

R & D of a self-awareness and interpersonal sensitivity training program for social work practice method lab: Development of Human service course introductory modules for Kobe city social welfare council citizens' welfare community college

ABSTRACT

As social work practice method classes are tuned toward the national social worker accreditation examination, the weight for teaching practice theories, and skill components has increased considerably. This has occurred, however, at the cost of sacrificing time for clarifying values with regard to the dignity of human beings, for sharpening interpersonal sensitivity, and for cultivating attitudes as a helping professional. The author has been involved in developing an experimental social work practice lab program since 1994, where there is no pressure to prepare for the national social worker accreditation examination. This paper describes the outline of the curriculum, its development process and related issues, its unique characteristics, some program feedback from the students and the issues of applying the current program to regular college level practice skill classes.

Key words: Self-awareness, experiential learning, social work practice Lab