

Title Page

See APA manual for instruction for a title page

Introduction

Overview of the program and needs assessment

The program overview will serve as the introduction to your final paper (program evaluation report). This overview should provide a **brief description of the agency** in which the program that you are going to evaluate and a **detail description of the program**. The purpose of the overview is to provide the reader with background information of the program. Upon reading this paper, one should have a sense of the following

Theoretical/historical foundation of the program

- The name of the agency or organization where the program is being offered and how long it's been in operation
- Vision of the agency,
- Mission,
- Goals,
- Objectives

Program you will evaluate and purpose

- Program description
- Population its serves
- Detailed Description of Services Provided
- Number of staff members
- A list of all the activities offered
- Resources – the things that the program have and needs to operate (funding source, in-kind, volunteers etc)

Normative/Expressed/Felt/Comparative/Needs

- **Describe the needs of the program according to the participants you interview.**
 - **Program participants**
 - **Staff**
 - **Board of directors**
 - **Administrators**
- **Needs Assessment Approach**
 - Secondary data analysis
 - Key informants
 - Public hearings, forums
 - Nominal groups, Delphi
 - Focus group
 - Surveys (small scale)
 - Surveys (large scale)

Title Page

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1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
 - a. Description of the problem; its context and significance
 - b. Program description and questions about it to be explored
 - c. Purpose of the evaluation
3. Literature Review
 - a. Theoretical/historical foundation of the program
 - b. A survey of relevant literature
4. Methodology
 - a. Evaluation design and data collection procedures clearly stated
 - b. Description of sampling plan, participants, and recruitment methods
 - c. Dependent variables operationalized; description of instruments
 - d. Procedures for data collection and data analysis
5. Results (Findings)
 - a. Factual information presented (including tables, charts)
 - b. Statistical and clinical or practical significance
6. Discussion
 - a. Explanation of findings
 - b. Application to agency, program, or practice
 - c. Limitations of the evaluation

References

This is a separate page and should include full citations in APA format for all the cited work.

Although a program evaluation may not have as many references as a research paper. You should cite as appropriate.

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Introduction

Statement of the topic of interest

Here you should introduce the topic in which you are interested. For example if the topic is treating delinquent youth, your problem statement could be juvenile crime is on the rise and information about effective prevention/treatment strategies are needed

Evidence of the problem

Here you need to provide some statistical evidence that this problem exist. Keeping with the same topic (treating delinquent youth.), evidence could be the number of juvenile crime that has occurred over the last 10 years, it could include the impact it has had on society, economy or families etc.

Significance of the problem to social work

Here briefly describe why this topic is important for social workers to study

Purpose

Here you state the purpose of the proposed research. Again keeping with the same topic “treating delinquent”

“The purpose of this research is to explore if participating in the STA peer intervention program will reduce the number crimes youth commit OR is the STA peer program effective at increasing youths knowledge about the impact crime has on society.

Literature review

Here is where you are to synthesize the information from previous research conducted on your topic. You can organize them in themes (i.e. Qualitative and quantitative) or some other logical order. A minimum of 10 articles is required for this assignment. Remember your synthesis of the information should at minimum include the following. This section is written in bullet format only to delineate what could/should be included. However, your write up should be in a narrative form i.e. paragraphs and NOT bullets

- **Author (s)Year of the Article**
- **Purpose of the study and research question**
- **Sample population (populations can be humans, organizations, empirical research)**
- **Variables (independent and dependent) Qualitative studies will not have dependent and independent variables**
- **What did the authors conclude? (identify one major finding)**

A critique of the presented literature

Here you provide your critical analysis of the presented literature, essentially your thoughts and opinions about the articles you have read. For example, do not just say that the article was good; rather you should explain why the information was good. What were some similar/contrasting findings among the studies were there similarities in the population used in the studies, the research design, the approach, and the variables. Where or how does your research make a contribution to the topic?

Theoretical Framework

This section describes the theory underlying your approach to the research. Essential it provides an empirical rationale for why you are conducting the study in the way that you are. It justifies the selection of variables, the population of interest, the study setting, the hypotheses etc.

