Week 5 - 05 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Anti-oppressive approach	Readings and resources on Moodle	Your Ecomap Due: Week 5 Friday (9 Aug 2024) 6:00 pm AEST

Vacation Week - 12 Aug 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Week 6 - 19 Aug 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Eco-practice & green social work	Readings and resources on Moodle	
Week 7 - 26 Aug 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Rights-based & social justice approaches	Readings and resources on Moodle	
Week 8 - 02 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Postmodernist approaches	Readings and resources on Moodle	Case Study Due: Week 8 Friday (6 Sept 2024) 6:00 pm AEST
Week 9 - 09 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Narrative ways of working	Readings and resources on Moodle	
Week 10 - 16 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Activism, social change and social work	Readings and resources on Moodle	
Week 11 - 23 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Community and social change	Readings and resources on Moodle	
Week 12 - 30 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The cultural lens	Readings and resources on Moodle	Critical Analysis of a Social Change Campaign Due: Week 12 Friday (4 Oct 2024) 6:00 pm AEST
Review/Exam Week - 07 Oct 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Exam Week - 14 Oct 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment Tasks

1 Your Ecomap

Assessment Type

Creative work

Task Description

Weighting: 20%

Length: Ecomap + 600 words (+/-10%)

Aim

The aim of this task is to demonstrate your understanding of the influence of social systems and ecological contexts on individuals. You will develop an ecomap and a written analysis about it with a focus on you in your social environments.

Instructions

Please follow the steps below to complete your assessment task:

- (1) Create an ecomap to visually represent the relationships between you and your social systems either in the present or at any particular period of your life. Your social systems may include: your family, social networks, community resources and institutions (e.g. schools, workplaces, community and government organisations) as well as wider macrolevel influences. Use symbols, lines, and other graphical elements to depict the nature and strength of these relationships.
- (2) Write a reflective analysis that discusses the findings from your ecomap development. Analyse the strengths and the challenges presented in your ecomap. These could include resources and gaps, both tangible (e.g. education) and intangible (e.g. emotional support). Consider how these social systems may impact on your sense of inclusion, empowerment as well as disempowerment. Consider whether and how you may impact the systems.
- (3) Critically reflect on the applicability of the critical theory's proposition that the "personal is political" to your everyday life.
- (4) Use relevant theoretical concepts to support your analysis. As in this assessment you are sharing personal information, please share what you would be comfortable discussing in a professional setting.

Literature and references

In this assessment use at least 4 contemporary references (<10 years) to support your discussion. You may also use seminal scholarly literature where relevant. Suitable references include peer-reviewed journal articles and textbooks. When sourcing information, consider the 5 elements of a quality reference: currency, authority, relevance, objectivity, and coverage.

Requirements

- Use a conventional and legible size 12 font, such as Times New Roman, with 2.0 line spacing and 2.54cm page margins (standard pre-set margin in Microsoft Word).
- Include page numbers on the top right side of each page in a header.
- Use formal academic language.
- Use the seventh edition American Psychological Association (APA) referencing style. The CQUniversity Academic Learning Centre has an online APA Referencing Style Guide.
- The word count is considered from the first word of the introduction to the last word of the conclusion. The word count excludes the reference list but includes in-text references and direct quotations.

Resources

- You can use unit provided materials and other credible sources (e.g. journal articles, books) to reference your argument. The quality and credibility of your sources are important.
- We recommend that you access your discipline specific library guide: the Social Work and Community Services Guide.
- We recommend you use EndNote to manage your citations and reference list. More information on how to use EndNote is available at the CQUniversity Library website.
- For information on academic communication please go to the Academic Learning Centre Moodle site. The Academic Communication section has many helpful resources including information for students with English as a second language.
- Submit a draft before the due date to review your Turnitin Similarity Score before making a final submission. Instructions are available [here](#).

Generative AI

- Generative AI (GenAI) refers to any artificial intelligence that can generate new content. Gen-AI must not be used in any way for producing the assessment task which requires demonstration of human capacities/skills/knowledge.
- Please be aware that certain features in programs such as Grammarly and other writing aids incorporate Gen-AI capabilities that can rewrite sentences or entire paragraphs. The use of these features to generate or substantially alter content in your submission is not allowed.

Submission

Submit your assessment via the unit Moodle site in Microsoft Word format.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse social work practice through a theoretical and social work values lens
- Analyse the social context and how it influences social workers' understanding of individual issues or problems and how to initiate change

Assessment Due Date

Week 5 Friday (9 Aug 2024) 6:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 7 Monday (26 Aug 2024)

Weighting

20%

Assessment Criteria

- Visual representation of the ecomap depicting the person and social systems; and the nature and strength of these relationships (10%)
- Presentation and Structure: Spelling, grammar and clarity of written communication, organisation of the material (10%)
- Analysis of the ecomap and the relationships between the person and the social environment (30%)
- Reflection of the proposition that the "personal is political" (20%)
- Application of theoretical concepts (20%)
- Use of references and APA referencing (10%)
- Please refer to the marking rubric on the unit's Moodle site for more detail on how marks will be assigned

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

No submission method provided.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse social work practice through a theoretical and social work values lens.
- Analyse the social context and how it influences social workers' understanding of individual issues or problems and how to initiate change.

