



Concentration Instructions

Concentrations are additional focused learning opportunities that begin in the advanced year of coursework. Concentration opportunities are in addition to the student's chosen specialization and have no impact on degree completion. Each concentration has a plan tailored to the specific concentration. Concentration options include Organizational Leadership, Trauma-Informed Practice, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Students are responsible for reviewing the concentration plans and notifying the MSW Program administration of the desire to complete the concentration within the first two weeks of the start of advanced year coursework.

The MSW Program Administration will email all advanced-year students the first week of each term/semester requesting they declare a concentration if they choose. Students will create a box folder with their last name, first name, and title of their desired concentration. Students will upload all relevant documentation to the box folder and submit it to the Capstone faculty during the Capstone Seminar course, which will occur in the last term/semester of the MSW program. Each concentration has a connection to the final Capstone Project; therefore, Students will include the final slide deck for the Capstone presentation in the Box folder. Program administrators will verify grade benchmarks and mentorship completion. Capstone Faculty will review all the remaining pieces of each concentration via the box folder and verify with program administrators that students completed the remaining parts of the concentration.

Failure to complete the concentration will not impact the student's graduation eligibility. If students complete their concentration, they will be given the chosen concentration designation on their final transcript, along with their chosen specialization. The degree conferred will continue only to have the designation "Master of Social Work." Please review all concentration plans carefully and refer to the email sent at the beginning of the semester or term for concentration questions. Students cannot declare concentrations retroactively. Detailed concentration plans can be found below.

Concentration Steps:

1. Students receive concentration options and instructions at the beginning of their advanced year coursework from MSW program administration.
2. Students decide within one week if they would like to pursue a Concentration option and notify the MSW program administration via the instructions provided via email.



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3. Students who choose to pursue a concentration create a Box Folder with their name (last name, first name) and chosen concentration option.
4. Students upload all relevant documents per their chosen concentration plan (please see instructions below) throughout their advanced coursework.
5. At the start of the Capstone Seminar, students inform their Capstone faculty that they are pursuing a concentration.
6. Students must turn in their completed Box folder to their Capstone faculty on the day of the Colloquium presentation.
7. MSW program administration will verify all grade benchmarks and mentorship completion.
8. Capstone faculty will review the Box folders and the concentration plans and inform the MSW program Administration if the student successfully completed all components (outside of grade benchmarks & mentorship verification).
9. MSW program administration will email the students to inform them if they have successfully completed the concentration.
10. Students who successfully complete all components of their chosen concentration are given their chosen concentration designation on their final transcript.

*Students who do not notify program administration of their intention to complete a concentration at the beginning of their advanced year and those who do not complete their Box folder with all concentration components in the given time frame will be ineligible to receive the concentration designation. Students are responsible for reviewing all concentration options and completing all requirements. Please reach out to MSW program administration with any questions.



Organizational Leadership Concentration

Students who wish to pursue a concentration in organizational leadership are interested in leading and developing organizations, particularly those focused on the not-for-profit and social service sectors. They are committed to creating healthy and thriving organizations emphasizing DEIB and anti-oppressive leadership practices. Students can further focus and develop their learning and practice in leadership and management.

Concentration Requirements for the Community Practice Specialization:

- Community Social Work Practice I (SWO 5375)
- Community Social Work Practice II (SWO 5378)
- Organizational Leadership & Management (SWO 5323)
- Program Evaluation Course (SWO 5384)
- Students must connect the Capstone Project to Organizational Leadership
- One term of faculty mentorship focusing on Organizational Leadership
- B or better in all courses tied to the concentration (SWO 5375, SWO 5378, SWO 5323, SWO 5384 & SWO 5395)

Concentration Requirements for the Clinical Practice Specialization:

- Organizational Leadership & Management (SWO 5323)
- Program Evaluation (SWO 5384) as elective credit, in addition to the required Clinical Evaluation Course
- 3 Hours of CE credit related to supervision, leadership, DEIB, grant writing, budgeting, advocacy, board governance, fund development, HR issues, marketing, or technology. Students may receive credit from any of the following options:
 - Dyer Ethics Workshop (all 3 hours)- hosted by the GSSW every Fall semester/Term. You must receive attendance verification from Krista Barrett to upload in your Box folder.
 - Attend 3 hours of any of the following CEU opportunities through NASW (please note, most of these options have a small fee associated, but many have a student option you may choose for a reduced cost). Upon completing these courses, students will receive a CEU or completion certificate, which should be uploaded to the Concentration Box Folder.
 - [Bullying in the Workplace](#) (1 CEU)
 - [Emotional and Cultural Intelligence and Why it Matters in the Workplace](#) (2 CEUs)



