

SWK306 Direct Practice 2

School: School of Law and Society

2025 | Semester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast
UniSC Moreton Bay

**BLENDED
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

Social work is a dynamic area of professional practice. This course equips you as a practitioner with knowledge and skills to actively contribute to a range of core direct practice processes across a range of practice contexts. These processes include collaborative case management; developing and facilitating experiential programs; facilitating collective action; and writing well-founded social work reports that assist decision making. Such processes often occur in practice contexts typified by social and systemic complexities and containing significant ethical challenges for practitioners.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Scheduled On-Campus Workshops in intensive format in O week	35hrs	Pre-semester/trimester/session	Once Only
Learning materials – Online asynchronous learning and teaching materials	4hrs	Pre-semester/trimester/session	Once Only

1.3. Course Topics

- Assessment
- Risk/Protective factors
- Accurate record keeping
- Evidence informing decisions
- Skills practice/demonstration
- Organisational culture

1.4. Mature Content

Drug Use, Sex/Sexual references, Violence, Coarse Language, Adult themes

2. What level is this course?

300 Level (Graduate)

Demonstrating coherence and breadth or depth of knowledge and skills. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. Meeting professional requirements and AQF descriptors for the degree. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory or developing knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally undertaken in the third or fourth full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Australian Association of Social Workers
1 Understand the values, principles and guidelines described in the Code of Ethics, while recognising and managing personal values and bias	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Ethical Engaged Communication	1
2 Advocate, promote, protect and uphold the rights, dignity and autonomy of people served	Empowered Ethical Engaged Communication Collaboration Problem solving	3
3 Work inclusively and respectfully with regard to culture and diversity of clients and service users while promoting client involvement in decision-making	Empowered Ethical Engaged Communication Collaboration	4
4 Engage in effective professional dialogue, including communicating the details and nature of services offered, with a diverse range of clients and service users	Empowered Ethical Engaged Communication	4
5 Work from a clearly articulated framework for reflective practice informed by a critical understanding of contemporary social work theory, professional knowledge, skills and evidenced-based research	Empowered Ethical Engaged Communication Problem solving	5
6 Practise within the limits of their professional scope, knowledge and skills and, where necessary, direct people to alternative sources of professional advice	Knowledgeable Ethical Engaged	5
7 Make professional decisions on the basis of a holistic assessment of the needs, strengths, goals and preferences of people, while recognising power and authority	Knowledgeable Empowered Ethical Engaged Communication Collaboration	6
8 Critically assess the quality and veracity of all relevant information to support decisions when assessing the nature and level of risk to people	Ethical Engaged Problem solving	6
9 articulate and promote the unique scope and contribution of social work to the people served	Knowledgeable Ethical Engaged Communication	7

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Australian Association of Social Workers
10 Utilise formal supervision to examine and critically reflect upon personal and professional values, theoretical approaches, professional knowledge and the implications for practice	Knowledgeable Ethical Engaged Communication	8
11 Be an active learner, open to new and emerging knowledge informing practice	Ethical Engaged Communication Collaboration	9

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS	
1	Practice Standard 1: AASW Code of Ethics
3	Practice Standard 3: Human rights and social justice
4	Practice Standard 4: Culture, identity and intersectionality
5	Practice Standard 5: Critical thinking in practice
6	Practice Standard 6: Exercising professional judgement
7	Practice Standard 7: Professional identity
8	Practice Standard 8: Professional supervision
9	Practice Standard 9: Professional growth

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

SWK301 or (SWK300 and SWK304)

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Limited Grading (PNP)

Pass (PU), Fail (UF). All assessment tasks are required to be passed for successful completion of the course.

