

Reviewer-1

I believe the topic of this article holds considerable significance for the social work sector, especially given that anti-oppression practice lies at the heart of social work values. To strengthen

In the section on “Intervention Skills,” I strongly recommend expanding the discussion by delineating micro-, mezzo-, and macro-level interventions. This would provide a clearer framework for understanding the scope and depth of social work practice in relation to LGBTQ+ populations.

its relevance, the author could consider including a brief overview of statistics highlighting the population size of the LGBTQ+ community within the broader society. Additionally, presenting service utilization data related to this group in social service settings would further emphasize the importance of this paper in advancing social work education and inclusive practice.

I recommend that the author clearly indicate that this study is situated within the context of American culture to minimize potential confusion. For instance, the reviewer’s home country exhibits practices that differ significantly from those prevalent in the United States. To better reflect this cultural specificity, the author might consider revising the title to: “Revisiting Diversity Course Pedagogy Through an Analysis of BSW Students’ Understanding of LGBTQIA+ American Populations.”

It would also be beneficial for the author to specify that the study focuses on rural populations within the United States. This clarification would help readers contextualize the findings, particularly for those whose social work environments differ significantly from the American rural setting. Such geographic framing would further strengthen the paper’s relevance and help avoid misinterpretation across diverse cultural or national perspectives.

The author presents a well-developed background on diversity education for social work students in the literature review. However, I suggest shortening the “Guidelines” section to allocate more space for a deeper analysis in the “Results” section, which is currently under-elaborated. The explanation of research methods is particularly clear and well-articulated.

To enhance the results discussion, the category titled “Knowledge of History” might be more accurately reframed as “Knowledge of Legitimation” or “Understanding of LGBTQ+ Rights,” given the focus of the content. Additionally, the paragraph addressing “Knowledge of Social Issues” lacks clarity and appears to conflate multiple concepts. A more structured approach could explore three distinct dimensions: (1) the forms of oppression encountered by the LGBTQ+ community, (2) the distinct social characteristics and lived experiences of these populations, and (3) their strategies of resilience and resistance within oppressive social contexts.

Regarding the “Discussion and Recommendations,” the Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs) of the diversity course should be more explicitly defined. Based on the course introduction referenced on p.5, it appears that the curriculum encompasses multiple marginalized groups, including individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds, older adults, and persons with disabilities. Given this broad scope, it may be unrealistic to expect the course to fully develop both knowledge and practical skills pertaining to each group. In the context of LGBTQ+ topics, the course may be more appropriately framed as enhancing students’ awareness and understanding, rather than training them in concrete intervention strategies.

I appreciate the author's emphasis on developing students’ intervention skills. However, I believe such skills are difficult to cultivate without direct engagement with the target population. Therefore, incorporating experiential components—such as a “human library” initiative or other forms of immersive learning—could substantially enrich the course design and improve educational outcomes.

The use of multiple terms such as “LGBTQ,” “LGBTQ+,” and “LGBTQIA+” throughout the paper may lead to confusion. It is recommended that the author adopt a consistent and contextually appropriate term to ensure clarity and cohesion.