

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM – SOCIAL WORK

Part 1: A description of what constitutes good writing in Social Work

Good writing must be clear, focused, concise, grammatically correct, punctuated correctly and easy to read. Good writing reflects the appropriate voice and tense. The thesis statement must be clear and easy to identify. The paragraphs must be organized and focused. There must be a beginning, a body and a conclusion. The writer must address her/his audience.

Writing in social work takes two directions. Social work students must develop skills in academic writing to complete their course of study and prepare for graduate school and in professional writing to meet the requirements of the social work profession. Basic to both is developing good grammar, punctuation, organization and formatting skills. Students must find their voices.

The academic writing must be in the American Psychological Association 6th Edition format. Students must learn to do research, read and comprehend research, and summarize research relevant to their assignments. The professional writing must be clear, crisp, and concise as it involves case recordings, report writing and completion of assessment forms in agencies with very clear expectations and guidelines.

Part 2: A.

SWK 2310 – Introduction to Social Work: 5 pages – 25%

SWK 2400 – Professional Writing and Critical Thinking: 2 assignments, 10 pages each – 60%

SWK 3150 – Helping Processes: 10 pages – 20%

SWK 3500 – Human Diversity: 2 assignments, 5 pages – 20%, 4 pages – 20%

SWK 3700 – Social Welfare Policy I: 10 pages – 15%

SWK 3720 – Social Welfare Policy II: 2 assignments, 10 pages – 20%, 6 pages – 10%

SWK 4200 – Practice I: 8 pages – 15%

SWK 4240 – Practice II: 3 assignments, unspec. length – 20%, 15 pages – 15%, unspec. length – 25%

SWK 4800 – Capstone Seminar: 4 unspec. length – 80%, 10 pages – 20%

The designated writing enrichment course is SWK 2400 – Professional Writing and Critical Thinking. The other courses listed provide significant focus on writing as professional writing is a major requirement for effective social work practice. The Social Work program is offered day and evening and most evening classes are taught by adjuncts.

Part 3: APA is the style we use for research papers. See attached Rubric.

**METHODIST UNIVERSITY
SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH PAPER
GRADING RUBRIC**

	Criteria				Points
Organization	Sequence of information is difficult to follow	Reader has difficulty following work because student Jumps around	Student presents Information in logical sequence which reader can follow.	Information in logical, interesting sequence which reader can follow	
Content Knowledge	Student does not have grasp of information; student cannot answer questions about subject.	Student is uncomfortable with content and is able to demonstrate basic concepts.	Student is at ease with content, but fails to elaborate	Student demonstrates full knowledge.	
Detail/ Specificity/ Thoroughness	Minimal development of ideas	Some development of ideas with some relevant examples	Good development of ideas with effective examples and convincing support	Full development of ideas, persuasive, relevant sources, detailed and convincing support	
Use of Sources	Work displays poor use of APA formatting	Work displays fair use of APA quoting, citing and reference page.	Minor APA errors with quoting, citing and reference page.	Work displays correct APA quoting, citing and reference page.	
Grammar and Spelling	Work has ten or more spelling errors and/or grammatical errors.	Work has six to nine misspellings And/or grammatical errors.	Work has three to five misspellings and/or grammatical errors	Work has one to two misspellings and/or grammatical errors.	
TOTALS					