

SOWK29002 *Working with Families, Groups and Communities*

Term 1 - 2026

Profile information current as at 28/03/2026 01:20 am

All details in this unit profile for SOWK29002 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

In this unit, you will develop an understanding of social work knowledge and practice, focusing on group work, family work and community practice. Using case study role plays and living labs, you will critically analyse and apply various social work theories and methods, integrating professional values and ethics to develop skills for working with families, groups and communities. From a critical perspective, you will evaluate and reflect on biases and assumptions inherent within these theories, methods and your practice and assess how they perpetuate and challenge social injustices. You will enhance your cross-cultural practice and explore culturally sensitive and ethical responses to challenges experienced by culturally and racially marginalised families, groups and communities. Guided by the AASW Code of Ethics (2020), this unit will equip you with skills for cultural humility, recognising different ways of knowing, being and doing that is responsive to the needs of all families, groups and communities.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 9*

Credit Points: *6*

Student Contribution Band: *10*

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.125*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Pre-requisites: SOWK29001 Ethical and Legal Issues in Practice SOWK28005 Social Work Field Education 1

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2026

- Sydney

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Postgraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

Regional Campuses

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

Metropolitan Campuses

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. Written Assessment

Weighting: 30%

2. Practical Assessment

Weighting: 30%

3. Project (applied)

Weighting: 40%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Engage with case study role plays and living labs to critically analyse and apply various theories, methods, professional values and ethics, while developing skills for working with families, groups, and communities.
2. Critically evaluate the biases and assumptions inherent in theories, methods and your practice and assess their contribution to achieving social justice for families, groups and communities.
3. Integrate knowledge of social work theories, ethics and values, and skills with cross-cultural practices to foster culturally responsive practices with families, groups and communities.
4. Engage in critical reflective practice to ensure that social work practice is ethical, equitable, and responsive to the needs of families, groups and communities.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

— N/A Level
  Introductory Level
  Intermediate Level
  Graduate Level
  Professional Level
  Advanced Level

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Written Assessment - 30%		•	•	
2 - Practical Assessment - 30%	•	•	•	•
3 - Project (applied) - 40%	•	•	•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Knowledge	◦	◦	◦	
2 - Communication	◦			
3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills	◦			◦
4 - Research		◦	◦	
5 - Self-management		◦		◦
6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility	◦	◦	◦	◦
7 - Leadership				
8 - First Nations Knowledges				
9 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures			◦	

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Academic Learning Centre services
- Laptop/Computer
- PowerPoint or canva

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Michelle Parker Unit Coordinator
m.g.parker@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 09 Mar 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to working with families	Review the Moodle site and click on all the links. Find out what is in Student Support? Find out how to find the Library? Click on the link and learn what is in the Academic Learning Centre. Readings and activities as outlined in module.	Recorded presentations: Welcome and Unit Introduction. Readings: Complete readings before attending tutorial on campus. Assessments: Review the assessment tasks and make a study plan. Foundations of Academic Integrity Program: Complete your annual program. Announcements and Discussion Forums: Check for posts and updates

Week 2 - 16 Mar 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Theories & relational work	Readings and activities as outlined in module.	Assessment 1 - Start your literature searching and preparing assessment. Announcement and Discussion Forums - Check for posts and updates. Student email - Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Week 3 - 23 Mar 2026

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Census Date is next week. If you are struggling, please contact your Unit Coordinator for help.
 Assessment 1 – Read the literature to identify the credibility of the evidence and continue preparing your assessment. You might wish to seek assessment preparation help from the Academic Learning Centre and/or Studiosity.
 Announcement and Discussion Forums – Check for posts and updates.
 Student email – Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Developing relationships

Readings and activities as outlined in module.

Week 4 - 30 Mar 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Facilitating family meetings

Readings and activities as outlined in module.

Assessment 1 Due Wednesday 2nd April @ 4pm
 Census Date – Tuesday Week 4
 Announcement and Discussion Forums – Check for posts and updates.
 Student email – Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Written Assessment – Critical Reflection Due: Week 4 Wednesday (1 Apr 2026) 4:00 pm AEST

Week 5 - 06 Apr 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Introduction to Working with groups

Readings and activities as outlined in module.

Assessment 2 – Read the literature to identify the credibility of the evidence and continue preparing your assessment. Groups will be assigned during tutorial.
 Announcement and Discussion Forums – Check for posts and updates.
 Student email – Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Week 6 - 13 Apr 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Group work processes

Readings and activities as outlined in module.

