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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Appointments

Full-Time Social Work Faculty – Clinical Assistant Professor

- *University of South Carolina, Columbia – College of Social Work (08/2024 to present)*

Part-Time Social Work Faculty

- *University of Tennessee, Knoxville – College of Social Work, online (08/2020 to present)*
- *Virginia Commonwealth University – School of Social Work, online (08/2022 to present)*
- *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – School of Social Work, ground (08/2022 to present)*
- *University of Georgia – School of Social Work, online (06/2023 to present)*
- *University of North Carolina, Charlotte – School of Social Work, ground (08/2023 to present)*

Serve as Primary Instructor for baccalaureate and masters social work courses and field practicum in both ground and online modalities. Develop, deliver, and review course material and syllabi. Create a learner-centered classroom environment where students feel comfortable and safe participating and learning. Develop assessments based on departmental regulations and requirements. Prepare students for assessments and provide constructive performance feedback. Provide extra support to students who require it and schedule consultation times when questions and concerns can be voiced. Answer students' questions and provide feedback on assignments or essay drafts. Assist faculty members with course development, lesson plans, and assessments. Recommend additional readings or advice to students as required. Keep up to date with advancements in the field and integrate new knowledge into lessons. Incorporate student's field work into course assignments and class discussion. Serve as a Social Work mentor in office hours by offering space for discussion of course content and/or practical application in field. Work collaboratively with Advisors and Field Coordinators to ensure effective course content delivery and application. Utilize Canvas and other online teaching platforms.

- Courses taught:
 - Interpersonal Direct Social Work Practice with accompanying Lab
 - Evidence Based Intervention Practices with Groups I and II
 - Evidence Based Intervention Practices with Families I and II
 - Social and Cultural Aspects of Aging
 - Social Justice and Anti-Oppressive Practice
 - Evidence Based Practice with Adult Individuals
 - Evidence Based Policy and Practice with Older Adults
 - Human Development in Context: A Systems Approach
 - Human Development in Context: Prenatal through Adolescence
 - Human Development in Context: Young Adulthood through Late Adulthood
 - Trauma Theory and Treatment
 - Forensic Social Work

- Field Practicum
- Research Methods for Social Workers
- Social Welfare Systems and Policies
- Evaluation of Social Work Practice
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Forensic Social Worker/Mitigation Specialist III (12/2006 to present)

- *Independent Contractor – North Carolina Indigent Defense Services, United States Federal Public Defender, Emancipate North Carolina, North Carolina ACLU, Prisoner Legal Services*

Compile a comprehensive and well-documented bio-psycho-social history of indigent capital murder defendants at the trial, post-conviction, federal, and clemency levels. Complete an exhaustive investigation through extensive client and collateral interviews with lay persons, intergenerational records collection and review, organization of information, writing of psychosocial history, designing graphics and coordination of information with the legal team. Assess any and all mental health, developmental or cognitive deficits and substance abuse history of client and of immediate and extended family members. Analyze the significance of findings in terms of impact on development, personality, emotionality, functioning and behavior. Find and develop mitigating themes in the client's life history. Identify the need for expert assistance. Provide social work findings to experts to enable them to conduct competent and reliable evaluations. Draft affidavits for witnesses and secure appropriate signatures. Prepare mitigation witnesses for testimony in court. Testify in court and offer mitigation findings. Conduct Defense Initiated Victim Outreach as requested.

Contract Adoption Social Worker – PRN (01/2018 to present)

- *Nathanson Adoption Services*

Conduct pre- and post- placement assessments of prospective adoptive families. Provide education and training to prospective adoptive parents. Evaluate the suitability for placement with prospective adoptive families by way of multiple extensive interviews with the family, document retrieval and review, inspection of the home and writing the homestudy report.

Contract Adoption Social Worker – PRN (04/2014 to present)

- *Claiborne Fox Bradley Goldman, PLLC*

Manage legal services in the areas of adoptions relating to interstate adoptions, stepparent adoptions, domestic infant adoptions, adult adoptions, gestational surrogacy contracts, and pre-birth orders of parentage. Provide birth parent and adoptive parent counseling. Match birth parents with adoptive parents and facilitate interaction between parties.

Forensic Social Worker/Mitigation Specialist II-III (07/2005 to 12/2006)

- *North Carolina Office of the Capital Defender*

All tasks noted above under *Independent Contractor* as well as training new mitigation specialists, attorneys, and law students by creating and distributing pertinent materials for mitigation investigations and by conducting mitigation and social work lectures at Continuing Legal Education conferences and at university social work programs and law schools.

Forensic Social Worker/Mitigation Specialist I-II (12/2002 to 07/2005)

- *Center for Death Penalty Litigation*

All tasks noted above under *Independent Contractor* and *North Carolina Office of the Capital Defender* as well as providing consultation to other mitigation specialists across the state. Worked as grassroots organizer for criminal justice reform. Recruited community members to engage in legislative process. Presented programs to university groups, churches, NC House and NC Senate committees and local government bodies regarding the need for criminal justice reform.

Clinical Social Work Intern (05/2002 to 12/2002)

- *Holly Hill Hospital*

Conducted extensive psychosocial assessment and evaluation of adolescents [and their families] admitted to the outpatient mental health unit. Facilitated group psychoeducation and psychotherapy for outpatient youth. Provided individual psychotherapy and family therapy. Prepared treatment plans and goal setting plans with client and his or her family. Conducted discharge planning and follow-up evaluation. Researched effective methods of treatment for adolescents experiencing psychiatric symptomology.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Degree:	Doctor of Social Work, 2023 (GPA 4.0)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Degree:	Master of Social Work - Macro track, 2004
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Degree:	Bachelor of Arts, Spanish, 2002
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Degree:	Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies, 2002

TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS

University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Certificate:	Experiential Teaching, 2021
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Certificate:	Inclusive Teaching, 2021
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Certificate:	Online Teaching, 2021
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Certificate:	Equity-Minded Teaching, 2021
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Certificate:	Course Based Assessment, 2021
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Certificate:	Facilitating Evidence-Based Learning, 2020

DOCTORAL/CAPSTONE RESEARCH QUESTION

Brains Adversely Impacted by Childhood Poverty as Mitigating Evidence in Death Penalty Cases: Is the North Carolina Capital Defense Community Ready?

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Poverty as Toxic Stress
- Application of the Neurosequential Model to Capital Mitigation
- Application of the Transdiagnostic Model to Capital Mitigation

PROFESSIONAL LICENSE

Licensed Master Social Worker (#12538 – South Carolina)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- National Association of Social Workers, member
- National Organization of Forensic Social Work, member
- Counsel on Social Work Education, member

RECENT RECOGNITIONS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- Named a “Volunteer of Distinction” – University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2023
- Selected to give the commencement address at the College of Social Work’s graduation ceremony – University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2023
- Nominated for the “Most Inspiring Social Work Professor” award – University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2023
- Awarded the “Excellence in Student Research” award – University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2023
- Awarded the “Advancement in Social Justice” scholarship – University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2021 and 2022