#

# Theory Application Paper Assignment

*This assignment can be used to measure student attainment of the following PC/PD Competency:*

*EPAS 2.1.1 – Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly:*

* *Describe the philosophy and service model of person-centeredness in the context of social work as well as the roles and responsibilities of social workers, consumers, and agencies****.***

# Pick an issue in which you’re interested. Based on what you know about the issue, apply a theoretical perspective to the issue that you think explains the dynamics of it. Include the following in your discussion:

1. How does the theory “explain” the issue (e.g., what “causes” the problem from a generalist perspective, how are people affected by it)? (25 points)
2. How would you intervene with a consumer who presented with problems related to the issue? What would the roles be of the social worker, consumer, and agency using the theory? How does that compare to person-centered, participant-directed approaches? (25 points)
3. Summarize whether or not the literature supports your ideas. What theoretical perspectives are presented in the literature related to this issue? What theories do others use to “explain” and to intervene with the issue? (25 points)
4. Briefly discuss the strengths/weaknesses to both your perspective and that presented by the literature. Include a discussion on how these perspectives align (or don’t) with strengths/person-centered, participants-directed philosophies. (25 points)

This paper does not need to be an extensive analysis of the theory. Rather, conduct enough research to get a “feel” for what others are saying and summarize your findings. Make sure to include your bibliography. Please try to keep the paper no longer than 8 pages. This paper allows students to develop critical thinking skills as well as skills related to the evaluation and application of research to generalist practice.