



# Department of Social Work

Volume 2, Issue 1

Fall 2014

## Special points of interest:

- ◇ Spring Scheduling
- ◇ Scholarship Information
- ◇ Assessment Findings

## Inside this issue:

Social Work Faculty on the Move	2
Social Work Faculty Highlights	2
To Social Work Majors from a Recent Grad	2-3
What Should I take & When?	3
Social Work Scholarships	3
Program Assessment Findings	4
Department Contact Information	4

## Welcome to TSU from Your Social Work Faculty & Staff!!

The Social Work Faculty and Staff are thrilled that you have decided to embark upon your educational endeavors in the field of Social Work. As Social Work program students, you will be taken on a journey of exploration and personal development that will equip you to work with individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations in major urban settings.

The curriculum is designed such that you build upon preexisting knowledge in the Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences, gaining a sound foundation in English Composition, the Arts, studies of past and current History, Sociological and Psychological theories, and literary studies. At the same time, you will have Social Work courses that include directed study and practice activities to enhance your knowledge regarding the skills and values needed to work with oppressed and or underserved populations.

Once you get to your Senior level Block placement, you will put all of the knowledge, values and skills into place with clients in a supervised agency setting. While that may seem overwhelming for some, you will receive a great deal of support from agency personnel, Social Work faculty, and even your Block colleagues.

Should you encounter academic or life difficulties at

any time during your TSU journey, please make sure to speak with your academic advisor at your earliest convenience—before you take action. ***What many students don't know until it's too late is that withdrawing from classes has serious curricula and financial repercussions.*** Don't fall victim to rushed or uninformed decisions. Your future depends on YOU!

Again, WELCOME to TSU! We wish you a wonderful and productive semester.

Dr. Needha Boutte-Queen, Department Chair

Dr. Nicole Willis, Assistant Professor

Ms. Ifueko Omorogbe, Interim Director of Field Education

Dr. Grace Loudd, Visiting Professor

Mr. Orlando Milton, Jr., Visiting Professor

Ms. Ronda Lewis, Administrative Assistant

## Social Work Program Admission Process

The Department of Social Work has implemented an admissions policy for all social work majors at the sophomore level. Eligible social work majors must meet the following criteria: completion of at least 45 semester credit hours (9 of which must be specifically identified Social Work

courses) and have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.30. Additionally, "demonstration of personal characteristics and academic competency" are criteria evaluated by social work faculty as part of the admission process. These elements include: a brief autobiographical

statement; faculty observation of student behavior in the classroom; SOCW 145 and 246 field experience assessments and overall GPA. This process has been implemented to maintain accordance with CSWE standards. All application packets are due in early December. Plan NOW!!



## Social Work Faculty On-The-Move

The faculty in the Department of Social Work strive to maintain high collegiate standards. Here's what they are doing:

- ⇒ Ms. Ifueko Omorogbe has taken on the role of Interim Director of Field Education. In this role, she is responsible for all aspects of the senior level field program. This includes interviewing, placement, site development, monitoring and evaluation. Congratulations!
- ⇒ In direct response to student requests and assessment findings from 2011-2013, Dr. Nicole Willis has successfully developed two new Social Work courses. The SOCW 348 course, an elective that focuses professional social work communication, is being offered online this semester and exceeded all enrollment expectations! The second course (SOCW 360) fits another need in the department and is now the first or our 2-course

Research Methods sequence. It allows for practical hands-on research experience prior to the senior level block. Way to Go, Dr. Willis!

- ⇒ Though he is actively engaged in working on his Ed.D. degree in his free time, Mr. Orlando Milton, Jr., has redeveloped the senior level Multi-dimensional Assessment Assignment (MDA), designed to help students walk through all Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) practice behaviors. The program will be launching the fully redesigned MDA in the Spring of 2015. Thanks Mr. Milton!

- ⇒ Dr. Grace Loudd and Dr. Needha Boutte-Queen, Co-Project Investigators, were recently awarded a \$900,000 grant from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration. Dr. Loudd, as Project Director of the TSU SHAPE Initiative will actively be engaged in activities designed to prevent and reduce substance abuse, transmission of HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis-C among African American college students, ages 18-24 at Texas Southern University, as well as the minority communities surrounding the university. More to follow!

---

## To Social Work Majors—From a Recent Grad by Ronnisha Johnson—CO 2012

My name is Ronnisha Johnson and I am a graduate of the Texas Southern University Social Work Class of Spring 2012. I am not only proud to be an alumnus of TSU, but I am also extremely honored to say I am a product of the Texas Southern Social Work Department for many reasons. Through vital experiences, support, and concrete social work practices I gained a better sense of self-worth and appreciation for the profession.

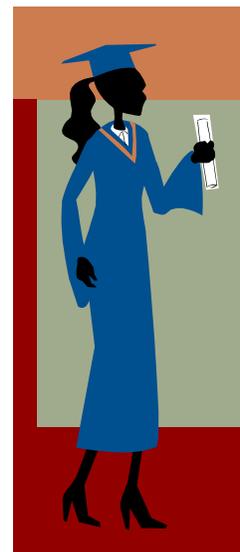
Experiences that I have attained through internships, class discussions, involvement in campus/professional organizations, senior block, and much more has helped to mold me into the person I am today. Although the social work program is extremely rigorous and challenging, the matriculation through the department from freshman to senior year helped to cultivate me in the profession. TSU provides its social work students with a curriculum that is congruent from year to year so that its participants develop an outstanding understanding of the profession and its need within the world. The classes build upon knowledge of the previous so social work students are informed and grounded in their studies. The professionalism and knowledge of the code of ethics that one learns from completing senior block and the internships throughout the program has helped me to create a realistic paradigm of how social work should look in the field. Cultural experiences within my cohort has also aided in my ability to work with and appreciate many different populations. Although these experiences have helped my professional development, most importantly the support I received from the staff and my classmates helped me to grow personally.

