

MSSW Specialized Courses and Specialization Core Courses

Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees Electives

SW 652: Introduction to Child Welfare Practice (3)

This course is offered as part of the CFL program at an off-site location determined by the program. Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take this course. The course focuses on skills of screening, investigation, assessment, case planning, and service delivery within the child welfare system.

SW 653: Family Casework Skills/Services to Children (3)

This course is offered as part of the CFL program at an off-site location determined by the program. Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take this course. This course provides students with exposure to strengths-based, collaborative models of casework practice. Emphasis will be placed on skill development in the areas of assessment, case planning and case management when working with high-risk families. Targeted skills will include practice techniques for utilizing and supporting the family's own narrative about the challenges they face while assisting them in responding to their need and desire for change.

SW 655: Family Violence (3)

This course is offered as part of the CFL program at an off-site location determined by the program. Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take this course. The focus of this course is on understanding, screening for, assessing, and intervening in various forms of family violence.

SW 656: Sexual Abuse Assessment (3)

This course is offered as part of the CFL program at an off-site location determined by the program. Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take this course. This course is designed to prepare students to screen, assess, and intervene in situations involving child sexual abuse.

SW 663: Enhancing Child Safety (3)

This course is offered as part of the CFL program at an off-site location determined by the program. Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take this course. This course focuses on practice knowledge and skills in the delivery of services to children and youth in foster and out of home care and families that care for them.

SW 666: Collaborative Practice with Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (3)

This course is offered as part of the CFL program at an off-site location determined by the program. Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take this course. This course focuses on preparing students to practice collaboratively with substance abuse, mental health, and child welfare services to screen, assess, manage, and refer families to MH and SA services.

SW 675: Child Welfare Supervision, Coaching, Mentoring Practices & Policies (3)

This course is offered as part of the CFL program at an off-site location determined by the program. Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take this course. This course provides students with an understanding of supervision, coaching and mentoring theory, research, practices and policies in the field of child welfare. Students learn about the supervision process, providing supervision, coaching and mentoring in the context of overseeing/managing casework practice. Additionally, students gain knowledge about developing supervision, mentoring, and coaching plans as well as assessment skills to evaluate worker skills and performance in child welfare organizations.

SW 697: Casework Supervision in Child Welfare (3)

This course is offered as part of the CFL program at an off-site location determined by the program. Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take this course. This course introduces students to core concepts and competencies in casework supervision in child welfare. Students will analyze and apply supervisory strategies to promote critical thinking and enhance workers' skills in family engagement, assessment, clinical and ethical decision-making, case planning, and navigating systems of care. Students will also examine and develop strategies for assessing and managing secondary traumatic stress, burn-out, and professional quality of life.

SW 697: Special Topic Classes (3)

Center for Family Resource Development Special Topics Classes: Only Cabinet for Families and Health Services Employees are eligible to take the following special topic classes at the Center. Practicum classes connected to these special topics classes will not be counted as additional electives. The JSOCCP is also open to national participants.

Juvenile Sexual Offender Counselor Certification Program (JSOCCP) (not for credit): This program represents a unique and innovative collaboration between the Center for Family Resource Development and Kentucky's Juvenile Justice Department to offer rigorous graduate level training to all staff who work with juvenile sexual offenders. This is the only university based training certification program in the country and is now open to national participants.

MSSW-Couple & Family Therapy Specialization Core Courses

SW 610: Family Therapy Practicum (3)

Students will conduct assessment and therapy with individuals, couples, and families under the supervision of a state- or AAMFT-approved supervisor. This course will allow students to apply assessment and treatment skills learned in SW 700 Foundations of Family Therapy, SW 701 Family Assessment and Treatment with Diverse Populations, and SW 702 Macro Couple and Family Intervention Issues in the Profession and Community.

SW 700: Foundations of Family Therapy: Theory and Practice (3)

Prerequisites: Admission in the CFT Program.

This course is family social work preparatory course that covers three foundational elements of family therapy practice, 1) a comprehensive and substantive understanding of the family life cycle, family dynamics, systemic thinking, and interactional theories, 2) an introduction to the major assessment and intervention ideas/skills associated with the major schools of marital family therapy, and 3) the foundational skills that encompass systemic assessment, consensus building, case planning and the tools necessary to conduct an initial interview. Systemic concepts that describe intrapersonal and interpersonal dynamics and their relationship to family development and interaction will be presented as they pertain to the field of marriage and family therapy. Foundational concepts will be viewed through the lenses of smaller social (family) systems, language systems, and larger social cultural systems. Students will also be introduced to the role of the marital and family therapist in terms of relationship to clients, a relational approach to understanding clients, and the self of the therapist.