2 Case Study

Assessment Type

Case Study

Task Description

Weighting: 40%

Length: 1500 words +/- 10%

Aim

The aim of this assessment is for you to consider how theoretical approaches can be used as lenses to inform social work practice and service delivery. You will examine two theories of change covered during weeks 2-6 that can include: systems, critical approach, feminisms, eco-practice, & anti-oppressive approach. You will apply the theories to a case study (please see the case study in the assessment tile in Moodle).

Context

You are undertaking a field education placement in a human service organisation of your choice. Your supervisor has asked you to choose two theoretical approaches and provide a written analysis of how they would inform your work with a client (please see the case study in the assessment tile in Moodle) and examine their strengths and limitations. You are not required to engage in problem solving.

Instructions

Please follow the steps below to complete your assessment task.

- Locate an organisational context that provides suitable support for this case study.
- Choose two theories covered in weeks 2-6. Briefly explain why you chose them and their appropriateness to the particular case study. Discuss the theories' key tenets, comparing and contrasting the approaches.
- Apply the selected theories to the case study. Examine how the theories would inform your understanding of the client's circumstances, and how it could inform your social work practice. Consider how your use of theory may influence the client and initiate the process of change.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of your chosen theoretical approach including its strengths and limitations in relation to the case study including the organisational context. Examine potential tensions between the theoretical approach and the case study including the organisational context.

Literature and references

In this assessment use at least eight contemporary references (<10 years) to support your discussion. You may also use seminal scholarly literature where relevant. Suitable references include peer-reviewed journal articles and textbooks. When sourcing information, consider the 5 elements of a quality reference: currency, authority, relevance, objectivity,

and coverage.

Requirements

- Use a conventional and legible size 12 font, such as Times New Roman, with 2.0 line spacing and 2.54cm page margins (standard pre-set margin in Microsoft Word).
- Include page numbers on the top right side of each page in a header.
- Use formal academic language.
- Use the seventh edition American Psychological Association (APA) referencing style. The CQUniversity Academic Learning Centre has an online APA Referencing Style Guide.
- The word count is considered from the first word of the introduction to the last word of the conclusion. The word count excludes the reference list but includes in-text references and direct quotations.

Resources

- You can use unit provided materials and other credible sources (e.g. journal articles, books) to reference your argument. The quality and credibility of your sources are important.
- We recommend that you access your discipline specific library guide: the Social Work and Community Services Guide.
- We recommend you use EndNote to manage your citations and reference list. More information on how to use EndNote is available at the CQUniversity Library website.
- For information on academic communication please go to the Academic Learning Centre Moodle site. The Academic Communication section has many helpful resources including information for students with English as a second language.
- Submit a draft before the due date to review your Turnitin Similarity Score before making a final submission. Instructions are available [here](#).

Generative AI

- Generative AI (GenAI) refers to any artificial intelligence that can generate new content. Gen-AI must not be used in any way for producing the assessment task which requires demonstration of human capacities/skills/knowledge.
- Please be aware that certain features in programs such as Grammarly and other writing aids incorporate Gen-AI capabilities that can rewrite sentences or entire paragraphs. The use of these features to generate or substantially alter content in your submission is not allowed.

Submission

Submit your assessment via the unit Moodle site in Microsoft Word format only.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse how key philosophies inform the delivery of human services and the practice of social work.
- Analyse social work practice through a theoretical and social work values lens.
- Justify the importance of integrating a philosophy, ideology or theory into your emerging professional practice framework
- Analyse the social context and how it influences social workers' understanding of individual issues or problems and how to initiate change.

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Friday (6 Sept 2024) 6:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 11 Monday (23 Sept 2024)

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

- Presentation and structure of the submission (10%)
- Examination of the chosen theories and their key tenets; the choice of the theories explained with consideration of their appropriateness to the particular case study (25%)
- Exploration of the applicability of the theories to guide understanding of the client's circumstances and inform social work practice with the client (30%)
- Discussion of strengths and limitations of the chosen theories in the context of their applicability to the case study and the chosen organization (25%)
- Use of references and APA referencing (10%)
- Refer to the marking rubric on the unit's Moodle site for more detail on how marks will be assigned.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

No submission method provided.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse how key philosophies inform the delivery of human services and the practice of social work.
- Analyse social work practice through a theoretical and social work values lens.
- Justify the importance of integrating a philosophy, ideology or theory into your emerging professional practice framework.
- Analyse the social context and how it influences social workers' understanding of individual issues or problems and how to initiate change.

