LEHMAN COLLEGE
OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. **Type of change**: New Course, MSW Program

2. **Course Description:**

   **SWK 687: Social Work in Urban Schools. 3 hours, 3 credits**
   Social work practice with students, families, school administration, and the community in urban school settings. An emphasis on the impact of policies and programming affecting delivery of social services in the schools. Special attention paid to diverse urban populations in school systems.

3. **Rationale:**

   There has been a growing interest in school social work among MSW students, and at present approximately 25% of the 125 MSW students in field placements are in school settings. This graduate elective will be an important support for MSW students placed in school settings for fieldwork. During Fall 2009, we learned that the MSW program at Lehman College has been selected by the New York City Department of Education to participate in the Scholarship Program for Special Education in Teaching and Clinical Disciplines and for Related Services grant to prepare bilingual social workers to work in the New York City school system. This elective course will serve as preparation for that group of students, as well as others interested in this field of practice.

4. **Learning Objectives (By the end of the course students will be expected to):**

   1. Demonstrate knowledge, values, and skills required for practice with students, families, various members of the school administration, and key stakeholders in the community.

   2. Identify and intervene on behalf of those students in need by assessing client strengths and limitations; developing a mutually agreed upon focus of work with students, families, and various members of the school administration; and providing direct social work services.

   3. Critically apply knowledge to understand person and the urban environment.
4. Make ethical decisions by applying standards of the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics and those particular standards for social work services in the schools.

5. Demonstrate effective oral and written communications in working with students, families, school administration, and the community.

6. Critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate interventions.

7. Demonstrate that self-awareness eliminates the influence of personal biases and values in working with students and families in the urban school setting.

8. Use research evidence to inform social work practice in the urban school setting.

9. Advocate for and participate in practices that achieve greater social and economic justice.

10. Analyze and advocate for policies that advance social well-being for students and their families in urban school settings.

5. Date of Departmental Approval: February 24, 2009
LEHMAN COLLEGE
OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. **Type of Change:** New Course, MSW Program

2. **Course Description:**

   **SWK 688: Social Work Practice with Substance Abusing Clients.** 3 hours, 3 credits. An exploration of social work with substance abusing clients in an urban environment. Prevention, treatment, and policy issues will be addressed. This course will focus on the biological, psychological, social, and spiritual etiology of substance abuse problems based upon a range of theories and empirical research.

3. **Rationale:**

   Many social work students have internships in substance abuse settings, and many graduates will be working in agencies in urban settings dealing with people affected by substance abuse. The MSW program at Lehman College emphasizes preparation of social workers for leadership positions with urban social service agencies and organizations. We have been offering this course regularly as a Special Topics course, always with full capacity, and would like to have it as an elective course.

4. **Learning Objectives:** (By the end of this course students will be expected to:)

   1. Distinguish, appraise, and integrate the many biological, psychological, social, and spiritual theories of substance abuse.


   3. Collect, organize, and interpret data regarding clients’ substance abuse in order to accurately assess the extent of the substance problem.

   4. Select appropriate intervention strategies when working with substance abusing clients and their families.

   5. Apply strategies of ethical reasoning to arrive at principled decisions when working with substance abusing clients.
6. Critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate interventions with substance abusing clients.

7. Understand the importance of client differences in working with diverse populations of substance abusing clients in urban areas.

8. Use research evidence to inform practice when working with substance abusing clients and their families in an urban setting.

9. Analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance the social well-being of clients with substance abuse problems and their families.

10. Provide leadership in promoting sustainable changes in service delivery and practice to improve the quality of substance abuse treatment in an urban environment.