Assessment 2 – Read the literature to identify the credibility of the evidence and continue preparing your assessment in groups.
 Announcement and Discussion Forums – Check for posts and updates.
 Student email – Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Vacation Week - 20 Apr 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Please use this mid-term break as an opportunity to rest and recover. Enjoy your break!

No timetabled learning activities. Please use this week to progress your assessments.

Week 7 - 27 Apr 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment 2 - Read the literature to identify the credibility of the evidence and continue preparing your assessment in your group. Individually, prepare your facilitated activity.
 Announcement and Discussion Forums - Check for posts and updates.
 Student email - Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Planning and preparation for group work

Readings and activities as outlined in module.

Week 8 - 04 May 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Facilitating Groups

Readings and activities as outlined in module.

Assessment 2 - Continue preparing your assessment. Practice facilitating your activity.
 Announcement and Discussion Forums - Check for posts and updates.
 Student email - Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Week 9 - 11 May 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment 2
 In class presentations

Readings and activities as outlined in module.

Assessment 2 Program Submission and Session Plan due Wednesday 13th May at 4 pm
 Facilitation of session activity in class on Thursday, 14th May
 Announcement and Discussion Forums - Check for posts and updates.
 Student email - Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Practical Assessment - Group work skills Due: Week 9 Wednesday (13 May 2026) 4:00 pm AEST

Week 10 - 18 May 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Social Work with Communities - Community development models to create change

Readings and activities as outlined in module.

Assessment 3 - Read the literature to identify the credibility of the evidence and continue preparing your assessment.
 Announcement and Discussion Forums - Check for posts and updates.
 Student email - Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications.

Week 11 - 25 May 2026

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Emancipatory community work	Readings and activities as outlined in module.	Assessment 3 Develop a plan with your community group Announcement and Discussion Forums – Check for posts and updates. Student email – Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications. Student Unit and Teaching Evaluation survey – We encourage you to provide feedback about your unit and teaching experiences in this unit. The survey opens Week 11 and closes one week before release of grades.
Week 12 - 01 Jun 2026 Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic Assessment 3 - Revise the plan with feedback from your community group Announcement and Discussion Forums – Check for posts and updates. Student email – Check your student email at least twice per week for important communications. Student Unit and Teaching Evaluation survey – Please complete the unit evaluation survey. Congratulations on completing this unit. Don't forget to check your unit enrolments for next term.
Navigating conflict and opportunities within communities	Readings and activities as outlined in module.	Events and Submissions/Topic Assessment 3 Due Wednesday 10th June at 4 pm Project Plan and Reflection – Engaging with communities Due: Exam Week Wednesday (10 June 2026) 4:00 pm AEST
Exam Week - 08 Jun 2026 Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic Assessment 3 Due Wednesday 10th June at 4 pm Project Plan and Reflection – Engaging with communities Due: Exam Week Wednesday (10 June 2026) 4:00 pm AEST
Vacation/Exam Week - 15 Jun 2026 Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Term Specific Information

As this unit is offered face-to-face, students will be required to do preparatory work including readings prior to attending tutorials on campus. Students are asked to prepare their own individual study plan to undertake self-led and self-directed study throughout the term.

A key to your success is a strategic self-directed approach to learning and regular contact with your Unit Coordinator/s. Please check the Announcements and Discussion forums at least twice a week – there will be regular announcements about assessments and unit resources throughout the term and reviewing this information is essential to unit knowledge and your success. CQUniversity communicates with students through CQUniversity email. We recommend that you access your CQUniversity email at least twice a week so that you do not miss vital information about your studies. During the term students will be working alongside community groups to practice skills learnt throughout the unit.

Assessment Tasks

1 Written Assessment – Critical Reflection

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

You will demonstrate your ability to critically analyse social work theories, methods and perspectives when working with families. You will critically reflect on the alignment of your own perspectives on working with families with social work values and ethics. You will identify ways your cultural perspectives about family relationships may influence your practice and cultural responsiveness.

Instructions

Please refer to the assessment task instructions on the unit Moodle site.

Academic Integrity

You must abide by the principles of academic integrity (see Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure).

Completion of this assessment with another party or sharing of responses is not permitted at any time.

The use of any generative artificial intelligence is not permitted as per Level 1 (No AI) in the AI Assessment scale tool indicators.

Extensions

Available as per policy

The 72-hour grace period may apply to this assessment

Minimum Pass Criteria

You must achieve a cumulative grade of at least 49.5% across all assessments to pass this unit.

