

SOWK 322

Assignment #1 Guidelines

Critical Thinking and Reflection Paper: Relevance of the Social Work Profession to a Current Event or Social Problem

1. Pick a current event or social problem you are interested in, feel passionate about and want to explore further (i.e. children's rights, gun control, immigration reform, sexual violence on college campuses, paid maternity leave, education, etc.)
 - a. Describe the population and social justice issue
2. **Using critical thinking, describe why this issue is so important in our society today**
 - a. ANALYZE- break into parts, explain each part
 - b. SUPPORT: Back up the information, provide evidence
 - c. **Include at least one reference to a statistic or fact derived from research with a proper citation. If you are using an article in a magazine, newspaper, from an online resource- ATTACH IT!!**
3. Describe your interest in this area and/or population
4. Be reflective- what interests you and why? We are looking for self-awareness in this section. The more self-aware we are, the more objective we can be working with our clients. Make sure to include your opinion with at least 2 examples of evidence that backs up your opinion.
5. Make sure to include your opinion with at least 2 examples of evidence that backs up your opinion.
6. Describe how a social worker can assist with this social issue/population
7. Why choose a social worker to help address this issue?

Rubric: SOWK 322/ Critical Thinking and Reflection Paper #1

	Novice (1)	Emerging Competence (2)	Developing Competence (3)	Proficient (4)
Quality of Writing- 10%	Grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors are common; Language obscures meaning. APA format incorrect or missing.	Paper contains many grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors; Language sometimes lacks clarity; Inappropriate word choices. APA format attempted with several errors.	Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed with only some errors; Language is generally clear and appropriate. APA format correct with only minimal errors.	Rules of grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation are followed with nearly no errors; Language is clear and precise; sentences consistently strong. APA format is 100% correct.
Content-30%	Did not follow guidelines for assignment.	Followed guidelines partially- picked a social issue of interest but did not link the relevance of the issue to social work.	Followed guidelines- picked a current event/social issue, described the population and linked the relevance of the issue to social work but did not give examples to of evidence to back up opinion and did not properly cite.	Followed guidelines completely- Picked a current event/social problem of interest, described their interest; described the population and the social problem, described how a social worker can assist; explained why choose a social worker to address the issue, gave 2 examples of evidence to back up their opinion with proper citations
Critical Thinking Skills- 20%	Did not follow guidelines for assignment.	Followed guidelines partially- picked a social justice issue of interest but did not remain objective in description of issue	Followed guidelines- picked a current event/social issue, used critical thinking skills to describe the social justice issue objectively and its importance to the field of social work today but did not give examples of evidence to back up opinion and did not properly cite.	Followed guidelines completely- Picked a current event/social problem of interest, described their interest; described the population and the social problem, described how a social worker can assist; explained why choose a social worker to address the issue, gave 2 examples of evidence to back up their opinion with proper citations
Self- Reflection 30%	Little to no evidence of effort to self- examine or monitor practice	Beginning effort to self- examine, but lacks depth or is not consistent throughout paper.	Self- evaluation reflects an effort to look honestly at one's own practice	Criteria in "Competence met" but includes more than one area of self- discovery which are new elements of students' self- awareness.
Proper Citations- 10%	Incomplete; statistics and facts are not cited and no articles are attached to paper.	Statistics and facts are not cited but articles are attached to paper.	Statistics and facts are properly cited but articles are not attached.	Statistics and facts are cited and articles are attached.