5. Date of Departmental Approval: February 24, 2010
LEHMAN COLLEGE
OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

CURRICULUM CHANGE

1. **Type of change:** Elective course for MSW Program

2. **Course Description:**

SWK 689: Social Work Practice with Military Service Personnel, Families and Communities, *3 credits, 3 hours.*

Social work practice with active duty military personnel, veterans, their families, and communities. This course will examine the unique challenges and opportunities for the social work profession in providing services and promoting policies reflecting social justice in the military and after discharge. Exploration of the rich historical relationship between military service, the understanding of relevant psychiatric diagnosis, the emergence of social welfare policies, and the development of social work as a profession.

3. **Rationale:**

The social work profession has taken on an increasingly important role in working with people, families, and communities affected by military service. This, together with the controversial social welfare policies related to the military, has brought military social work to the attention of the profession. The Department of Veterans Affairs is the single largest employer of MSW level social workers in the country. The Department of Veterans Affairs employs over 7,000 social workers and trains 1,000 MSW interns. The Department of Defense operates 70 hospitals and 400 clinics servicing the 2.2 million active military service personnel. Social workers play an integral role in the psychosocial care of these active duty personnel. This elective course will contribute to the preparation of graduate social workers for this field of practice, or to provide services to people, families, and communities affected by military service in other settings.

4. **Learning Objectives: (By the end of the course students will be expected to):**

1. Identify the needs and advocate for military personnel, families, and communities to have access for the services of social work.

3. Tolerate ambiguity in resolving ethical conflicts as it applies to working with military personnel, veterans, families, and communities.

4. Distinguish, appraise, and integrate multiple sources of knowledge, including research-based knowledge, and practice wisdom particularly in relation to social work practice with military service personnel, families, and communities.

5. Be sufficiently self-aware to eliminate the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse groups.

6. Use research evidence to inform practice with active military personnel, veterans, families, and communities.

7. Utilize conceptual frameworks to guide the process of assessment, intervention, and evaluation.

8. Critique and apply knowledge to understand person and environment, with emphasis on the urban context as it applies to military personnel, veterans, families, and communities.

9. Analyze, formulate and advocate for policies that advance social well-being particularly in relation to social welfare policies impacting military personnel, families, and communities.

5. **Date of Departmental Approval:** February 24, 2010
1. **Type of change:** New Course, MSW Program

2. **Course Description:**

   SWK 690: Social Work Practice with Children and Adolescents in an Urban Environment, 3 hours, 3 credits. This course focuses on social work practice with urban children and adolescents, utilizing an ecological systems perspective. Emphasis is placed on knowledge, skills and values in engagement, assessment and intervention. Ethical issues associated with services to children and adolescents are explored.

3. **Rationale:** Social work practice with children and adolescents is relevant to many fields of practice that address problems and needs affecting families in an urban environment, including: child welfare, trauma, immigration, domestic violence, loss, health, mental health and youth development. Increasingly, social work interns are practicing in agencies that provide treatment to children, adolescents and their families. This course expands our elective offerings to students in the MSW program, providing students with the knowledge, skills and values to understand the needs of, and provide social work services to urban children and adolescents.

4. **Learning Objectives (By the end of the course students will be expected to):**

   1. Understand models of, and utilize conceptual frameworks to guide assessment, prevention, intervention, and evaluation relevant to the treatment of children/adolescents, with emphasis on developmental approaches.
2. Demonstrate knowledge in assessing strengths and limitations; implement prevention strategies and enhance capacities; and facilitate transitions and endings with children/adolescents.

3. Demonstrate knowledge in negotiating, mediating, and advocating for children/adolescents and collaboration with their family/caregiver.

4. Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination, as well as countervailing systems of empowerment that impact practice with children/adolescents and their families/caregiver.

5. Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelationship between children, adolescents & their families, and the environment, with emphasis on the urban context, as it impacts practice.

5. **Date of Department Approval:** February 24, 2010
1. Type of Change:

Change in course co-requisites in MSW Program

2. From:

**SWK 707: Understanding Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis. 3 hours, 3 credits.** Definitions of mental health and mental illness in various cultures; assessment, DSM-IV-TR diagnosis, and clinical interventions. Implication of social welfare policies for clinical practice. PREREQ: SWK 606; COREQ: SWK 713, [SWK 727], SWK 773.