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Written Piece	Individual	300-500 words	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Oral	Individual	10 - 15 mins	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	In Class
All	3	Activity Participation	Individual	Workshop days	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	In Class

All - Assessment Task 1: Social Work Case Note

GOAL:	To draw on course readings, class activities and discussions to develop a professional social work case note.													
PRODUCT:	Written Piece													
FORMAT:	Written case note reflecting on an authentic practice case study, to demonstrate your ability to accurately record an appropriate understanding of the interaction to a professional social work standard. Submission will be within the intensive week.													
CRITERIA:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th></th> <th>Learning Outcome assessed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Identification of facts and record in a non-biased manner.</td> <td>1 2 3 6 8 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Appropriate judgements and assessment conditions.</td> <td>1 2 3 6 8 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Written communication skills (clarity of expression, correct grammar, spelling and punctuation), logically structured, and coherently argued appropriately supported by relevant published literature.</td> <td>1 4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No.		Learning Outcome assessed	1	Identification of facts and record in a non-biased manner.	1 2 3 6 8 9	2	Appropriate judgements and assessment conditions.	1 2 3 6 8 9	3	Written communication skills (clarity of expression, correct grammar, spelling and punctuation), logically structured, and coherently argued appropriately supported by relevant published literature.	1 4	
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GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Applying technologies, Information literacy													

All - Assessment Task 2: Social Work Assessment and Skills Analysis

GOAL:	To demonstrate advanced social work skills in assessment. Drawing on social work concepts, skills, values and approaches to make a professional assessment of a simulated case study.	
	This task further requires you to demonstrate your oral communication and presentation skills in accordance with the inherent academic requirements of this degree.	
PRODUCT:	Oral	
FORMAT:	Engage in a simulated practice scenario and critical reflection to develop a comprehensive social work assessment that reflects advanced social work skills. Present a professional assessment incorporating social work skills and knowledge in an in-class presentation which simulates a professional supervision session in practice.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Use a range of social work theories and practice skills	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	2 Critical reflection of the assessment with understanding on the professional judgements made	4 5 8 9 10 11
	3 Present a clear, well-structured critical assessment to an 'emerging professional' level	1 2 3 5 7 8
	4 Demonstration of clear, articulate, engaging and professional verbal expressions and communication skills during your in-class presentation.	4 5
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving	

All - Assessment Task 3: Participation and engagement

GOAL:	Critically reflect on participation in workshop activities to meet the AASW accreditation guidelines	
PRODUCT:	Activity Participation	
FORMAT:	Course attendance will be recorded to meet external AASW accreditation requirements. Student participation and engagement in course activities assessed based upon attendance and participation across course workshop format.	
	You are required to attend all days to meet the attendance requirements.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Actively participate in workshops in a professional manner	11
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving	

6.4. Assessment to competency mapping

PROGRAMME DELIVERY MODE	ASSESSMENT TYPE	TITLE	COMPETENCY	TEACHING METHODS
AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION AND ACCREDITATION STANDARDS (ASWEAS)				
All delivery modes	Activity Participation	Participation and engagement	9	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
	Oral	Social Work Assessment and Skills Analysis	1	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			3	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			4	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			5	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			6	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			7	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			8	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			Written Piece	Social Work Case Note
	2	Taught, Practiced		
	3	Taught, Practiced, Assessed		
	4	Taught, Practiced, Assessed		
	5	Taught, Practiced, Assessed		
	6	Taught, Practiced, Assessed		
	7	Taught, Practiced, Assessed		
	8	Taught, Practiced, Assessed		
	9	Taught, Practiced		

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

This course will be graded as Pass in a Limited Grade Course (PU) or Fail in a Limited Grade Course (UF) as per clause 5.1.1.3 and 5.1.1.4 of the Grades and Grade Point Average (GPA) - Academic Policy.

In a course eligible to use Limited Grades, all assessment items in that course are marked on a Pass/Fail basis and all assessment tasks are required to be passed for a student to successfully complete the course. Supplementary assessment is not available in courses using Limited Grades.

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

You must contact your Course Coordinator and provide the required documentation if you require an extension or alternate assessment.

Refer to the Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs – Procedures.

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au