Specialization in Community Mental Health Practice

This specialization is directed toward the acquisition of theory and skills to be utilized in settings dedicated to serving adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders. Through this specialization, students will gain knowledge and skills for providing evidence-based, recovery-oriented and co-occurring capable services to persons with co-occurring disorders. Specific practices in which students will engage include: Clinical diagnosis, strength-based screening and assessment, person-centered planning, harm reduction, motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioral therapy, illness self-management, assertive community treatment, integrated dual-disorder treatment, supported employment and housing services, medication management, substance abuse counseling, and peer support.

The specialization consists of 15 hours, which includes 6 hours of practicum and 9 hours of courses taken as part of the 57 hours of classroom and practicum courses required for graduation from the MSW Program, outlined as follows:

**9 credits of coursework:**

- SWRK 5742 Evidence Based Practices in Community Mental Health (3 credit hours; usually offered in Fall and in Spring)
- SWRK 5744 Substance Abuse Interventions (3 credit hours; offered only in Spring)
- Choose one additional 3-credit course:
  - SWRK 5772 Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (3 credit hours; usually offered in Fall and in Spring)
  - SWRK 5773 Approaches to Trauma Care (3 credit hours; usually offered in Spring and in Summer)

**6 credits of practica:**

A two semester, one-site, clinical field placement at a site providing direct service to individuals, families, or groups impacted by co-occurring disorders in a community mental health context.

**Application and Verification Process:**

Students should register in the Specialization as soon as possible upon beginning the MSW degree to make sure the Chair of the Specialization is assigned as their Faculty Mentor. Students interested in pursuing this specialization should notify the Chairperson of the Community Mental Health Specialization of their intent to specialize, prior to taking the required coursework. Students must also earn a "B" or better in the designated courses and successfully pass the 2 semester practica. Students will be acknowledged upon completion of Specialization requirements.

For more information: Dr. Mike Mancini, 314-977-2736, mancinim@slu.edu

Revised 8/2015 SEM
Comm. Mental Health Specialization NAME: ____________________  BANNER ID: __________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSEWORK</th>
<th>SEMESTER/YEAR COMPLETED</th>
<th>GRADE EARNED</th>
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<tr>
<td>SWRK 742 Evidence-Based Practice in Community Mental Health</td>
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<td>SWRK 744 Substance Abuse Interventions</td>
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<td>Choose one:</td>
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<td>○ SWRK 772 Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy OR</td>
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<td>○ SWRK 773 Approaches to Trauma Care</td>
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CONCENTRATION PRACTICA SITE: ________________________________________________

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<th>CONCENTRATION PRACTICA</th>
<th>SEMESTER/YEAR COMPLETED</th>
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<tr>
<td>SWRK 5832 COMMUNITY PRACTICUM II OR SWRK 5842 CLINICAL PRACTICUM II</td>
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<td>SWRK 5832 COMMUNITY PRACTICUM II OR SWRK 5842 CLINICAL PRACTICUM III</td>
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STUDENT AND SPECIALIZATION CHAIR MEET AND SIGN BELOW TO VERIFY COMPLETION OF MSW SPECIALIZATION REQUIREMENTS, THEN SEND TO MSW PROGRAM OFFICE FOR FURTHER REVIEW

Signature of MSW Student attesting to completion of specialization requirements:

MSW Student signature ______________________________ Date ______________

Signature of Community Mental Health Practice Specialization Chair:

Community Mental Health Practice Specialization Chair signature ______________________________ Date ______________

Signature of Director of Field Education:

Director of Field Education signature ______________________________ Date ______________

Signature of Director of MSW Degree Program:

Director of MSW Degree Program signature ______________________________ Date ______________