

A Comparative Analysis of Social Work in Vietnam and the United States

Learning Objective:

1. Understand the development of the social work profession in Vietnam;
2. Discuss how political ideology, culture, and traditions shape the development of social work;
3. Compare and contrast the similarities and differences between social work in Vietnam and the United States.

Abstract: The social work profession in Vietnam is still in the emerging stage compared with that of the United States and many other Western countries. The development of the social work profession has experienced upheavals together with the country's history, which has influences from political ideology, culture, and traditions. This presentation aims to discuss the development of the social work profession in Vietnam as well as important factors and challenges influencing the development of the social work profession. It also compares and contrasts the similarities and differences in social work between Vietnam and the United States.

Presenter: Ngoc Nguyen, Ph.D., University of Southern Indiana

Bio: Dr. Nguyen is presently an Assistant Professor of Social Work at the University of Southern Indiana (USI). He holds a Ph.D. degree in Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master's degree in Social Work from Boston College. Dr. Nguyen has many years of experience working with international non-profit organizations and in-need populations in Vietnam and the United States. He also has many years of teaching experience at various universities in Vietnam. His research areas of interest include religion and human behaviors, youth addiction, school violence, mental health problems, and international social work.