Methodology

The methodology section is your road map. It describes the procedures for your research in a very detailed way so that your reader is able to either know exactly what you did and or the reader can replicate your study. The section has several subsections (however the subsections will vary) such as

- research design
- study setting
- population
- recruitment strategy
- sample strategy
- instrumentation/measurement
- data collection procedures, data analysis plan
- strength and limitations, implication for practice.

References

This is a separate page and should include the full citation in APA of all the articles

Sampling

For each scenario, identify an appropriate sampling technique and explain why.

1. You are conducting a research study on the effects of welfare reform on NYC residents. Specifically you want to know what people think about the new welfare policies and how have these policies help welfare recipients find employment and exit off the welfare rolls. You are seeking to obtain a representative sample.
2. You are interested in knowing what social workers employed at the DC Children and Family Services Agency (CSFA) think about the new legislation "Safe family and Adoption Act". You would like to secure a sample of 50 from the agency's population of social workers.
3. You are a social worker employed at the juvenile detention center. You have realized that, over the last 12 month, kids detained had tested positive for hepatitis C. Neither the parents nor the children were aware that they were exposed to Hepatitis. You are interested in knowing why this phenomenon is occurring.
4. You are conducting a study on the future plans of high school students in the United States. Specifically, you want to what plans high school students have, when they hope to accomplish these plans. You want to make some generalizations about the population from which your sample will be drawn.
5. You are testing a new intervention designed to increase motivation and socialization among older people. Your funds are limited. However; your colleague works part time at the assisted living facility.

Social Work 697
Research Methods for Social Workers
Asynchronous Lecture and Assignment

Attached is an information sheet for a research study entitled *Foreclosure and Migration into the Rental Housing Market: An Assessment of Adolescents' Wellbeing Following Foreclosure in the District of Columbia*. For this assignment please answer the following questions. Please use an brief essay format. Bullets and one sentence answer/responses will not be accepted and will receive no credit. This assignment is worth an extra 5 points towards an assignment of your choice. You must answer questions 1-8. However, chose either 9 or 10 to answer. You may use any resource you have and **should not** collaborate with other pairs of students.

1. Identify the problem under investigation (problem being researched)
2. Identify the research question or a potential research question
3. This study has several dependent variables identify two and their levels of measurement
4. What is the independent variable(s)
5. What is the unit of analysis?
6. What is the research approach (qualitative or Quantitative or Mixed methods)
7. What is the research design survey or correlational (explain why -how do you know)?
8. What sample technique are they using and why it is appropriate?
9. What are they planning to do with the information they obtain from the study?
10. What is the relevance of the study to social work?

***NOTE this assignment will assess if and how much you know about basic information covered thus far. I will be looking for why you have selected your answers. So, your answers to the above questions should include your explanation for your response. GOOD LUCK**

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Ethnicity Worldview River of Life

