

SCWK50004 Lifespan Risk and Resilience

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	5 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2010, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: March, Parkville - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 24 contact hours per semester (8 x 1.5 hour lecture, 8 x 1.5 hour seminar) Total Time Commitment: 24 contact hours 16 hours of class preparation and reading 24 hours of assessment related tasks = 64 hours total time commitment = 8 hours total time per week
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's courses. Students who think their disability will impact on meeting this requirement are encouraged to discuss this matter with the Course Coordinator and the Disability Liaison Unit.
Coordinator:	Assoc Prof Louise Harms
Contact:	Social Work Melbourne School of Health Sciences The University of Melbourne Level 5, 234 Queensberry St Carlton Victoria 3010 AUSTRALIA T: +61 3 8344 9400 F: +61 3 9347 4375 E: socialwork-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:socialwork-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au) W: www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au (http://www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au/)
Subject Overview:	This subject examines the ways in which social work understands the inner and outer world dimensions of human vulnerability, adaptation and resilience across the lifespan. The usefulness of theories of grief, stress and trauma for understanding individuals' capacity for coping with adversity is examined critically, as are understandings of diversity.
Objectives:	This subject explores individual and environmental sources of risk and resilience. Stress, trauma and grief theories are examined as they apply across the lifespan. At the end of this subject, you will be expected to be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # apply your understanding of a multidimensional approach to specific human experiences of adversity and diversity # analyse social contexts in relation to their oppressive and protective dimensions # identify significant biopsychosocial-spiritual transitions across the lifespan and the influence of gender, class, ethnicity, sexuality, and other dimensions of diversity on these transitions. # critically assess the coping and adaptation processes of individual's facing adversity and identify the implications for social work practice # critically reflect on these theoretical perspectives and their implicit value assumptions as well as your own subjective positioning.
Assessment:	Written case study 2,000 words (40%) - due mid semester Written essay 3,000 words (60%) - due end of semester

Prescribed Texts:	Harms, L. (2005). Understanding human development: A multidimensional approach. South Melbourne: Oxford University Press. A reading pack will be available.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	On completion of this subject students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # critically analyse texts and practices; # understand recent developments in social work contexts of practice; # link theory to practice; # competently communicate in ways relevant to both academic and practice contexts; # undertake independent research.
Links to further information:	http://www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au/
Related Course(s):	Master of Social Work