During my tenure at TSU, I experienced a lot of life burdens such as homelessness, financial issues, and bereavement of my mother during senior block. I had several issues in my life that could have prevented me from graduating in 4 years. The unconditional support I received from staff and my classmates helped me get through school and my personal matters. I was able to graduate with honors and pledge a sorority after my mother's death. The advocacy of the staff had also granted me many other opportunities such as the scholarships, the chance to serve as a campus queen, and the opportunity to travel to New Orleans and Selma.

I am now a Program Coordinator for a youth center in the same community where I grew up. I have also started my own young women's support group with over 50 members. In my leisure, I serve on the Board of Directors for a local community center serving underprivileged youth. I am also proud to say I am starting my first year of graduate school this fall at San Francisco State University, one of the most competitive programs in the Bay Area.

## Recent Grad cont'd

After attending my first orientation, I quickly realized how much TSU had prepared me, because majority of what we cover my first year of grad school is what I completed during senior block. While most students seemed overwhelmed, I was eager to show the school what my knowledge and capabilities consist of. Although I am miles away from Texas Southern, I can still count on the support from staff and my classmates. will stick with me forever. I am extremely grateful for all of the experiences support and knowledge, and challenges I gained at Texas Southern, however I owe many of my professional and personal accomplishments to the Social Work Department.



## Moving Toward Graduation... What Should I Take & When???

So, you're settling into the semester but thinking about registering for Spring classes. Here are some helpful hints for successful class schedule planning:

- ◇ Get advising and registration completed during the pre-registration season in November.
- ◇ Social Work 347 and Social Work 360, are only offered in the Spring.
- ◇ In order to enroll in SOCW 347, you must have first completed SOCW 145, 246, and 346 with grades of C or higher.
- ◇ Students considering applying for Senior Block must do so in the Spring semester and must have completed at least 96 semester credit hours including SOCW 145, 246, 346. If they are not concurrently enrolled in SOCW 340, SOCW 347, and SOCW 360 at the time of application, they, too, must have been completed with grades of C or higher.
- ◇ The statistics requirement can be met by any 2XX or 3XX statistics course in Psychology, Public Affairs, Sociology, or Business.

**GOOD LUCK & HAPPY SCHEDULING!!!**

## Social Work Scholarships

Paying for a college education can be a challenge. The Department of Social Work currently offers two (2) scholarships: The Lewis W. & Lura D. Sayles Scholarship (\$500) and the Annual Social Work Award (\$300). The department selects two recipients for each scholarship award. These scholarships are offered and disbursed during the Spring

semester. Other scholarships social work majors have access to through this department are offered by the Association of Black Social Workers (ABSW)-Houston Chapter and the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW).

As applications will need to be completed and submitted following certain processes,

and by specific deadlines, interested students are strongly encouraged to speak with Ms. Ronda Lewis, Office 302X in the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs Building. Students must be Social Work Majors to apply for and receive any awarded Social Work Scholarship funds.





**DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL WORK**

Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland  
School of Public Affairs &  
College of Liberal Arts and  
Behavioral Sciences Building  
Suite 302X  
3100 Cleburne  
Houston, TX 77004

Phone: 713-313-7783  
Fax: 713-313-1960

**Department of Social Work  
Faculty & Staff**

Dr. Needha Boutté-Queen, Chair  
713-313-1329

Dr. Nicole Willis, Assistant  
Professor, 713-313-7320

Ms. Ifueko Omorogbe, Interim  
Director of Field Education  
713-313-1196

Dr. Grace Loudd, Visiting Pro-  
fessor, 713-313-1194

Mr. Orlando Milton, Jr., Visiting  
Professor, 713-313-1195

Dr. Gloria Batiste—Roberts,  
Adjunct Faculty, 713-313-7205

Ms. Regina Walker, Adjunct  
Faculty

Ms. Ronda G. Lewis,  
Administrative Assistant  
713/313-7783

**Program Assessment Findings—AY 2013/2014**

COMPETENCY	COMPETENCY BENCHMARK	PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING BENCHMARK
<b>For each competency, scores from individual practice behaviors were aggregated between the senior level Field Instructor Evaluation of the Field Student and the Field Student Evaluation of Self in the Agency Setting</b>		
Identify as a Professional Social Worker	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>94.1% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Apply Ethical Principles	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>92% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Apply Critical Thinking	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>92% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Engage Diversity in Practice	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>95% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Advance Human Rights/ Social and Economic Justice	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>90.5% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Engage Research Informed Practice/ Practice Informed Research	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>82.5% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Apply Human Behavior Knowledge	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>93.5 % of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Engage Policy Practice to Advance Well-Being and Deliver Services	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>76.5% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Not Met</b>
Respond to Practice Contexts	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>81% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Practice Engagement	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>96% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Practice Assessment	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>94.3% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Practice Intervention	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>88.5% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>
Practice Evaluation	80% of students will achieve a 3 or higher on a 0-5 scale where 0 = did not meet the expectations and 5 = consistently excelled	<b>92.5% of students achieved a score of 3 or higher – Benchmark Met</b>

**Accredited by the Council on Social  
Work Education through 2016**