

CURRICULUM VITAE

SUZANNE SHU-XIN THAM, MSW

EDUCATION

08/2022- Present	University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Policy & Practice Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare , April 2026 expected	Philadelphia, PA
08/2016- 04/2018	University of Michigan, School of Social Work Master of Social Work , April 2018 Major: Interpersonal Practice / Health Minor: Social Policy and Evaluation	Ann Arbor, MI
07/2011- 05/2012	Counseling and Care Center (CCC) Singapore Post-Graduate Diploma in Counseling Practice , May 2012	Singapore
07/2004- 06/2008	National University of Singapore, Department of Social Work BSocSci in Social Work (Honors) , June 2008	Singapore

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Publication

1. McLaughlin, S. J., Chen, Y., **Tham, S. S. X.**, Zhang, J., & Li, L. W. (2020). Healthy Aging in China: Benchmarks and Socio-Structural Correlates. *Research on Aging*, 42(1), 23-33.

Presentations

1. **Tham, S. S. X.**, Chen, Y., McLaughlin, S. J., Zhang, J., & Li, L. W. (2018, November). Assessing Healthy Aging among Older Adults in China [Poster Presentation]. Gerontology Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Boston, MA.
2. **Tham, S. S. X.** & Lim, J. F. (2016, June). Factors Influencing Patient's Willingness to Discuss Their Future Health Care Preferences [Paper Presentation]. 8th International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health, Singapore.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Academic Teaching

10/2019- 10/2021	Teaching Assistant Theory and Practice of Gerontological Social Work Singapore University of Social Sciences S R Nathan School of Human Development	Singapore
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- Developed and taught graduate level topics such as framework on aging, integration of care services, social and psychosocial issues in aging.
- Assisted in modifying the syllabus, setting, and grading of assignments and exams.

Clinical Teaching

2018-2020	Instructor , Singapore General Hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taught social determinants of health to resident physician under the residency training program.	Singapore
2013-2015	Instructor , Singapore General Hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taught competencies in suicide risk assessment within social work department orientation.	Singapore

WORK EXPERIENCE

12/2008-08/2022	Senior Medical Social Worker , Singapore General Hospital Department of Medical Social Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member of the Community Care Team, looking into planning and development of services to improve population health (2018-2022)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Designed and facilitated a support group for family caregivers, with topics ranging from effective communication skills to stress reduction strategies.○ Presented educational seminars on topics related to health promotion and mental well-being for older adults.○ Established close partnerships with various community partners by developing shared strategies in healthcare delivery for key target populations.○ Improved healthcare access for vulnerable older adults by piloting a Medical Chaperon service.• Member of the Family Therapy Committee (2013-2022)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Provided psychotherapy for individual, couples, and families.○ Treatment focus in mood disorders using Dialectical Behavioral Therapy and Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Program.• Member of the Advanced Care Planning (ACP) Committee, looking into the hospital wide implementation of ACP (2013-2016)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Raised ACP awareness among healthcare professionals, community, and the public.○ Strengthened hospital systems and processes to support ACP implementation.○ Developed proposal and secured funding for the successful initiation of ACP in the Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine unit.• Supported the Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine (RCCM) Inpatient Unit (2008-2016)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Formulated psychosocial evaluation, case management, advocacy within the 36-bed inpatient unit.○ Provided crisis interventions and counseling for patients struggling with acute mental illness, substance use, suicidal behaviors, and/or psychosis.	Singapore
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PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

08/2017- 05/2018	Social Work Intern , Michigan Medicine <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborated on multi-disciplinary team in the provision of optimal clinical care.• Prepared psychosocial evaluations and treatment plans for patients in the outpatient mental health clinic and geriatric outpatient clinic.• Co-facilitated fortnightly support group for caregivers of patients who suffered from Alzheimer's disease.	Ann Arbor, MI
08/2016- 05/2017	Social Work Intern , Cancer Support Community <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administered psychosocial intake assessment and linked clients to community resources.• Evaluated the effectiveness of the program through data collection and analysis.	Ann Arbor, MI
01/2007- 03/2007	Social Work Intern , Fei Yue Family Service Center <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organized and co-run an after-school program for 50 at-risk youths.• Maintained website for purposes of mental health resiliency and awareness-raising around issues of self-harm behaviors.	Singapore
05/2006- 07/2006	Social Work Intern , National Cancer Center Singapore <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted needs assessment for cancer patients and their families.• Identified critical resources for families with a focus on housing and employment.	Singapore

HONORS AND AWARDS

2016- 2018	Gerontology Learning Community Funds (\$4,500) University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
2016	Health Manpower Development Plan Fellowship (\$156,000) Singapore Ministry of Health	Singapore
2015	School of Social Work Dean's Mission Scholarship (\$32,000) University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
2011	Health Manpower Development Plan Fellowship (\$10,000) Singapore Ministry of Health	Singapore

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Singapore Association of Social Workers	Singapore
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