In the event you are eligible for a supplementary assessment, all assessment tasks must be reasonably attempted in this unit.

Assessment Due Date

Week 4 Wednesday (1 Apr 2026) 4:00 pm AEST

Submit via Moodle

Return Date to Students

Vacation Week Wednesday (22 Apr 2026)

Results will be available on Moodle

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

Assessment Criteria will be available on Moodle

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit your assessment via the unit Moodle site in Microsoft Word format only.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Critically evaluate the biases and assumptions inherent in theories, methods and your practice and assess their contribution to achieving social justice for families, groups and communities.
- Integrate knowledge of social work theories, ethics and values, and skills with cross-cultural practices to foster culturally responsive practices with families, groups and communities.

2 Practical Assessment – Group work skills

Assessment Type

Practical Assessment

Task Description

You will demonstrate your ability to develop a group work program and facilitate group work processes and apply skills.

Instructions

Please refer to the assessment task instructions on the unit Moodle site.

Academic Integrity

You must abide by the principles of academic integrity (see Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure).

Completion of this assessment with another party or sharing of responses is not permitted at any time.

The use of any generative artificial intelligence is not permitted as per Level 1 (No AI) in the AI Assessment scale tool

indicators.

Extensions: Not available as per policy

The 72-hour grace period does not apply to this assessment

Minimum Pass Criteria

You must achieve a cumulative grade of at least 49.5% across all assessments to pass this unit.

In the event you are eligible for a supplementary assessment, all assessment tasks must be reasonably attempted in this unit.

Assessment Due Date

Week 9 Wednesday (13 May 2026) 4:00 pm AEST

Group Program and Session plan to be submitted via Moodle on the above date. Group work activity will be facilitated in class on Thursday 14th May 2026. A reflection is to be posted on the discussion board by the following Wednesday 20th May at 4pm

Return Date to Students

Week 12 Wednesday (3 June 2026)

Results will be available on Moodle

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

Assessment criteria will be available on the Moodle site

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit your written assessment via the unit Moodle site in Microsoft Word format only. Facilitate your activity in class in Week 9.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Engage with case study role plays and living labs to critically analyse and apply various theories, methods, professional values and ethics, while developing skills for working with families, groups, and communities.
- Critically evaluate the biases and assumptions inherent in theories, methods and your practice and assess their contribution to achieving social justice for families, groups and communities.
- Integrate knowledge of social work theories, ethics and values, and skills with cross-cultural practices to foster culturally responsive practices with families, groups and communities.
- Engage in critical reflective practice to ensure that social work practice is ethical, equitable, and responsive to the needs of families, groups and communities.

3 Project Plan and Reflection – Engaging with communities

Assessment Type

Project (applied)

Task Description

You will demonstrate your ability to engage with community members as a part of a living lab, where you will support an organisation or community group to undertake work with communities. You will develop relationships with members of the organisation/group and undertake tasks as agreed in line with the learning outcomes of this unit.

Instructions

Please refer to the assessment task instructions on the unit Moodle site.

Academic Integrity

You must abide by the principles of academic integrity (see Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure).

Completion of this assessment with another party or sharing of responses is not permitted at any time.

The use of any generative artificial intelligence is not permitted as per Level 1 (No AI) in the AI Assessment scale tool indicators.

Extensions

Extensions are not available as per the policy.

The 72-hour grace period does not apply to this assessment

Minimum Pass Criteria

You must achieve a cumulative grade of at least 49.5% across all assessments to pass this unit.
In the event you are eligible for a supplementary assessment, all assessment tasks must be reasonably attempted in this unit.

Assessment Due Date

Exam Week Wednesday (10 June 2026) 4:00 pm AEST

Submit Part A - Group Plan and Part B - Individual Reflection in separate Word documents via the unit Moodle site in Microsoft Word format only.

Return Date to Students

Results for this assessment will be made available on 1st July 2026

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

Refer to the marking rubric on the Moodle site for more detail on how marks will be assigned.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit your written assessment via the unit Moodle site in Microsoft Word format only.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Engage with case study role plays and living labs to critically analyse and apply various theories, methods, professional values and ethics, while developing skills for working with families, groups, and communities.
- Critically evaluate the biases and assumptions inherent in theories, methods and your practice and assess their contribution to achieving social justice for families, groups and communities.
- Integrate knowledge of social work theories, ethics and values, and skills with cross-cultural practices to foster culturally responsive practices with families, groups and communities.
- Engage in critical reflective practice to ensure that social work practice is ethical, equitable, and responsive to the needs of families, groups and communities.

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem