

Social Problems

- **Credit numbers:** 2
- **Instructor :** Yun Ling Li
- **Instructor's Office :** N/A
- **Office Hours :** By appointment only
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- **Course Objectives:**

As a professional aimed to help disadvantaged people, social workers encounter social problems almost on a daily basis. This course will present how contemporary social work practice addresses social problems within the values of the social work profession. Through the course, students will learn about social work's struggles and accomplishments in developing strategies to prevent and cope with these problems and thus illuminates what the profession is doing (or could be doing) in each of these problem areas.

Syllabus :

Week	Date	Contents	Homework
1		Course overview	
2		Knowledge base of SW part I	
3		Knowledge base of SW part II	
4		Social Work Values and Ethics	Short essay 1
5		Social Work and working across differences part I	
6		Social Work and working across differences part II	
7		Does Race matter? Part I (US context)	Final paper proposal draft due
8		Does Race matter? Part II (Taiwan context)	
9		Mid-term exam	
10		Poverty	Final paper proposal revision due
11		Homeless	
12		Sexism and Gender Violence	Short essay 2
13		Aging in Society	
14		Working with families	
15		Working with Children and Youth	
16		Final paper	

- **References:**

No textbook required; we will mainly use journal and newspaper articles.

- **Grading:**

- a. Attendance: 10%
- b. In-class discussion: 5%
- c. Short essay 1: 10%
- d. Short essay 2: 10%
- e. Mid-term exam: 25%
- f. Final paper proposal draft: 5%
- g. Final paper proposal revision: 5%
- h. Final paper: 30%