SW 701: Family Therapy Assessment and Treatment in Diverse Populations (3)

Prerequisites: Admission in the CFT Program, successful completion of SW 700.

This course will focus on more in-depth assessments and interventions regarding specific problem populations faced in marital and family therapy practice. These may include, but are not limited to child and teen behavior, school difficulties, chemical dependency and adult mental health concerns. Emphasis will be given to a critical review and evaluation of the evidence based practices as well as interventions or strategies that represent integrative approaches in the field. Special attention will be given to the use of the DSM-IV and pharmacology as it related to MFT practice. Throughout the course there will be attention to the ethical and professional issues that arise in working with these populations.

SW 702: Couple Therapy: Theory and Practice (3)

Prerequisite or Co-Requisite: Admission in the CFT Program, successful completion of SW 703, concurrent registration in SW 724.

This course provides the student with a framework for managing difficult and controversial issues in the field of couple therapy. The student will become versed in couple assessment and couple interventions. Protocols regarding special issues in the field of couple therapy will be taught including divorce, sexual problems, infidelity, domestic violence etc. The course will examine pertinent ethical issues and concerns as it relates to the field of couple therapy.

SW 703: Macro Couple and Family Intervention Issues in the Profession and Community (3)

Prerequisite: Admission into the CFT Program, successful completion of SW 700, concurrent registration in SW 722.

Marital and Family Therapy has made significance advances in the development and validation of psycho educational interventions to address complex family problems. This course will review social problems facing families as well as evidence-supported educational programs to address these problems. Particular emphasis will be placed on social problems such as domestic violence, divorce, child maltreatment, substance abuse, mental health and health issues. Students will study concepts, strategies, and skill sets required for systemic work on marital and family therapy casework issues family, local community, and larger societal levels. The tools for learning will include lecture, discussion, role-playing, case reviews, and teamwork on projects

designed to develop and enhance specific skills. (SW 703 replaces SW 641 for students in the MSSW-MFT specialization)

SW 704: Integrating Family Therapy: Theory and Practice (3)

Prerequisite: Admission into the CFT Program, successful completion of SW 700, SW 701, SW 702 & SW 703.

This is the capstone course in the MSSW-CFT Specialization designed for each student to refine his/her own theory of change. Utilizing critical thinking skills, students will work to integrate intervention models and skill sets in the areas of assessment, treatment /intervention planning, case management, and outcome evaluation. Students will be assisted in integrating the clinical theory, practice, and research coursework and fieldwork in marital and family therapy with their study of change in larger social systems. This course also provides an opportunity for individual students to tailor and deepen their learning about areas of personal interest previously covered in the curriculum.

SW 705: Professional Issues & Ethics in Social Work: Couple & Family Therapy (3)

Prerequisite: Admission into the CFT Program, successful completion of SW 702.

This is a capstone seminar in professional issues taken in the last semester of the MSSW/MFT Specialization Program. This course reviews and integrates the graduating student's learning experiences in SW 721-725 and SW 703 in the area of professional issues and ethics. This course is designed to assist the graduating social work student in their professional development, legal responsibilities, current professional ethics, the role of professional associations, MFT and SW licensure legislation, independent practice considerations, and inter-professional cooperation.

Supervision Courses

SW 721: Family Therapy Supervision I (1)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Family Therapy Program and concurrent registration in SW 670.

Supervision of student work with a variety of families and family problems in community agency settings. (Pass-fail) (SW 721 replaces SW 604 for students in the MSSW-MFT specialization)

SW 722: Family Therapy Supervision II (1)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of SW 721 and concurrent registration in SW 671.

Supervision of student work with a variety of families and family problems in community agency settings. (Pass-fail)

SW 723: Family Therapy Supervision III (4)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of SW 722

Supervision of student work with a variety of families and family problems in community agency settings. (Pass-fail)

SW 724: Family Therapy Supervision IV (1)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of SW 723 and concurrent registration in SW 672.

Supervision of student work with a variety of families and family problems in community agency settings. (Pass-fail)

SW 725: Family Therapy Supervision V (1)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of SW 724 and concurrent registration in SW 673.

Supervision of student work with a variety of families and family problems in community agency settings. (Pass-fail)

MSSW-Couple & Family Therapy Prep Core Courses

SW 642: Psychopathology (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 633 SW & Human Sexuality (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 700: Foundations of Family Therapy: Theory and Practice (4)

Already discussed under MSSW-CFT Specialization Core Courses.

