

Empowerment Series: Introduction to Social Work & Social Welfare: Critical Thinking Perspectives

By Karen K. Kirst-Ashman

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Designed to give you a solid introduction to the profession of social work, INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL WELFARE, 5th Edition helps you understand the issues that social workers address every day. Using a clear and engaging writing style, author Karen K. Kirst-Ashman presents a balanced overview within a unifying theme of critical thinking that will train you to use evaluative skills in your coursework and beyond. In addition, you'll study more efficiently and effectively with accompanying digital resources that provide you with opportunities to complete self-assessments as well as pre- and post-tests for each chapter. Thoughtful case studies throughout the text help to prepare you for your career by showing you what social work practice looks like in different contexts and with different populations.

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Review
"I love the critical thinking sections -- they may be my favorite way the text attempts to engage the students in the practice of examining their own values and biases so that they can accurately develop their all-important personal values statement."

"The learning objectives for each chapter are concise and fulfilled throughout. Lastly, I utilize the Critical Thinking and Highlight sections as exercises and references for my students."

About the Author
Karen K. Kirst-Ashman is Professor Emerita and former chairperson in the Social Work Department at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, where she taught for 28 years. She has written six social work textbooks in multiple editions and numerous publications, articles, and reviews on social work and women's issues. She also has served on the Editorial Board of AFFILIA: Journal of Women and Social Work, and as a consulting editor for many social work journals including the Journal of Social Work Education. Dr. Kirst-Ashman has been a member on the Board of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and has served as a CSWE accreditation site visitor on various occasions. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the state of Wisconsin. She has been the recipient of both the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Roseman Award for Excellence in Teaching and the University Outstanding Teaching Award. She earned her BSW degree and MSSW degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her Ph.D. in social work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has worked as a practitioner and administrator in child welfare and mental health agencies.

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