

# WELF 7007 CRITICAL SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 102395

**Coordinator** Linda Briskman ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Linda Briskman/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Linda%20Briskman/))

**Description** This unit focuses on the application of critical theories, models and methods of social work practice through the exploration of diverse fields of practice including: child wellbeing and protection; mental health; working with older people; disability; housing and homelessness; LGBTQI social work; and rural and remote practice. The emphasis will be on the contribution of various critical perspectives (Feminist, Post-colonial, Postmodern, Marxist, Green, Critical Race, etc) to social work theory and to the development of alternative forms of practice.

**School** Social Sciences

**Discipline** Social Work

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your HECS Band contribution amount via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

**Pre-requisite(s)** WELF 7023 AND WELF 7024

## Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in 1792 Master of Social Work (Qualifying)

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Compare and contrast critical social work practice theories, approaches and models analysing their application in organisational, social and cultural contexts.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of critical practice skills and of the different ways they can be applied across the spectrum of indirect and direct practice areas, including interpersonal engagement, assessment, professional writing, counselling, health promotion, advocacy and team work.
3. Engage in critical reflection on the use of self in practice, identifying strengths and areas for further development.
4. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the experience of marginalised individuals, groups and communities within a range of different fields of practice, settings, client groups and geographical locations.

## Subject Content

- Examination of various theoretical contributions to critical social work, including:

Human rights  
Feminist analysis  
Postcolonial and critical whiteness studies  
Indigenous world views  
Postmodernism  
Marxist analysis

Green political theory and environmentalism

- These will be examined across a number of different fields of social work practice, such as:

Child wellbeing and child safety ? including child protection risk assessment

Mental Health- including mental health assessment

Disability ?inclusive and accessible practice

Working with individuals, groups and communities from rural and remote locations

Working with older people

Community Justice

Social work in health settings ? including skills for team and family conferences

International social work ? social work in a global context

LGBTQI social work practice

Housing and homelessness

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Item	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task
Project Proposal: Critical Literature Review	2,000 words	40	N	Individual
Group presentation	Up to 15 minutes presentation and 5 minutes student discussion	30	N	Group
Reflection paper on learning from the unit.	1,000 words	30	N	Individual

Teaching Periods

## Spring

### Parramatta City - Macquarie St

#### Day

**Subject Contact** Linda Briskman ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Linda Briskman/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Linda%20Briskman/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject\\_code=WELF7007\\_22-SPR\\_PC\\_D#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject_code=WELF7007_22-SPR_PC_D#subjects))