



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**TRANSMITTAL**

**DATE:** May 20, 2003

**TO:** Rebecca Scott  
Senate Council

**FROM:** Lissa Holland  
Graduate Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'LH' or similar initials, written over the name 'Lissa Holland'.

**The Graduate School**  
351 Patterson Office Tower  
Lexington, KY 40506-0027  
(859) 257-4613  
Fax: (859) 323-1928  
[www.rgs.uky.edu/gsl/](http://www.rgs.uky.edu/gsl/)

The Graduate Council met on May 1, 2003, and approved the following:

**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**

**SW 730 Mental Health Policy (3 credits)**


*(Create Online version of same course)*

**Change to:**

**SW 730 Mental Health Policy – Online Version (3 credits)**

April 17, 2003

**The Graduate School**  
351 Patterson Office Tower  
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Memo to: Douglass S. Kalika  
From: James E. O'Reilly   
Subject: Online Version of SW 730

The College of Social Work the attached document, which addresses the "equivalency" of an online adaptation of SW 730, Mental Health Policy, to the currently approved on-campus version of the course. University and SACS procedures require that courses in which all or most of the instructional delivery is done by distance-learning technology be so reviewed and reported to the University Senate, and eventually to the CPE and SACS.

They have provided very detailed syllabi of the on-campus (Attachment #1) and the online version (Attachment), as well as a rationale for their equivalency (Attachment #3).

I have reviewed the materials that they have sent. I believe that examination of the detailed syllabi will show a very high equivalency not only in the material to be covered in the class but also in the manner in which student learning will be assessed and evaluated. Professor Swanberg, the course instructor, has been working closely with Catheryn Cunningham, an instructional design consultant, for over six months to convert the course over to an online format using the Blackboard platform. Thus, a very high degree of care and attention has already been invested in this conversion process.

I believe Social Work has more than met the general obligation to show the equivalency of the two versions of SW 730. I can heartily recommend to you that their proposal be presented to the Graduate Council for their review and approval.

c: Jennifer Swanberg, Surjit Dhooper

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APR 17 2003



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**College of Social Work**  
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April 11, 2003

Dr. James E. O'Reilly  
Graduate School  
317 Patterson Office Tower  
U.K. Campus 0027

Dear Dr. O'Reilly,

The College of Social Work is dedicated to the success of our off-campus programs. Its faculty members are constantly trying to improve the offering and quality of courses for students in those programs. I am enclosing copies of (1) the syllabi for SW 730 - Mental Health Policy, (2) the syllabus for the web-based version of this course, and (3) a brief rationale for and description of the web-based design of the course developed by Dr. Jennifer Swanberg. The Curriculum Committee of the College has studied the two versions of the course and found them equal in their content and quality. The Committee has recommended to the College faculty that Dr. Swanberg be allowed to teach the web-based version of the course and the faculty has accepted that recommendation. I understand that the next step is the approval of the Graduate School before the course can be offered. Kindly study the enclosed material and let me know of your decision at an early date.

Sincerely,

(Surjit S. Dhooper) Ph.D.

Professor & Director of Graduate Studies

Enclosures: Three as above

**GRADUATE COUNCIL  
INVESTIGATOR REPORT**

Course/Courses/Program: SW 730

Category (check one):     New                       Change                       Drop

Date for Council Review: May 1, 2003

Recommendation (circle one):  Approve             Approve with Reservation     Disapprove

Investigator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

The following questions are included as an outline only. Be as specific and as brief as possible. If the investigation was routine, please indicate this. Attach supplements as needed. Please return the form to Lissa Holland, 355 P.O.T., 0027, at least two days before the next Council meeting.

- 1 List any modifications made in the course proposal as submitted originally and reason(s) why.

None

2. If no modifications were made, review considerations which arose during the investigation and the resolutions.

This proposal is demonstrating the "equivalency" of the on-line version of the course with the on-campus version of the course. Dr. Swanberg has been working closely with an instructional design consultant and appears to have developed a very strong course for use on-line.

3. List contact(s) with program units and the considerations discussed therein.

Dr. Jennifer Swanberg

4. Additional information as needed.

**SW 730: Mental Health Policy**  
**Web-Based Adaptation**  
**Submitted to Curriculum Committee**  
**By: Jennifer E. Swanberg**

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Overview: In an attempt to expand courses offered to the College of Social Work's off-campus programs, SW 730: Mental Health Policy is currently being adapted to be delivered as a web-based course. Specifically, the web-based design of SW 730 will allow the course to be delivered completely through on-line instruction using Blackboard technology. As currently planned, the course will be offered for the first time during the Fall 2003 term to NKU students. Instructor has worked weekly with Kathryn Cunningham, Instructional Design Consultant since early Fall 2002 to adapt and design the web-based equivalent to SW 730. Ms. Cunningham will continue to consult with instructor through the duration of the course delivery.

Adaptation Description: The adapted SW 730 course follows the current SW 730 15-week course outline exactly. Reading materials, assignments and exams are identical. The main difference between the two course is the delivery of course materials. As a way to facilitate dialogue about ideas, concepts and learnings, instructor in collaboration with Instructional Design Consultant, has designed a series of discussion questions that will be posed to students each week. Students will be required to thoughtfully respond to the discussion questions and to their peers' comments. Students will receive points for responding to the questions and for the quality of their comments.

The course outline is divided into units and topics. Units generally last 2-3 weeks. Within each unit are topic folders. To date, new topics are introduced weekly. Students are asked to complete readings and assignments on a weekly basis. Once the week has expired, that particular folder and its materials disappears. As with standard class instructions, assignments must be "handed in" via a drop box to instructor in a timely fashion. Points are lost for late assignments.

Classroom learning activities have been adapted to the web-based format. For example, during the second week of class, students are required to create a time-line depicting the history of mental health policy. The Instructional Design Consultant has created a program that allows students to create a visual representation of mental health policy time line by clicking on certain areas of the time. Instructor and consultant have seriously considered and integrated a variety of web-based course delivery methods, such as this one, to engage students in the learning process. Another example is the final assignment. Students will be asked to design a web-page as part of their final assignment. The final assignment involves the creation of the "ideal" Mental Health Parity Legislation for the State of Kentucky. Students, in their assignment group, will collaborate on the creation of a web-page that present their policy.

Please see attached materials for additional information.