3. To:

**SWK 707: Understanding Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis. 3 hours, 3 credits.** Definitions of mental health and mental illness in various cultures; assessment, DSM-IV-TR diagnosis, and clinical interventions. Implication of social welfare policies for clinical practice. PREREQ: SWK 606. COREQ: SWK 611 and SWK 671 or SWK 713 and SWK 773.

4. Rationale:

The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full-time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full-time), and a 3-year extended track (part-time during the first two years and full time during the third year). Changing the co-requisites for SWK 707 gives students enrolled in the extended 3-year program the option to take this course during their second year and also ensures they are taking Fieldwork and Practice courses simultaneously with SWK 707. This is pedagogically sound and will give students in the extended 3 year program the option to reduce the number of credits required in their final year of the program.

5. Date of department approval: February 24, 2010
LEHMAN COLLEGE/CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

1. Type of Change:

Change in course pre- and co-requisites in MSW Program

2. From:


3. To:


4. Rationale:

The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full-time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full-time), and a 3-year extended track (part-time during the first two years and full time during the third year). Removing SWK 707 as co-requisites for SWK 713 gives 3-year extended students the option to take SWK 707 during their second year. This is pedagogically sound and provides greater flexibility for students as they schedule classes. Adding SWK 672 as a pre-requisite for SWK 713 is a clarification rather than a change in the curriculum; SWK 672 has always been a pre-requisite for SWK 713 but had been omitted from the list of pre-requisite in the catalog.

5. Date of department approval: February 24, 2010
1. **Type of Change**: Change in course pre- and co-requisites in MSW Program

2. **From**: 

   **SWK 714: Advanced Social Work Practice in the Urban Environment II.** 3 hours, 3 credits. Builds on the application of advanced social work practice skills, knowledge, and values. Deepens understanding of the social worker's role in mobilizing power and building relationships with diverse systems of various sizes. Particular attention to content on multiculturalism, diversity, social justice, value dilemmas, and social change issues. PREREQ: SWK 713; COREQ: SWK 729, [SWK 745, SWK 747], SWK 774.

3. **To**: 

   **SWK 714: Advanced Social Work Practice in the Urban Environment II.** 3 hours, 3 credits. Builds on the application of advanced social work practice skills, knowledge, and values. Deepens understanding of the social worker's role in mobilizing power and building relationships with diverse systems of various sizes. Particular attention to content on multiculturalism, diversity, social justice, value dilemmas, and social change issues. PREREQ: SWK 713, **SWK 773;** COREQ: SWK 729, SWK 774. PRE OR COREQ: SWK 745, SWK 747.

4. **Rationale**: 

   The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full-time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full-time), and a 3-year extended track (part-time during the first two years and full time during the third year). Removing SWK 745 as a co-requisite for SWK 714 gives students the option to take SWK 745 during the summer, and for students enrolled in the extended 3 year program to take SWK 745 during their second year. Removing SWK 747 as a co-requisite for SWK 714 gives students enrolled in the extended 3 year program the option to take this course during their second year. This is pedagogically sound and provides greater flexibility for students as they schedule classes. Adding SWK 773 as a prerequisite is a clarification rather than a change in curriculum.

5. **Date of department approval**: February 24, 2010
LEHMAN COLLEGE/CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

1. Type of Change:

Change in course pre- and co-requisites in MSW Program

2. From:

**SWK 727: Supervision in Agency-Based Practice.** 3 hours, 3 credits. Principles of agency-based supervision in a variety of practice settings. Administrative, clinical, and educational functions; concepts of power, authority and accountability; ethical and clinical issues; skills and self awareness; staff development; and evaluation. COREQ: SWK 713, [SWK 707], SWK 773.

