

# Mental Health and Trauma



UNIVERSITY of  
DENVER

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
Office of Academic Services

## Program Starts Prior to Summer 2020

Acting Concentration Coordinator: Stephanie George

The Mental Health and Trauma concentration focuses on clinical interventions, advanced theory, and research related to mental health, substance use and trauma. Core topics include the assessment of mental health and substance use, skills in crisis intervention and suicide risk-assessment, policy related to mental health and substance use intervention and key clinical interventions and skills.

Courses include intervention in substance use and mental health interventions from several theoretical perspectives: solution-focused, cognitive behavioral, trauma-informed, existential, interpersonal/psychodynamic and strengths/empowerment. Populations include children, adults, and older adults.

Field education placements are offered in agencies that provide psychotherapy, crisis intervention, case management and other clinical interventions related to mental health, substance use and trauma.

**90 total credits of the required courses are needed for Traditional students. 60 total credits of the required courses are needed for Advanced Standing students.**

### Required Foundation Courses for Traditional Students

- SOWK 4020 - Integrated Social Work Practice for Social Justice - 4 credits
- SOWK 4001 - Clinical Social Work Skills - 3 credits
- SOWK 4050 - Introduction to Graduate Internship - 1 credit
- SOWK 4132 - Power, Privilege, and Oppression - 3 credits
- SOWK 4006 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment - 3 credits
- SOWK 4003 - Clinical Social Work Theory and Practice - 3 credits
- SOWK 4201 - Evidence for Practice - 3 credits
- SOWK 4007 - Community/Macro Social Work Theory and Practice - 4 credits
- SOWK 4120 - Social Policy Analysis - 3 credits
- SOWK 4151, 4152 & 4153 - Foundation Seminar I, II, III - 3 total credits *\*offered as a 1 credit course over 3 terms*
- SOWK 4950 - Foundation Field Internship I, II, III, IV\*

*\*If you have questions regarding the amount of SOWK 4950 credits needed, please refer to the Curriculum Update e-mail message received on 2.26.20 or the [GSSW Student Resource Portal](#). Appropriate internships chosen in consultation with Field Team.*

### Required Foundation Courses for Advanced Standing Students

- SOWK 4132 - Power, Privilege, and Oppression - 3 credits
- SOWK 4299 - Advanced Standing Seminar - 3 credits
- SOWK 4201 - Evidence for Practice - 3 credits

## Required Concentration Courses

### Theory for Practice Course

#### Required

- SOWK 4345 - Intersections of Mental Health, Substance Use, and Trauma

### Methods/Skills Courses

#### Required

- SOWK 4338 - Assessment of Mental Health Across the Lifespan
- SOWK 4730 - Cognitive Behavioral Therapies
- SOWK 4340 - Leadership and Supervision Skills
- SOWK 4401 - Integrated Health Care: Models and Practice
- SOWK 4752 - Trauma Informed Assessment and Intervention

## Policy and Program Advocacy Course

### Required

- SOWK 4655 - Mental Health and Health Care Policy

## Research Sequence

### Required

- SOWK 4900 - Methods for Evaluating Practice and Programs
- SOWK 4901 - Applied Practice Evaluation Research\*  
*\*Note, depending on your place in the program, SOWK 4901 may not be required. Please refer to the Curriculum Update e-mail message received on 2.26.20 or the [GSSW Student Resource Portal](#).*

## Values for Practice Course

### Required (choose one)

- SOWK 4235 - Disproportionality & Disparity Across Systems  
OR
- SOWK 4643 - Special Topics: Digital Justice in Social Work

## Concentration Internship

### Required

- SOWK 4970 - Concentration Field (I, II, III, IV)\*
- SOWK 4251, 4252 & 4253 - Concentration Field Seminar (I, II, II) *\*Offered as 1 credit courses over 3 terms*  
*\*If you have questions regarding the amount of SOWK 4970 credits needed, please refer to the Curriculum Update e-mail message received on 2.26.20 or the [GSSW Student Resource Portal](#). Appropriate internships chosen in consultation with Field Team.*

## Elective Courses

### Qualifying Classes

*\*Note, the amount of elective courses available to you will depend on your place in the program. Please refer to the Curriculum Update e-mail message received on 2.26.20 or the [GSSW Student Resource Portal](#). SOWK 4901 - Applied Practice Evaluation Research: depending on your place in the program, SOWK 4901 may be a required course. Please refer to the Curriculum Update e-mail message received on 2.26.20 or the GSSW Student Resource Portal.*

*\*All elective options can be found at the [GSSW Student Resource Portal > Advising + Academic Planning tab > MSW@Denver](#). Please navigate to your correct program start section.*

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** It is the student's responsibility to meet all degree requirements. Students can track their progress using the Degree Audit in PioneerWeb. Please direct questions regarding the degree audit to GSSW's Office of Academic Affairs.