

Research Summary

Professor Nicole Nicotera's research and scholarship focus on: promoting health and well-being across the life span, civic engagement and mindfulness practices as pathways to well-being, measuring civic development and civic engagement, interventions to enhance civic leadership and positive youth development, the role of risk, protection, and resilience in health, and the issues of unearned privilege and oppression in social work practice, education and research.

Dr. Nicotera has expertise in conducting and publishing quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods research. She often serves as qualitative and/or mixed methods methodologist on various projects outside of her substantive research interests. The majority of her research studies involve mixed methods and collaboration with community partners.

In addition to her role as PI on these research grants and related publications, she has been supervising and mentoring students in mixed methods data collection, analysis, interpretation, peer-reviewed conference presentations and publications. She has also mentored doctoral students in mixed methods dissertations and independent studies to support their preparation of mixed methods dissertation proposals. In addition to supervision and mentoring on mixed methods, she has trained doctoral students in qualitative analytic processes when she taught the required doctoral course in qualitative analysis for a period of 5 years. She currently teaches the required mixed methods research course for doctoral students.

Community Engaged Research

Dr. Nicotera is currently collaborating with three community partners in Denver to:

- collect and analyze mixed methods data from sexual assault survivors who are participants in a trauma-informed yoga therapy group;
- develop and implement a mixed methods research study to assess the relationship between mindfulness practices and stress reduction-emotional regulation in foundation MSW students;
- implement a qualitative study to explore the experiences of acutely suicidal individuals being seen at emergency psychiatric services.

Other community engaged projects assisted local community partners with 1) implementing and evaluating 2 youth community organizing programs, 2) implementing and evaluating a slam poetry program to empower youth voices and well-being, and 3) implementing and evaluating a school-wide student guidance program to reduce student referrals to the principal's office.

Education

Ph.D. (2002) Social Welfare Research; University of Washington School of Social Work, Seattle, Washington

Dissertation: Children and their neighborhoods: A mixed methods approach to understanding the construct neighborhood

M.S.W. (1992) University of Washington School of Social Work, Seattle, Washington

B. A. Sociology (1980) Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY

Senior thesis: Comparative study of gender role stereotypes in East Indian and American folktales

Academic Positions

2017 to present: Professor. Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver

2009 - 2017: Associate Professor. Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver

Bio-sketch Nicotera

2004 - 2009: Assistant Professor. Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver

2003 - 2004: Assistant Professor. Division of Social Work, California State University, Sacramento

1999 - 2002: Teaching Associate. School of Social Work, University of Washington, Seattle

Honors

2015 Mentor Recognition, CSWE Council on the Role and Status of Women in Social Work Education

2011 Public Good Faculty of the Year University of Denver Center Community Engagement and Service Learning

2003 Dissertation research selected by peer-review for 15th National Symposium Doctoral Research in Social Work at the Ohio State University

1980 Magna Cum Laude, Hartwick College, Oneonta, New York

1980 Departmental Honors in Sociology, Hartwick College, Oneonta, New York

Recent Books

Nicotera, N. & Laser-Maira, J. (2017). *Innovative Skills to Support Well-being and Resiliency in Youth*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Nicotera, N. (forthcoming). *Essential Interviewing Skills: A Social Justice and Wellness Approach*. New York: Oxford University Press.

McKenzie, F. & Nicotera, N. (2nd edition, forthcoming). *Interviewing for the helping professions: A relational approach*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Selected Peer-reviewed Publications

McDonald, S. E., Cody, A. M., Collins, E. A., Stim, H. T., Nicotera, N., Ascione, F. R., & Williams, J. H. (2017). concomitant exposure to animal maltreatment and socioemotional adjustment among children exposed to intimate partner violence: A mixed methods study. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma*, 1-13.

Forrest-Bank, S., **Nicotera, N.**, Matera, D., *Ferrarone, P. (2016). Effects of an Expressive Art Intervention with Urban Youth in Low-income Neighborhoods. *Child and Adolescent Social Work*. DOI: 10.1007/s10560-016-0439-3.

Anyon, Y., **Nicotera, N.** & Veeh, C. (2016). Contextual influences on the implementation of a school-wide intervention to promote students' social, emotional, and academic learning. *Children and Schools*, 38(2), 81-88.

Nicotera, N. Veeh, C. & Brewer, S. (2015). Civic activity and well-being among first-year college students. *International Journal of Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement*, 3(1) <http://journals.sfu.ca/iarslce/index.php/journal/article/view/125/77>.

Bio-sketch Nicotera

Forrest-Bank, S., Nicotera, N., Anthony, E. & Jenson, J. (2015). Finding Their Way: Perceptions of Risk, Resilience, and Positive Youth Development among Adolescents and Young Adults from Public Housing Neighborhoods. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 55, 147-158.

Nicotera, N. & Matera Bassett, D. (2015). Building civic leadership: The journeys of pre-adolescent youth. *Journal of Youth Development*, 10(1), 19-33.

http://media.wix.com/ugd/f3287d_b765e68755a14210ababaa90603f1e6e.pdf

Forrest-Bank, S., **Nicotera, N.**, Anthony, E., Gonzales, B. & Jenson, J. (2014). Risk, protection, and resilience among youth residing in public housing neighborhoods. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 31(4), 295-314

Nicotera, N., Brewer, S., & DesMarais, E. (2013). Developing the civic skills of public school youth: A mixed methods assessment. *International Journal of Research on Service- Learning and Community Engagement*, 1(1), 61-79.

Nicotera, N., Williams, L. & Anthony, E. (2013). The ecology of youth collective socialization. *Social Work Research*, 37(3), 227-236

Nicotera, N., Cutforth, N., Fretz, E. & Summers-Thompson, S. (2011). Dedication to the Public Good: A Higher Education Conundrum? *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*, 4(1), 37-49.

Nicotera, N., Walls, N.E., & Lucero, N. (2010). Understanding Practice Issues with American Indians: Listening to Practitioner Voices. *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work*, 19(3), 195-216.

Nicotera, N., Altschul, I., Munoz, A., & Webman, B. (2010). Conceptual and analytic development of a civic engagement scale for pre-adolescents. In J. Keshen, B. Holland, B. Moely (Eds.). *Research for What? Making Engaged Scholarship Matter* (pp. 71-89), Charlotte North Carolina: Information Age Publishing, Inc.

Nicotera, N. & Walls, N.E. (2010). Challenging Perceptions of Academic Research as Bias Free: Promoting a Social Justice Framework in Social Work Research Methods Courses. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 30(3), 334-350.

Nicotera, N. & Kang, H. (2009). Beyond diversity courses: Strategies for integrating critical consciousness across social work curriculum. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 29(1-2), 182-197.

Nicotera, N. (2008). Children speak about neighborhoods: Using mixed methods to measure the construct neighborhood. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 36(3), 333-351.

Nicotera, N. (2008). Building skills for civic engagement: Children as agents of neighborhood change. *Journal of Community Practice* 16(2), 221-242.

Anthony, E. & **Nicotera, N.** (2008). Youth's perceptions of neighborhood hassles and resources: A mixed methods analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 30, 1246-1255.