- [Faculty–Student Ethics Roundtable](#) (1.5 CEU)
- [Financial Self-Care for Personal and Professional Use](#) (1 CEU)
- [Minimalist Leadership for Social Workers: Four Practices to Double Your Team's Performance Without Doubling Your Effort](#) (1 CEU)

- [Boundaries to Prevent Burnout](#) (2 CEUs)

- [Grant Writing Fundamentals](#) (1 CEU)
- [Workplace Psychological Health & Safety: A Holistic Approach to Adult Bullying and Harassment](#) (1.5 CEUs)
- [Workplace Inequality & Effective Ways to Cultivate Equity & Inclusion](#) (1 CEU)
- [Organizational Empathy: Enhancing Social Worker's Professional Influence and Power](#) (1 CEU)
- [Words with Friends: The Nexus Between Grant Writing and Social Work](#) (1.5 CEUs)
- [Trauma-Informed Leadership: Shift that Culture!](#) (2.5 CEUs)
- [Building Sustainability to Make the Mission- Strategic Planning for Nonprofits](#) (3 CEUs)
- [How Social Workers Can Create a Queer Friendly Nonprofit](#) (1 CEU)
- [Managing Organizations in 2021 and Beyond](#) (1 CEU)
- [Politics for Social Workers](#) (2 CEUs)
- Attend any three webinars through the Nonprofit Learning Lab and write one paragraph about each seminar, including the date, time, and title of the seminar attended
 - [Nonprofit Learning Lab: Free Live Webinars](#)
- Students must connect the Capstone Project to Organizational Leadership
- One term of faculty mentorship focusing on Organizational Leadership
- B or better in all courses tied to the concentration (SWO 5323, SWO 5384, SWO 5395)



Trauma Informed Practice Concentration

The Trauma Informed Practice Concentration develops a student's knowledge base more comprehensively in trauma-informed social work practice. The concentration will focus on crisis response, trauma, and recovery in social work practice with implementation considerations at micro, mezzo, and macro levels.

Concentration Requirements for the Clinical Specialization:

- Clinical Social Work Practice I (SWO 5370)
- Clinical Social Work Practice II (SWO 5380)
- Health Practice & Policy (SWO 5376)
- May substitute another elective as approved by the Online or MSW Program Director
- Social Work Practice & Advocacy with Children & Families (SWO 5377)
- May substitute another elective as approved by the Online or MSW Program Director
- One term of faculty mentorship focusing on trauma-informed practice
- Students must connect the Capstone Project to trauma-informed practice
- B or better in all courses tied to the concentration (SWO 5370, SWO 5380, SWO 5376, SWO 5377 & SWO 5395)

Concentration Requirements for the Community Specialization:

- Asset Map Project in SWO 5375 & SWO 5378 must connect to trauma-informed practice. If this is not possible, students may work with faculty and MSW program administrators to develop another assignment that considers the macro implications of trauma and social work practice considerations.
- Health Practice & Policy (SWO 5376)
- May substitute another elective as approved by the Online or MSW Program Director
- Social Work Practice & Advocacy with Children & Families (SWO 5377)
- May substitute another elective as approved by the Online or MSW Program Director
- Complete the following training: <https://tfcbt2.musc.edu/>. Please note there is a \$35 fee associated with the training.
- One term of faculty mentorship focusing on trauma-informed practice
- Students must connect the Capstone Project to trauma-informed practice
- B or better in all courses connected to the concentration (SWO 5375, SWO 5378, SWO 5376, SWO 5377 & SWO 5395)



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Concentration

The Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Concentration allows students to focus on content and activities that increase intersectional social awareness and promote anti-oppressive practices. Students should complete the selected assignments below with an emphasis on diversity-informed and anti-oppressive social work practices.