3 Critical Analysis of a Social Change Campaign

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

Type: Written assessment

Weighting: 40%

Length: 1500 words +/- 10%

Task

The theories covered in this unit focus on empowerment and social change and consider the social organisation of society. These theories can be applied beyond direct practice with clients to initiatives focused on promoting macro-level change. The aim of this assessment is for you to analyse the role of social change campaigns in promoting social change and explore the potential contribution of social work, practice theory and professional values in supporting these macro interventions.

Instructions

You are required to do the following:

1. Identify a current or past social change campaign. (Refer to the unit's Moodle page for some examples or you may focus on another relevant campaign). Briefly discuss what is the social issue and why is it a problem.
2. Deconstruct the social issue that the campaign targets. Consider the mechanisms that reinforce its presence (e.g. existing power relations, presence of dominant discourses and how they shape or limit prevalent understanding of this issue). You may also consider the alternative ways for conceptualising the presence of the social issue.
3. Explore how the campaign seeks to promote social change. Examine strategies for challenging the presence of the social issue and reconstructing the problem (e.g. creating new conversations, modelling new practices, creating new structures and processes). Consider how these strategies align with theoretical propositions covered in this unit that focus on creating change.
4. Identify ways in which the campaign engages and mobilises broader community to be active participants. In your discussion, consider how does the literature convey the role of individuals in being part of the change process.
5. Discuss whether and how the campaign aligns with social work values.
6. Thinking about social work practice through the theoretical lens, discuss how social work profession can contribute to the social change process in the context of disrupting the status quo.

Literature and references

In this assessment use at least 8 contemporary references (<10 years) to support your discussion. You may also use seminal scholarly literature where relevant. Suitable references include peer-reviewed journal articles as well as textbooks and credible websites. When sourcing information, consider the 5 elements of a quality reference: currency, authority, relevance, objectivity, and coverage. Grey literature sourced from the internet must be from reputable websites such as from government, university, or peak national bodies: for example, the Australian College of Nursing or the Australian Association of Social Workers.

Requirements

- Use a conventional and legible size 12 font, such as Times New Roman or Arial, with 1.5 line spacing and 2.54cm page margins (standard pre-set margin in Microsoft Word).
- Include page numbers on each page in a footer.
- Use formal academic language.
- Use the seventh edition American Psychological Association (APA) referencing style. The CQUniversity Academic Learning Centre has an online APA Referencing Style Guide.

- The word count excludes the reference list but includes in-text references and direct quotations.

Resources

- You can use unit provided materials and other credible sources (e.g. journal articles, books) to reference your argument. The quality and credibility of your sources are important.
- We recommend that you access your discipline specific library guide: the Nursing and Midwifery Guide; Social Work and Community Services Guide.
- We recommend you use EndNote to manage your citations and reference list. More information on how to use EndNote is available at the CQUniversity Library website.
- For information on academic communication please go to the Academic Learning Centre Moodle site. The Academic Communication section has many helpful resources including information for students with English as a second language.
- Submit a draft before the due date to review your Turnitin Similarity Score before making a final submission. Instructions are available [here](#).

Generative AI

- Generative AI (GenAI) refers to any artificial intelligence that can generate new content. Gen-AI must not be used in any way for producing the assessment task which requires demonstration of human capacities/skills/knowledge.
- Please be aware that certain features in programs such as Grammarly and other writing aids incorporate Gen-AI capabilities that can rewrite sentences or entire paragraphs. The use of these features to generate or substantially alter content in your submission is not allowed.

Submission

Submit your assessment via the unit Moodle site in Microsoft Word format only.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse how key philosophies inform the delivery of human services and the practice of social work.
- Analyse social work practice through a theoretical and social work values lens.
- Justify the importance of integrating a philosophy, ideology or theory into your emerging professional practice framework.

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (4 Oct 2024) 6:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Friday (18 Oct 2024)

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

- Presentation and structure of the submission - 10%
- Analysis of the social issue - 20%
- Exploration of how the campaign is seeking change and community engagement - 20%
- Knowledge of appropriate theoretical concepts inform all aspects of the assignment question- 20%
- Analysis of social work values and social work profession's contribution - 20%
- Use of references and APA referencing - 10%
- Refer to the marking rubric on the Moodle site for more detail on how marks will be assigned

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

No submission method provided.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse how key philosophies inform the delivery of human services and the practice of social work.
- Analyse social work practice through a theoretical and social work values lens.
- Justify the importance of integrating a philosophy, ideology or theory into your emerging professional practice framework.

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem