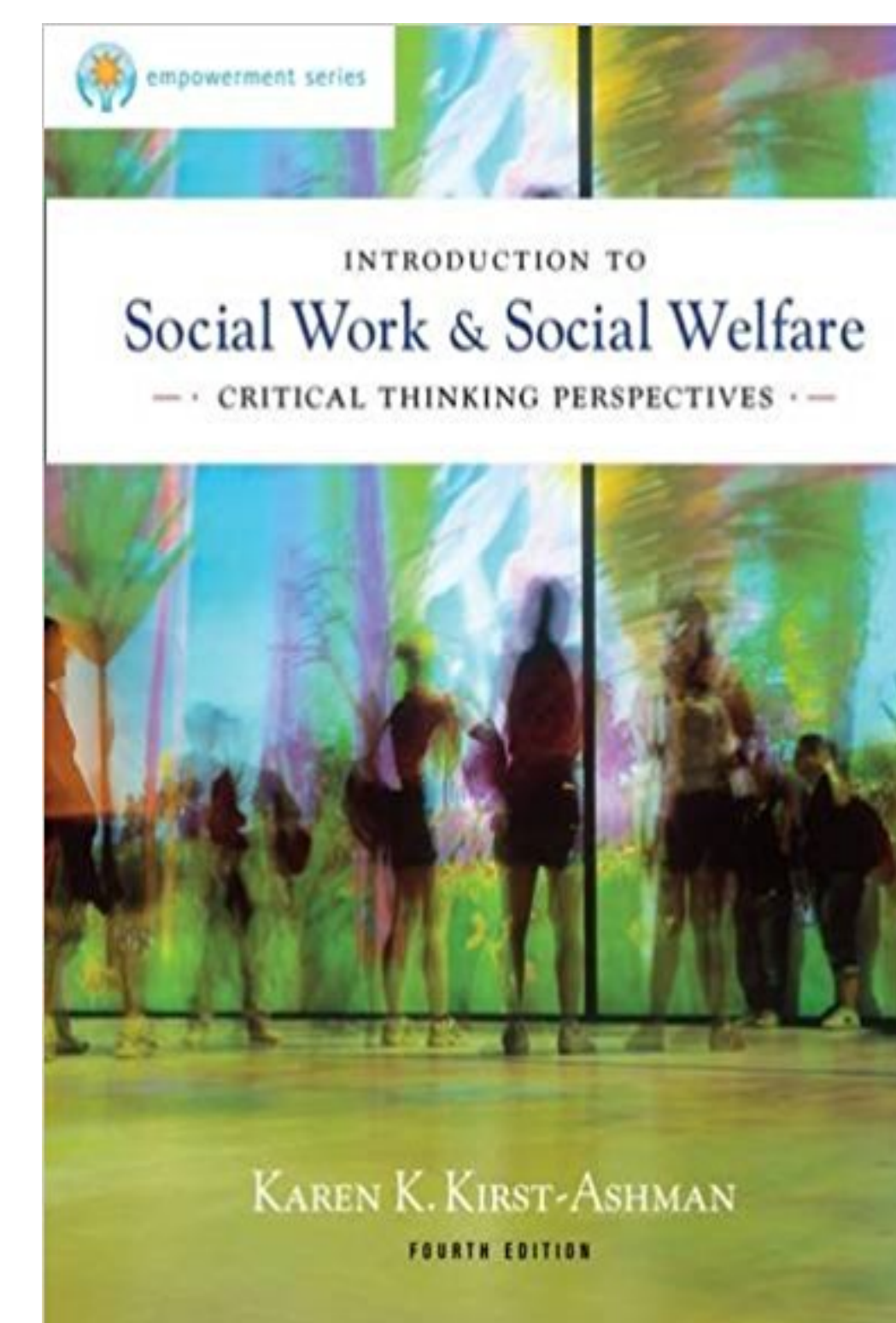


Objective: Create an Open Source Introduction to Social Work Textbook
Project: 16 MSW students will each write a chapter of a textbook as their
Capstone project to be used for SCWK 110 at Ferris State University

Background/ Rationale

- The price of both college tuition and college textbooks has risen greatly in recent years
- Students cannot learn from textbooks if they cannot afford to purchase them. It is reported that students do not often purchase this textbook.
- Creating a free resource fits in with social work principles of social justice and equity



Potential Issues

- How will we ensure that there is a similar tone and voice throughout the textbook?
- How do we include additional material that will not quickly become obsolete, such as websites and videos?
- Is one semester enough time to write a chapter of a book for a student population?

Methods

- Social Work MSW students are required to complete a major project that will contribute to social work knowledge as their final project.
- 16 students were selected to work on this project.
- Current professors of this course were interviewed to determine what they would like in the textbook and how to best format it to fit their needs.
- With mentorship, each student will write a chapter of the text during the Summer 2017 semester.

Next Steps

- The textbook will be reviewed by SCWK 110 professors
- It is hoped that this text will be adopted in place of the current textbook for Fall 2017 or Spring 2018.
- Students in SCWK 110 or who have previously taken SCWK 110 will be given a survey to determine if the use of the Open Source textbook was utilized more than the current textbook.
- If successful, MSW capstone students in future years will develop Open Source textbooks for additional lower level BSW courses.