Concentration Requirements for the Clinical or Community Specialization:

- Human Diversity & Social Justice (SWO 5320) or Diversity & Leadership (SWO 2320)
- Conduct Diversity/Inclusion Training and/or group (online, lunch & learn, staff meeting, etc.), and submit an outline, PowerPoint, and material produced in the Box folder. Training should occur in the context of your practicum placement in your advanced year; if it is outside of your practicum placement, you will need to discuss your plan with the Online or MSW Program Director.
- Complete one term of faculty mentorship with a focus on DEI
- One assignment in Health Policy and Practice (SWO 5376), Social Work Practice and Advocacy with Children and Families (SWO 5377), or Organizational Leadership and Management (SWO 5323) that evaluates or promotes best practice with a historically marginalized or oppressed identity. Students will upload the assignment to the Box folder and submit it to Capstone Faculty.
- Must complete 2 of the following:
 - All 4 Courses in Improving Cultural Competency for Behavioral Health Professionals by the Department of Health & Human Services are found here: <https://thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/behavioral-health/>. These free training courses will provide free documentation upon completion.
 - The Dyer Ethics Workshop (all 3 hours) is hosted by the GSSW each fall semester/term.
 - Any 3 hours of the following training options:
 - *Please note that some of these training courses do have fees associated with them. A few of the courses have reduced costs for students or are free if you do not register for the CEU component. You do not need to register for the CEU component, but you will need to provide the certificate of completion:
 - ["Let's Keep It Real": Addressing Expressions of Racism and Racial Prejudice in the Context of Social Work Practice](#) (1CEU)
 - [Affirming Social Work Practice for LGBTQ+ Youth and Families](#) (1 CEU)
 - [Ageism Intersection with Gender and Race and Access to Healthcare Disparities](#) (1 CEU)



- [Serving the Needs of the LGBTQ Community Over the Lifespan](#) (1 CEU)
- [Asian Pacific Islander America in Crisis: Forgotten Histories and Violent Otherings](#) (1 CEU)
- [Cultural Differences in Suicide Prevention, Assessment, and Response](#) (3 CEUs)
- [Culturally Competent Practice: Delivering an Indigenous Peoples Scope for Health & Wellbeing](#) (1 CEU)
- [Guess Who's Come to the Playroom: An Examination of Clinical Response to Race, Culture, and Intersectionality in the Playroom](#) (3 CEUs)
- [Promoting Culturally Competent Gerontological Practice](#) (1.5 CEUs)
- [See My Color: Why Racial Colorblindness is Unethical](#) (3 CEUs)
- [Shame, Stereotypes and Stigma: Barriers for Clients Contending with Poverty](#) (2 CEUs)
- [Supporting the Mental Health of DACA Recipients](#) (2 CEUs)
- [Cultural Competence: A Tool for Addressing Racism](#) (1.5 CEUs)
- [Understanding Evaluation Assessments for Gender Affirming Treatments](#) (1 CEU)
- [Working with Interpreters](#) (1.5 CEUs)
- [Understanding the Importance of Culturally Competent Mental Health Services and Barriers Faced by Diverse Communities](#) (2 CEUs)
- [Utilizing a Critical Race Theory Lens to Reduce Barriers to Social and Emotional Learning: A Call to Action](#) (1 CEU)
- [Understanding Body Image Issues](#) (2 CEUs)
- [Disability Social Work: Connecting Critical Cultural Competence, Intersectionality, and Anti-oppressive Practice](#) (1 CEU)
- [Equipping Social Workers to Meet the Needs of Young Adults of Color on the Autism Spectrum](#) (1 CEU)
- [Social Emotional Learning: The Impact of Deindividuation on Prosocial Outcomes](#) (1.5 CEUs)
- [Working to Understand the Impact of Racial Injustices on Children and Adolescents](#) (1.5 CEUs)
- [Immigration and the Role of Social Workers](#) (1 CEU)
- [Integrating a Trauma-Informed and Critical Race Perspective in School Discipline Practice](#) (1 CEU)
- [Toward Cultural Competence in Spiritual Diversity](#) (3 CEUs)



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- [The Social Determinants of Mental Health: Advancing Wholistic Health Equity](#) (3 CEUs)
- [Affirmative Practice with Transgender Clients](#) (2 CEUs)
- Students must connect the Capstone Project to DEI, anti-racism, and/or working with historically minoritized and oppressed populations.
- B or better in all courses tied to the concentration (SWO 5320 or SWO 2320, SWO 5323 or SWO 5377 or SWO 5376 and SWO 5395).