SW 701: FT Assessment (3)

Already discussed under MSSW-CFT Specialization Core Courses.

SW 703 Macro CFT (3)

Already discussed under MSSW-CFT Specialization Core Courses.

MSSW-School Social Work Specialization Core Courses

SW 630: School Social Work: Policy and Practice (3)

Already discussed under electives.

EDSP 540: Introduction to Exceptional Children

A survey course designed to acquaint students with all types of exceptional children - physically and mentally handicapped, socially and emotionally disturbed, and the gifted; methods of adapting education to meet the needs of these children.

EDSP 644: Applied Behavior Analysis

Students explore the principles and procedures in the field of applied behavior analysis. Observational methods, single subject designs, and behavior promotion, reduction, and generalization strategies are reviewed in relation to the needs of students with disabilities.

Participants are required to develop individual project proposals that demonstrate their ability to design, implement, and evaluate behavioral programs in an effective and ethically responsive manner.

Student portfolio

MSSW-Alcohol and Drug Counseling Specialization Core Courses

SW 660: Motivation and Change (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 662: Substance Abuse (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 661: Special Issues in Alcohol and Drug Counseling (3)

Already discussed under electives.

MSSW-Gerontology Specialization Core Courses

SW 681: Social Gerontology (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 682: Social Work with Older Persons (3)

Already discussed under electives.

Supervision Courses

SW 686 PPP Supervision I (Fall) (1)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Gerontology Specialization and concurrent registration in SW 672.

Supervision of student work with a variety of gerontology clients and their families in community agency settings. (Pass-fail)

SW 687 PPP Supervision II (Spring) (1)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Gerontology Specialization and concurrent registration in SW 673.

Supervision of student work with a variety of gerontology clients and their families in community agency settings. (Pass-fail)

MSSW-Mental Health Specialization Core Courses

SW 615: Mental Health (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 642: Psychopathology (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 657: Group Methods (3)

Already discussed under electives.

Supervision Courses

SW 691 Mental Health Specialization Integrative Seminar I (Fall) (1)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Mental Health Specialization and concurrent registration in SW 672.

Supervision of student work with a variety of mental health clients and their families in community agency settings. (Pass-fail)

SW 692 Mental Health Specialization Integrative Seminar II (Spring) (1)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Mental Health Specialization and concurrent registration in SW 673.

Supervision of student work with a variety of mental health clients and their families in community agency settings. (Pass-fail)

MSSW-Psychosocial Oncology Specialization Core Courses

SW 647: Psychosocial Practice in Oncology I: Interpersonal Practice (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 648: Psychosocial Practice in Oncology II: Community Approaches to Promote Health Equity (3)

Already discussed under electives.

Supervision Courses

SW 649 Psychosocial Oncology Seminar I (Fall) (1)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Psychosocial Oncology Specialization and concurrent registration in SW 672.

Students will participate in an innovative interdisciplinary curriculum in palliative care (iCope). The seminar will assist with planning future goals for their career development upon graduation.

SW 650: Psychosocial Oncology Seminar II (Spring) (1)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Psychosocial Oncology Specialization and concurrent registration in SW 673.

Students will participate in an innovative interdisciplinary curriculum in palliative care (iCope). The seminar will assist with planning future goals for their career development upon graduation.

MSSW-Military Social Work Specialization Core Courses

SW 615 Mental Health (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 627 Military Social Work (3)

Already discussed under electives.

SW 659 Introduction to Family Therapy Practice (3)

Already discussed under electives.

Supervision Courses

SW 628 Military Social Work Seminar (Fall) (1)

Prerequisite: Admission to the Military Social Work Specialization and concurrent registration in SW 672.

Military social work is a specialization of social work that provides services to persons who have served or are serving in the military and their families. MSSW students who are specializing in military social work are required to take this one-credit hour seminar per semester that extends over two semesters of their final year at the Kent School of Social Work. It provides students with an opportunity to integrate the theoretical knowledge that they are learning in the classroom with practical experiences in their field placements. In the seminar students from different practice settings will participate and share the diversity of problems and approaches to the practice of military social work.

SW 629 Military Social Work Seminar (Spring) (1)

Military social work is a specialization of social work that provides services to persons who have served or are serving in the military and their families. MSSW students who are specializing in military social work are required to take this one-credit hour seminar per semester that extends over two semesters of their final year at the Kent School of Social Work. It provides students with an opportunity to integrate the theoretical knowledge that they are learning in the classroom with practical experiences in their field placements. In the seminar students from different practice settings will participate and share the diversity of problems and approaches to the practice of military social work.