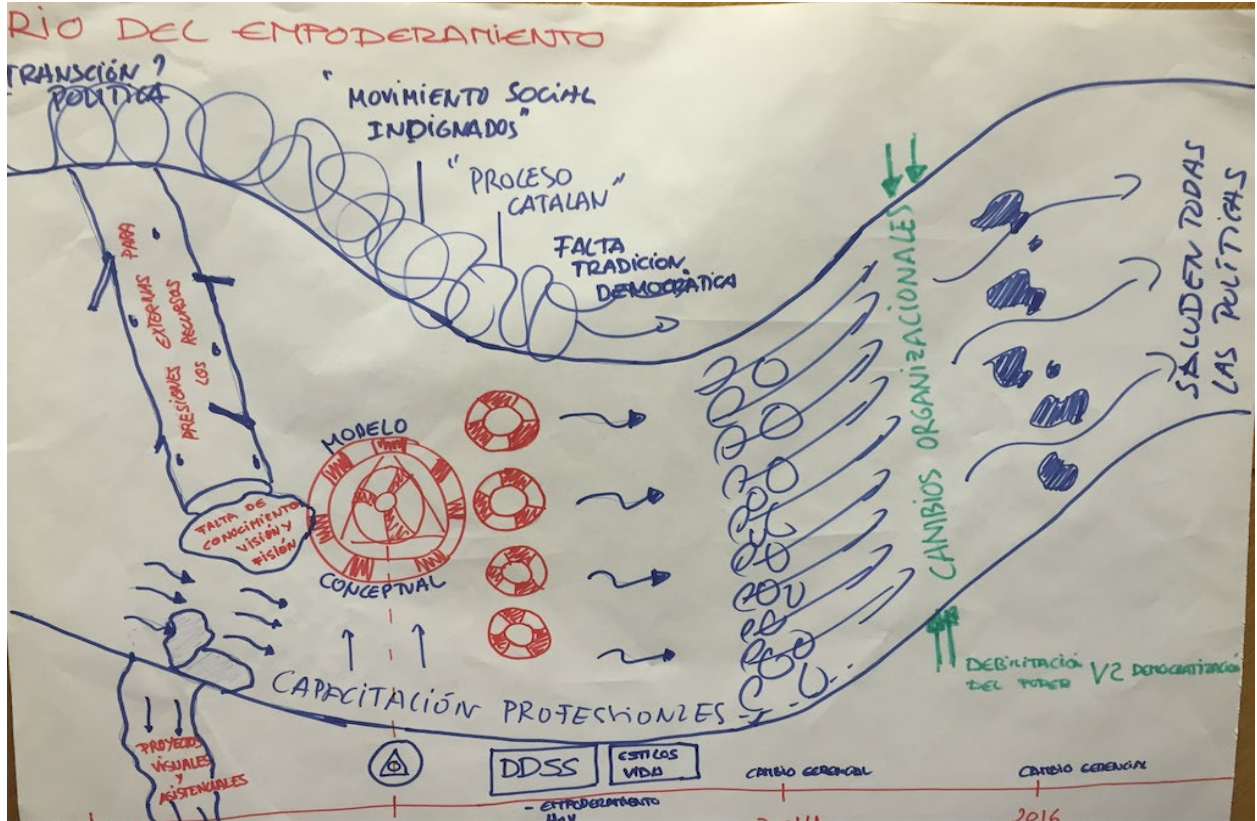
Exercise Instructions: River of Life, Historical Timeline	
Preparation:	Before beginning, read the instructions:
Materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large sheet of paper • Crayons, markers, glue, scissors • Colorful construction paper <p><u>I will provide the above.</u> You should bring Any artifact (pieces of your final paper, syllabi, buttons, email, text messages etc) that reflects your journey through the MSW program</p>
Objectives:	<p>To reflect on your journey:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The history and influences that motivate partners (as individuals or from agencies and organizations) to work together in their personal or professional life or organizational coalitions to promote community empowerment, social participation, and changes. 2. The processes, results and goals of your journey/partnership/empowerment work.
Approximate time required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10-15 minutes for individual reflection (Step 1) • 50-90 minutes for team work (Steps 2 through 4). <p>Participate in gallery tour (Step 5)</p>
Instructions:	<p>INTRODUCTION TO THE EXERCISE</p> <p>The River of Life activity reminds us that the river is an important symbol in many cultures, it symbolizes life and change and for many people it is stimulating to think about the river, about nature, and about what it represents. Every river has headwaters or springs, (beginning of the groups/partnership) and times or places where the river is flowing well (groups/partners are working well together). Other times the river has boulders, dams, rapids, and waterfalls (challenges within the groups/partnership). There are times when bodies of water join through tributaries (new resources, mentors, or new members) and or a stream branches off from the main river (mentors, members leave or new separate partnerships are formed).</p>
Step 1:	<p>PERSONAL REFLECTION (10-20 minutes)</p> <p>Each member of the partnership reflects <u>independently</u> about the history and life of their relationship/journey/partnership in terms of a river:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and why did you start your relationship/journey/partnership? • What is important for your community or stakeholders to know about how and why you started working together? • Who else has influenced your relationship/journey partnership? • What have been the important events and changes along the way? <p>These questions ask you to reflect on the relationship/journey partnership's life and your experience in community and community empowerment. Jot down notes.</p>