3. To:

**SWK 727: Supervision in Agency-Based Practice.** 3 hours, 3 credits. Principles of agency-based supervision in a variety of practice settings. Administrative, clinical, and educational functions; concepts of power, authority and accountability; ethical and clinical issues; skills and self awareness; staff development; and evaluation. COREQ: SWK 713, SWK 773; PRE OR COREQ: SWK 707.

4. Rationale:

The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full-time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full time), and a 3-year extended track (part-time during the first two years and full time during the third year). Removing SWK 707 as co-requisites for SWK 727 gives 3-year extended students the option to take SWK 707 during their second year. This is pedagogically sound, and can reduce the number of credits required in their final year of the program.

5. Date of department approval: February 24, 2010
1. **Type of Change:**

Change in course pre- and co-requisites in MSW Program

2. **From:**

**SWK 729: Administration in Urban Agencies. 3 hours, 3 credits.**
Administration of public and private urban social services agencies responding to the needs of diverse urban clients. Designing and structuring service organizations; funding sources; developing and maintaining a diverse staff; understanding the relationship of the organization to the community; analyzing and evaluating relevant policies; and examining ethical dilemmas. PREREQ: SWK 727; COREQ: SWK 714, [SWK 745, SWK 747], SWK 774.

3. **To:**

**SWK 729: Administration in Urban Agencies. 3 hours, 3 credits.**
Administration of public and private urban social services agencies responding to the needs of diverse urban clients. Designing and structuring service organizations; funding sources; developing and maintaining a diverse staff; understanding the relationship of the organization to the community; analyzing and evaluating relevant policies; and examining ethical dilemmas. PREREQ: SWK 727; COREQ: SWK 714, SWK 774; PRE OR COREQ: SWK 745, SWK 747.

4. **Rationale:**

The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full-time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full time), and a 3-year extended track (part-time during the first two years and full time during the third year). Removing SWK 745 and SWK 747 as co-requisites for SWK 729 gives students the option to take SWK 745 during the summer, and gives students enrolled in the extended 3-year program the option to take SWK 747 during their second year. This is pedagogically sound and provides greater flexibility for students as they schedule classes.

5. **Date of department approval:** February 24, 2010
LEHMAN COLLEGE/CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

1. Type of Change:
Change in course pre- and co-requisites in MSW Program

2. From:
SWK 745: Social Welfare Policy Practice. 3 hours, 3 credits. Influencing, formulating, and advocating for social welfare policies that are culturally relevant, consistent with the value of social justice, and ensure that social services meet the needs of recipients. Particular emphasis on impacting policies affecting urban populations at risk. PREREQ: SWK 643; [COREQ: SWK 714, SWK 729, SWK 747, SWK 774].

3. To:
SWK 745: Social Welfare Policy Practice. 3 hours, 3 credits. Influencing, formulating, and advocating for social welfare policies that are culturally relevant, consistent with the value of social justice, and ensure that social services meet the needs of recipients. Particular emphasis on impacting policies affecting urban populations at risk. PREREQ: SWK 643, SWK 612, SWK 672.

4. Rationale:
The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full-time), and a 3-year extended track (part time during the first two years and full time during the third year). Removing SWK 714, 729, 747, and 774 as co-requisites for SWK 745 gives students the option to take SWK 745 during the summer. This is pedagogically sound and provides greater flexibility for students as they schedule classes. Adding SWK 612 and SWK 672 as prerequisites ensures that students will have completed a year of Fieldwork prior to taking this course.

5. Date of department approval: February 24, 2010
LEHMAN COLLEGE/CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

1. Type of Change:
Change in course pre- and co-requisites in MSW Program

2. From:
SWK 747: Social Work Research II. 3 hours, 3 credits. Design of research instruments, collection of data; and descriptive and inferential statistical analysis of data using SPSS. Submission of a research proposal that seeks to contribute to social work knowledge. The proposal will include an understanding of diversity and/or the needs of at-risk populations in the urban environment. PREREQ: SWK 646; [COREQ: SWK 714, SWK 729, SWK 745, SWK 774].

