

The Social Work faculty encourages students to participate in and/or attend various events that highlight diversity sponsored by the Social Work Program, as well as other departments on campus. These events include:

- Domestic Violent Grants for Social Work majors
- The Marion Anderson String Quartet
- The Slave Cemetery Trek (a real slave cemetery on PVAMU campus)
- Lecture on Religion/Spirituality where the discussants are Islamic, Jewish, Protestant, Catholic
- Plays and musicals
- Months that highlight particular groups: Hispanic Heritage Awareness Month (September 15-October 15), Native American Heritage Month (November), African American/Black History Month (February), Women's History Month (March), and Gay Pride Month/ Gay, Lesbian, and Bi-sexual (April).

Although Prairie View A&M University is an Historically Black College/University (HBCU), student demographics have become increasingly diverse – especially within the last three years. The diversity of demographics is also reflected within the staff, faculty, and administration of the University and the Social Work Program. Various races, gender, ethnicities, nationalities, sexual orientations, social classes, religions, disabilities, and ages make up the population of the University. Thus, the Social Work Program, and the University in general, is becoming more reflective of the demographic changes that are occurring within the State of Texas.

### **The Educational Program**

The Director and faculty of the Social Work Program exert continual effort to insure that awareness and knowledge of diversity are evident throughout the Program and the curriculum. The Program's mission, goals, and objectives clearly state our

commitment to diversity, social and economic justice, and populations-at-risk (see EVS 1.0). This awareness and knowledge of diversity are further explicated in social work syllabi outcomes, and specific assignments including required readings, to help students understand and develop respect for diversity in social work practice.

The chart below highlights sample assignments and journal articles for Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare (SOWK 2113) and the Professional Foundation courses given to students to help them better understand and appreciate human diversity.

<b>BSW Course</b>	<b>Sample Assignments on Human Diversity</b>
<b>SOWK 2113</b> Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living on a Public Assistance Budget Student must live on \$75 for a minimum of five and a maximum of seven consecutive days.</li> <li>• Interview an elder, relative or nonrelative, (65+yrs) regarding their experiences with discriminations (e.g. race, ethnicity, gender, age, social class)</li> <li>• Article: "Living on the edge: Examination of people attending food pantries and soup kitchens."</li> </ul>
<b>SOWK 3113</b> Social Welfare Policy and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions on Poverty including written assignment distinguishing between absolute and relative poverty, theoretical explanations of poverty.</li> <li>• Articles: "Poverty" "Deconstructing Welfare: The Reagan Legacy and the welfare state"</li> </ul>
<b>SOWK 3123</b> Social Welfare Policy Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly Response Papers on assigned journal articles focusing on topics such as rural homelessness, immigration, healthcare</li> <li>• Articles: "Hard to Reach: Rural Homelessness and Healthcare"</li> </ul>

	<p>“Immigrant policy: Issues for Social Work Practice”</p> <p>“Access of Hispanics to healthcare and cuts in Services: A state of the art review”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of books <u>Amazing Grace</u> by Jonathon Kozol</li> </ul>
<p>SOWK 3133 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept Position Paper: application of theory to social problems of individuals, families, and small groups</li> <li>• Articles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“America’s Forgotten Children: Child Poverty in Rural America”</li> <li>“Educating students for social work with Latinos: Issues for the new millennium”</li> <li>“Assessing beginning social work and counseling students’ acceptance of lesbians and gay men”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>SOWK 4123 Social Work Practice I</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written essays focusing on values, individual practice, families’ practice, and small group practice</li> <li>• Articles:</li> </ul>
<p>SOWK 4133 Social Work Practice II</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay assignments and groups activity focusing on macro system practice organizations and communities</li> <li>• Articles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“The Practice of Social Work: Application of Generalist and Advanced Content”</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Summarize the problems and barriers that a white male worker encounters in working with three of the following five groups: (1) Native American clients, (2) African American clients, (3) Latino clients, (4) gay and lesbian clients, and (5) female clients</li> </ul>
<p>SOWK 4143 Social Work Research I</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin steps for writing a research proposal</li> <li>• Articles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Guidelines for nonsexist research”</li> <li>“HIV-related stigma in a sample of HIV-affected older female African American caregivers”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p>SOWK 4153 Social Work Research II</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Research protocol begun in SOWK 4143</li> <li>• Articles:  “Providing services to Hispanic/Latino populations: Profiles in Diversity”  “ A Strength perspective: An ethnographic study of homeless women with children”</li> </ul>
<p>SOWK 4176 Field Instruction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervised learning experience in social service setting requiring completion of 400 hours</li> <li>• Settings diverse in terms of rural and urban locations, clientele and field instructors</li> <li>• settings include centers for the elderly, adolescents, state schools for the mentally impaired, state facilities for juvenile delinquents, alternative schools, medical facilities, shelters for battered women, etc.</li> </ul>
<p>SOWK 4183 Social Work Seminar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course taken concurrently with SOWK 4176</li> <li>• Student discussions of field based experiences, student learning plan and log maintenance NASW Code of Ethics Professional Foundation course content</li> </ul>