

**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL POLICY & PRACTICE**

SWRK721 –Social Work in Health Care Specialization Proseminar

Fall 2017-Spring 2018

Instructor:

cell:

email:

Office hours:

office:

I. DESCRIPTION:

This is a mandatory, year long, bi-monthly, non-credit course for all students enrolled in the the Social Work in Health Care Specialization (SWIHCS). SWIHCS aims to prepare students for successful careers across practice settings and with diverse populations and conditions. Grounded in the tenets of biopsychosocial approaches to direct practice, the specialization bridges systems of practice and introduces students to inter-professional collaboration and leadership skills. This proseminar will serve two functions for students in the specialization. First, the cohort will meet together monthly for case conceptualization, and consideration of challenges unique to health-related placements in both macro and direct practice settings. Second, students will meet monthly for special learning opportunities, guest lectures, and professional development. Topics may include, but are not limited to: direct practice work with children, families, the elderly, and communities coping with chronic and terminal illness, palliative and end of life care, health care advocacy, policy development and evaluation, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand and identify with social work's role in health care service delivery, advocacy, policy, and practice.
- To examine the social determinants of health for ways to eliminate disparities in disease burden, access to quality care, and health literacy.
- To develop skills and acumen in interprofessional collaboration and communication across healthcare settings.
- To learn methods for providing dedicated and compassionate peer-supervision during monthly case consultation in preparation for future roles as preceptors and field instructors to bachelors and masters level social work students.
- To identify and develop expertise in an area of health care practice through placement related practice, courses of study, guest lectures, and independent pursuit of knowledge.

Recommended texts

- Gehlert, S., & Browne, T. A. (2011). *Handbook of health social work*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.
- Ginsberg, Nackerud, & Larris (2003). *Human biology for social workers*. Allyn & Bacon.
- Literature, Arts, and Medicine Database, New York University School of Medicine <http://litmed.med.nyu.edu/> For those interested in a comprehensive database, this resource-rich online catalogue is intended to support teaching and research in medical humanities. Users can search the database by disease or condition type. The website is updated regularly.

II. POLICIES

- **Attendance Policy:** These meetings are all mandatory. With advance notice and confirmation from the Field Liaison about conflict student may miss a maximum of ONE case consultation and ONE special learning opportunity or guest lecture for a total of no more than **two missed classes**. Missing more than two sessions may result in your immediate withdrawal from the SWIHCS program.
- **Grading Policy:** Since this is a non-credit course, students will be graded on a pass/fail rubric.
- **Expectations:** Students are expected to participate fully and will be evaluated on the quality rather than the quantity of their participation. Students are expected to arrive on time and to stay for the full session. Students are welcome to bring lunch (please avoid all things crunchy).
- **Use of Electronic Devices:** Students will refrain from using any electronic devices during lectures and consultations, including phones, iPads, and laptop computers. If students require accommodations, s/he/they must inform the Director at the start of the fall term.

III. SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

The SWIHCS cohort will meet on the last Friday of each month August – November and January through April. These meetings will last one hour, and run from 2:45-3:45pm. In addition, the cohort will meet once per month for a guest lecture or specialized learning opportunity to support SWIHCS related program objectives. Dates are as follows:

Guest Lectures & Special Learning Opportunities	Case Consultation Last Wednesday of each month 2:45pm-3:45pm
	<u>August 30th</u> -- <i>SWIHCS Orientation</i>
<u>September 13th</u> : Leadership and program development in urban hospitals: Making something out of nothing <i>Guest lecturer: Patti Meehan, LCSW</i>	<u>September 20th</u> -- Case Consultation
<u>Tuesday, October 10th</u> Inter-professional Simulated Learning Opportunity: Intimate Partner Violence Required attendance: 7am-11am or 12pm-4pm	<u>October 25th</u> -- Case Consultation
<u>Wednesday, November 8th</u> Medical Ethics: A role for Social Workers <i>Guest lecturer: Christina Bach, LCSW</i>	<u>November 29th</u> -- Case Consultation
<u>Wednesday, December 6th</u> Choosing between meds and meals: Policy and practice implications of cancer's financial toxicity <i>Guest lecturer: Meredith Doherty, LCSW</i>	(No December meeting)

Guest Lectures & Special Learning Opportunities	Case Consultation Last Wednesday of each month 2:45pm-3:45pm
<u>January:</u> Locating social work values in health-oriented team science research <i>Guest lecturer: TBD</i>	<u>January 31st</u> -- Case Consultation
<u>February:</u> TBD <i>Guest lecturer: TBD</i>	<u>February 28th</u> -- Case Consultation
<u>Thursday, March 14th</u> Topic: Professional development day: Resumes, networking, & negotiating offers <i>Guest lecturer: TBD</i>	<u>March 28th</u> -- Case Consultation
<u>April :</u> TBD	<u>April 25th</u> -- <i>End of Year Party!</i>