3. To:
SWK 747: Social Work Research II. 3 hours, 3 credits. Design of research instruments, collection of data; and descriptive and inferential statistical analysis of data using SPSS. Submission of a research proposal that seeks to contribute to social work knowledge. The proposal will include an understanding of diversity and/or the needs of at-risk populations in the urban environment. PREREQ: SWK 646.

4. Rationale:
The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full time), and a 3-year extended track (part-time during the first two years and full time during the third year). Removing SWK 714, 729, 745, and 774 as co-requisites for SWK 747 gives students enrolled in the extended 3 year program the option to take this course during their second year in the program. This is pedagogically sound and provides greater flexibility for students as they schedule classes.

5. Date of department approval: February 24, 2010
1. Type of Change:

Change in course pre- and co-requisites in MSW Program

2. From:

SWK 773: Fieldwork and Seminar III. 20 field, 1 lecture, 5 credits. 300-hour supervised internship in a practice area different from Fieldwork and Seminar I and II; advanced standing students enter Fieldwork and Seminar III. Development of advanced integrated social work practice through clinical practice, supervision, administration, research, and policy practice assignments. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 672; COREQ: [SWK 707], SWK 713, SWK 727.

3. To:

SWK 773: Fieldwork and Seminar III. 20 field, 1 lecture, 5 credits. 300-hour supervised internship in a practice area different from Fieldwork and Seminar I and II; advanced standing students enter Fieldwork and Seminar III. Development of advanced integrated social work practice through clinical practice, supervision, administration, research, and policy practice assignments. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 612, SWK 672; COREQ: SWK 713, SWK 727; PRE OR COREQ: SWK 707.

4. Rationale:

The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full-time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full-time), and a 3-year extended track (part-time during the first two years and full-time during the third year). Changing SWK 707 from a co-requisite to a pre or coreq for SWK 773 gives students enrolled in the extended 3-year program the option to take SWK 707 during their second year. This is pedagogically sound and can reduce the number of credits required in their final year of the program. Adding SWK 612 as a pre-requisite is not a change but a clarification of the pre-requisites for the course.

5. Date of department approval: February 24, 2010
LEHMAN COLLEGE/CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

1. Type of Change:
Change in course pre- and co-requisites in MSW Program

2. From:
**SWK 774: Fieldwork and Seminar IV.** *20 field, 1 lecture, 5 credits.* Students complete a 300-hour internship in the same agency as SWK 773. Continued learning of advanced integrated social work practice through increasingly challenging assignments in clinical practice, supervision, administration, research, and policy practice. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 773; COREQ: SWK 714, SWK 729, [SWK 745, SWK 747].

3. To:
**SWK 774: Fieldwork and Seminar IV.** *20 field, 1 lecture, 5 credits.* Students complete a 300-hour internship in the same agency as SWK 773. Continued learning of advanced integrated social work practice through increasingly challenging assignments in clinical practice, supervision, administration, research, and policy practice. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 713, SWK 773; COREQ: SWK 714, SWK 729; PRE OR COREQ: SWK 745, SWK 747.

4. Rationale:
The MSW Program has 3 tracks, including a 2-year track (full time), a 1-year advanced standing track (full time), and a 3-year extended track (part time during the first two years and full time during the third year). Changing SWK 745 and SWK 747 to pre or co-requisites for SWK 774 gives students the option to take SWK 745 during the summer, and for students enrolled in the extended 3-year program, the option to take SWK 747 during their second year. This is pedagogically sound and provides greater flexibility for students as they schedule classes. Adding SWK 713 as a pre-requisite is not a change but a clarification.

5. Date of department approval: February 24, 2010
1. Type of Change:

Correction in Graduate Bulletin.

