

Rutgers DSW Program Syllabus

Module Title: Elements of Effective Teaching in Social Work

Instructor:

Residency:

Date:

Module Description:

Achieving a doctoral degree in social work can give rise to varied teaching opportunities, including full and part-time university faculty positions, delivering conference presentations, giving expert lectures in the community, and teaching fellow professionals in continuing education workshops and webinars. However, having professional experience, an advanced degree, and subject matter expertise does not sufficiently prepare a social worker for the role of teaching. This module will cover the basic skills and knowledge to design and deliver effective learning experiences. We will explore learning theory, course design, presentation skills, classroom management, and some of the unique aspects of teaching online.

Module Objectives (e.g. 1-3):

1. Identify three strategies to foster group discussion
2. Identify three instructor presentation skills
3. Identify three teaching strategies unique to online teaching

Required Readings:

Farber, N., & Penney, P. (2020). Essential and Neglected: Transforming Classroom Learning through Relationship. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work, 40*(2), 95-113.

Farrel, D., Ray, K., Rich, T., Suarez, Z., Christenson, B., & Jennigs, L. (2018). A meta-analysis of approaches to engage social work students online. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work, 38*(2), 183-197.

Jones, S. H. (2015). Benefits and challenges of online education for clinical social work: Three examples. *Clinical Social Work Journal, 43*(2), 225-235.

Recommended Readings:

Spitz, J. (2019). The Teacher–Learner Relationship: Considerations for Social Work in the Digital Age. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work, 39*(4-5), 402-413.

Module Assignment (required):

Due:

Take a topic you have studied and developed expertise on while in the DSW program and explore how you might design a course, lecture, or online webinar on the topic. What would you call it? What methods would you use to connect to the learners? How would you ensure your teaching is engaging? What challenges would you have? You do not need to develop the training, just develop an early vision of what it might entail using concepts from the readings (1-2 pages in length).