Ethnicity Worldview River of Life

<p>Step 2:</p>	<p>Individual WORK (20-40 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather your materials (hand drawing) to draw your river of life. • Think of the influences, the obstacles and the peaceful moments, that helped you to identify and realize things that influenced you as it relates to gender, ethnicity, race, religion etc <p>The river should start where you thinks it is important to start. This could be during childhood, an historical moments that led to the formation of the worldview. Then fill in the life moments over time with the key influences that were important motivations for continued involvement journey of discovering your worldview. Draw the most important or influential stages that have marked the life of your journey’s work. Include the changes in the life of your relationship, partnerships with the community, family friends and strangers. Think about the factors that have facilitated the journey (as tributaries flowing in) or times when the work/journey has been smooth and opened up to a lake or gentle stream in your journey. Obstacles may be represented as rocks in the river, dams, or waterfalls. Use colors that express different influential moments in your partnership’s life</p>
<p>Step 3:</p>	<p>Individual WORK (20-40 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a historical timeline with dates of months, years (or decades) that are important to your worldview journey below the river of life (e.g., acceptance in to the MSW program). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relate important life events that have occurred that has influenced what is currently happening in your relationship/journey/ partnership and consider whether this has had an impact in your journey.
<p>Step 4:</p>	<p>TEAM WORK (10 minutes)</p> <p>Stand back and admire your River of Life and, answer the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What stood out for you while doing this process for yourself? (Any general thoughts about what you learned about your team or feelings this exercise raised?) 2) What were/are some of the facilitators you identified that were important for your relationship/journey partnership ? (What kinds of events, issues supported you?) 3) What were/are some of the challenges in terms of moving forward in a good way with your relationship/journey partnership with people/clients that are different from you? (What kinds of events, issues challenged your team?) 4) Were there important external events that made a difference for you? 5) When do you think you could use the river of life tool in your own work? <p><i>Jot down responses; be prepared to share your response during the webinar</i></p>
<p>Step 5:</p>	<p>CROSS-TEAM RIVER OF LIFE GALLERY TOUR</p> <p>Facilitated by Dr. Sharon T Alston and the SWK 773 Class</p>

EXAMPLE OF RIVER OF LIFE SHOWN IN MINI COURSE VIDEO

Ethnicity Worldview River of Life



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GROUP WORK INTERVENTION PROPOSAL

Guidelines

I. Introduction (10 pts) This section is similar to the introduction to a research proposal, not as extensive

In this section, you will identify a population of interest and one problem, associated with this population that concerns you or the agency where you practice as a social work student. In paragraph form, clearly explain the following:

1. What is the problem(s) and the extent of the problem? Support your response using national statistics.
2. Who is affected by the problem? Consider micro, mezzo, and macro social relationships, such as individuals, families, small cohort groups, and communities.
3. What sub-population affected by the problem on which will you focus
4. What location is of interest to you or your agency (e.g., a neighborhood, subdivision, or city ward, urban or suburban communities)?
5. What needs to happen? In other words, what do you propose as one solution to the problem?

II. Literature Review (10 pts)

In one statement, tell the reader what the literature suggests as appropriate action for addressing the problem (e.g., what can parents, schools, faith-based institutions, or non-profit organizations do)?

