Assignment Description: Implications Write-Up

The purpose of the implications write-up is for students to demonstrate their ability to use research to inform social work policy and practice. In alignment with CSWE Competency 4, social workers must be able to articulate and share research findings in ways that are usable to a variety of clients and constituencies. An effective social worker understands how research can be used to improve service delivery and advocate for social justice. This assignment requires you to think critically about how your proposed study could:

- Inform Practice: Help social workers make ethical, evidence-based decisions in their day-to-day work with clients.
- Shape Policy: Provide the evidence needed to support, challenge, or create social policies and programs.
- Promote Equity: Use anti-racist and anti-oppressive perspectives to interpret how research findings might affect diverse populations.

Description of Task:

You will write a 0.5–1 page (single-spaced) paper describing the potential implications of the study you have designed this semester. Since the study is hypothetical, you will discuss the intended impact—what you hope the results would achieve if the study were completed.

Your write-up must address the following three areas:

1. Practice Implications: Describe how the findings would inform direct practice decisions and how the study fits within current social work interventions or theoretical frameworks. Include at least **two (2) citations** from peer-reviewed literature to support your claims. Draw on information about current social work practice, theory, or interventions to explain how your study fits within and contributes to the existing body of knowledge.
2. Policy and Program Implications: Explain how findings could be used to advocate for policy change or improve program effectiveness. Support your argument with at least **two (2) citations** on existing policies or program models that your research aims to influence.
3. Ethical and Anti-Oppressive Approach: Describe how your practice and policy implications are informed by an anti-oppressive and anti-racist perspective. Take care to tailor implications for specific populations and avoid reinforcing harmful stereotypes in your framing of the results. Support your claims with at least **one (1) citation** on anti-oppressive or anti-racist approaches in social work research, policy, or practice.

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent (100%)	Good (85%)	Fair (75%)	Possible Points
Practice Impact & Literature Integration	Clearly articulates how the study informs practice. Specifically explains how the study fits with current social work practice or theory.	Describes practice implications, but the connection to current social work context is general or lacks detail.	Briefly mentions practice but fails to connect the study to existing social work literature or theory.	3
Policy Impact	Provides a strong rationale for how findings could advocate for policy change or improve programs. Identifies clear ways to make findings usable for systemic change.	Mentions policy or programs but lacks a specific explanation of how the data would lead to actual change or reach populations.	Identifies a policy or program but does not explain how the study findings would actually impact or improve them	3
Anti-Oppressive Approach	Implications are deeply informed by an anti-racist/anti-oppressive lens. Findings are tailored to specific populations and framing carefully avoids harmful stereotypes	Mentions anti-oppressive goals, but the tailoring for specific populations is vague. Framing is neutral but doesn't actively challenge stereotypes.	Implications are broad and "one-size-fits-all." Framing may inadvertently rely on or fail to address common stereotypes	2
Citations	Includes 5 or more relevant peer-reviewed citations. Citations are accurately used and follow APA 7th edition format.	Includes 3–4 peer-reviewed citations, or 5+ citations that contain minor APA formatting errors or citations that are not highly relevant.	Includes citations, but they are not from peer-reviewed sources, there are fewer than 3, or they are not relevant to the study.	2
				10