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SW 395.01: Special Topics in Youth Studies

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Social Work 395
Special Topics in Youth Studies
Spring 2002
1 Credit
Thursday 7-9pm
Social Sciences 344

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Course Description and Purpose

The course is designed to help students and youth workers develop their own integrated knowledge base and practice skills for working with youth. It also seeks to provide an opportunity for students to examine their own values and assumptions about youth and youth work.

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the youth development model.
2. Build a working knowledge of the strengths perspective.
3. Identify and explore issues that hinder efforts when working with resistant youth.
4. Examine personal and professional issues that effect relationships with youth, co-workers, and supervisors.
5. Sharpen competencies as a youth worker in the areas of writing, confidentiality, testifying, mental health and supervision of youth.

Grading

The course is graded Pass/Fail. There is an attendance requirement to pass the course. Students can miss only one class with an excused absence and still pass the course. Also, students are expected to participate for a passing grade.

Course Topics

- 1/28 Youth Development Model
- 2/14 The Strengths Perspective for Youth Care Workers
- 2/28 Testifying and Conduct in Court
- 3/14 Professional Writing and Notation
- 3/28 A Working Knowledge of the DSM-IV
- 4/11 Ethical Considerations for Youth Workers and Self Care/Burnout
- 4/25 Interagency Relationships