1. Cite at least 3 (no more than 5) social work journal articles to support you proposed group work intervention. Within the text, cite author's last name and publication year; see example (Baez, 2006). If citing multiple authors, see the following example (Baez, 2006; Harcourt & Brace, 2005; Tolson, Shea, Jones, Smith, & Miller, 2008). You might state with the following sentence: The literature on domestic-violence (DV) prevention suggests that men see DV as a woman's issue. When men begin to take ownership of issues related to DV, other men will become more responsive to DV-prevention and reduction efforts (Smith & Burr, 2005). Analyzing secondary survey data, Smith and Burr (2005) found that . . .
2. Briefly state in one sentence the alleged effectiveness of author A's intervention Do the same for each author whose work you use and conclude with the appropriate APA-style citations (Author, year) for each work cited.
3. For critical thinking. How likely are these group interventions to work with your own identified population? Explain "why" of "why not." (Are the demographics similar? If so, in what way? Describe similarities and differences.
4. **Provide a succinct connecting statement introducing Section III.**

III. Proposed Group Work Intervention (40 pts)

Your groups should be 8-weeks long with the duration of 45 to 90 minutes long per group. In this section, explain and substantiate each part of the proposed group formation.

1. Group Type
2. Group Purpose
3. Group Membership
4. Group Size
5. Group Boundaries (e.g., open- or closed-ended; start time and end time; duration—that is, how many days, weeks, months; male, female, or mixed group; other gender considerations; termination; & so on).
6. Norm Setting (e.g., rules and opportunities for the expression of group autonomy).
7. Summarize the group activities
8. What is the desired outcome for the proposed intervention?
9. The template for each group should be attached and is NOT a part of the 15 pages. The templates should provide the instruction for each activity and Describe all supplies needed for the proposed group work intervention, including space, paper, crayons, markers, pencils/pens, refreshments. How much or how many will you need?

IV. Proposed Group Work Outcome Evaluation (20 pts)

Inform the reader what to expect in this section.

1. Proposed evaluation methods. State empirical (i.e., quantitative) support for the selected method(s) based on your literature review, and cite the source for this support (Authors, year). Consider your research knowledge and how it can be used to evaluate your proposed group.
2. Proposed evaluation personnel (i.e. group facilitator, external evaluator, participants self-report). Who will administer the evaluation instrument (if any)? Who will objectively evaluate the group worker's progress notes? What are this person's credentials for conducting this type of evaluation?

V. Proposed Impact (20 pts)

This is where you tell the reader how awesome your proposed group work intervention is; that it is evidence-based and likely to make an important impact by (for example, reducing teenage pregnancy rates in Adams-Morgan; decreasing the rate of low-birth weight babies in DC; improving literacy among District high school graduates; decreasing the spread of HIV/AIDS among African American college women in DC; & so on). State the impact that the proposed intervention will have on the population that you identified as well as the neighbor, small group cohort, or city ward. Also discuss the implications for social work practice.

YOUR TITLE

Your Name

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

INTRODUCTION OF AND STATEMEN OF THE PROBLEM



EVIDENCE OF THE PROBLEM

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROBLEM TO SOCIAL WORK

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND **HYPOTHESIS**

If appropriate

METHODS

METHODOLOGY

- ✘ Research design
- ✘ Setting
- ✘ Participants/sample

METHODOLOGY CONTINUE

- × Measures
- × Data collection
- × Data Analysis Plan

RESULTS

DISCUSSION AND IMPLICATION FOR SCIAL WORK PRACTICE

WORKING TITLE OF STUDY



YOUR NAME AND TITLE

Statement Topic of the Study



- What is the topic of the study
- What is the problem(S) related to the topic
- Population you want to study and why

Evidence of the Problem



- What evidence exist that suggest this is a problem (use statistical data that provide evidence that your problem or issue exist)
- Why are you conducting the study- what do you hope to accomplish?
- What do you want to change?

Significance of the problem to social work



- Why should social workers study this issue/problem
 - Research reasons
 - Practice reasons
 - Policy reasons

Literature Review



- List a few studies relevant to your research/topic
- For Example
- Jones, 2020
- Alston, 2009
- Brown, 2014

Do not list their results, rather discuss them in your presentation

Research Questions



- Propose a few research questions you would like to answer
- What type of research design are you considering

Feedback



Ask for feedback from your peers/instructor about

- Topic
- Population
- Questions who may want to explore
- Research design