2. From:

**SWK 671: Fieldwork and Seminar I.** [20] field, 1 lecture, 5 credits.
300-hour supervised internship in a social service agency as arranged by the Program. Students integrate social work knowledge, values, and skills as they provide culturally sensitive services to diverse urban populations, and particularly to populations-at-risk. Integration of classroom content with agency practice.
COREQ: SWK 612

3. To:

**SWK 671: Fieldwork and Seminar I.** [21] field, 1 lecture, 5 credits.
300-hour supervised internship in a social service agency as arranged by the Program. Students integrate social work knowledge, values, and skills as they provide culturally sensitive services to diverse urban populations, and particularly to populations-at-risk. Integration of classroom content with agency practice.
COREQ: SWK 611.

4. Rationale:

This will clarify for the students the number of hours per week required for fieldwork. They have been and continue to be required to complete 21 fieldwork hours per week.

5. Date of department approval: March 24, 2010
1. Type of Change:

Correction in Graduate Bulletin.

2. From:

SWK 672: Fieldwork and Seminar II. [20] field, 1 lecture, 5 credits.
300-hour supervised internship continued in the same social service agency as in SWK 671. Students further develop knowledge, values, and skills in accordance with social work ethics as they provide increasingly complex services to diverse urban populations, particularly to populations at-risk. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 671; COREQ: SWK 612

3. To:

SWK 672: Fieldwork and Seminar II. 21 field, 1 lecture, 5 credits.
300-hour supervised internship continued in the same social service agency as in SWK 671. Students further develop knowledge, values, and skills in accordance with social work ethics as they provide increasingly complex services to diverse urban populations, particularly to populations at-risk. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 671; COREQ: SWK 612

4. Rationale:

This will clarify for the students the number of hours required for fieldwork. They have been and continue to be required to complete 21 fieldwork hours per week.

5. Date of department approval: March 24, 2010
1. Type of Change:

Correction in Graduate Bulletin

2. From:

SWK 773: Fieldwork and Seminar III. [20] field, 1 lecture, 5 credits. 300-hour supervised internship in a practice area different from Fieldwork and Seminar I and II; advanced standing students enter Fieldwork and Seminar III. Development of advanced integrated social work practice through clinical practice, supervision, administration, research, and policy practice assignments. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 672; COREQ: SWK 7O7, SWK 713, SWK 727.

3. To:

SWK 773: Fieldwork and Seminar III. [21] field, 1 lecture, 5 credits. 300-hour supervised internship in a practice area different from Fieldwork and Seminar I and II; advanced standing students enter Fieldwork and Seminar III. Development of advanced integrated social work practice through clinical practice, supervision, administration, research, and policy practice assignments. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 672; COREQ: SWK 7O7, SWK 713, SWK 727.

4. Rationale:

This will clarify for the students the number of hours per week required for fieldwork. They have been and continue to be required to complete 21 Fieldwork hours per week.

5. Date of department approval: March 24, 2010
1. Type of Change:

Correction in Graduate Bulletin

2. From:

**SWK 774: Fieldwork and Seminar IV.** [20] *field, 1 lecture, 5 credits.*

Students complete a 300-hour internship in the same agency as SWK 773. Continued learning of advanced integrated social work practice through increasingly challenging assignments in clinical practice, supervision, administration, research, and policy practice. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 773. COREQ: SWK 714, SWK 729, SWK 745, SWK 747.

3. To:

**SWK 774: Fieldwork and Seminar IV.** [21] *field, 1 lecture, 5 credits.*

Students complete a 300-hour internship in the same agency as SWK 773. Continued learning of advanced integrated social work practice through increasingly challenging assignments in clinical practice, supervision, administration, research, and policy practice. Integration of classroom content with agency practice. PREREQ: SWK 773. COREQ: SWK 714, SWK 729, SWK 745, SWK 747.

4. Rationale:

This will clarify for the students the number of hours per week required for fieldwork. They have been and continue to be required to complete 21 fieldwork hours per week.

5. Date of department approval: March 24, 2010