Specialization in Gerontology

This specialization requires that students select from a menu of courses including some in gerontology, completing course assignments with an emphasis in gerontology, and completing a 2 semester practica focusing on older adults. The student will develop a portfolio of all of their projects, papers, assignments, and practica evaluations to demonstrate completion of this specialization. The specialization program is designed to meet the competencies for gerontological social work as adopted by the CSWE Gero-Ed Center.

Required courses: 6 credit hours

- SWRK 5745 Health and Mental Health Interventions with Older Adults (3 credit hours; usually offered in Fall)
- SWRK 5702 or 5707: Sociology of Aging/Social Gerontology (3 credits hours)
- SWRK 5725, 5742, or 5777: Psychology of Aging (3 credit hours)
- SWRK 5734, 5755, or 5700: Biology/Physiology/Health Aspects of Aging (3 credit hours)
- SWRK 5787 or 5788: Basic or Gerontology Research Methods (3 credits hours)

Elective courses: 3 credit hours (choose one)

Select an elective which could include an aging specific course offered either at the University or transferred from another university (with approval from the certificate coordinator).

- Options include: SWRK 5701, 5704, 5711, 5715, 5716, 5735, 5744, 5745, 5745, 5757, 5763, 5771, 5772, 5773, 5786, 5898, or IM 102: Geriatric Skills Workshop

Practicum Requirements: 6 credits hours

A two semester, one-site, clinical field placement at a site focusing on gerontological issues.

Students are required to have one major paper or presentation in their courses centering on aging/older adults. These papers or presentations are to be kept to develop a portfolio that is reviewed by the Specialization Chair prior to awarding the specialization.

Students must also earn a "B" or better in the designated courses and successfully pass the 2 semester practica.

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. A minimum of 24 total credit hours are needed to complete the specialization. A “B” or better is required in each course. Students are required to submit a portfolio to the Chair of the Gerontology Specialization near the time of graduation. Students will be acknowledged upon completion of Specialization requirements.

For more information, please contact Specialization Chair Dr. Sue Tebb at 314-977-2730 or tebbsc@slu.edu.

Revised 2/2016 ACB
## COURSEWORK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Semester/Year Completed</th>
<th>Grade Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 5745</td>
<td>Health and Mental Health Interventions with Older Adults</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choose **ONE**:
- SWRK 5702: Social Policy
- SWRK 5707: Policy Practice for Social Justice

Choose **ONE**:
- SWRK 5725: Human Behavior and the Social Environment
- SWRK 5742: Evidence Based Practice in Community Mental Health
- SWRK 5777: Advanced Family Practice

Choose **ONE**:
- SWRK 5734: Human Behavior and the Social Environment Part II
- SWRK 5755: Social Work Practice in the Health Field
- SWRK 5700: Values and Ethics in Social Work Practice

Choose **ONE**:
- SWRK 5787: Research Methods I
- SWRK 5788: Research Methods II

Choose **ONE**:
- SWRK 5701: Social Justice: Human Liberation and Community-Building
- SWRK 5704: Spirituality in Clinical and Healthcare Practice
- SWRK 5711: Social Work and the Law
- SWRK 5715: Practice with Families/Communities Experiencing Poverty
- SWRK 5716: Diversity and Anti-Oppression Practice
- SWRK 5735: Complementary Approaches to Healing in Social Work
- SWRK 5744: Substance Abuse Interventions
- SWRK 5757: Foundations of Family Practice
- SWRK 5763: Loss, Grief, and Healing
- SWRK 5771: Intimate Partner Violence
- SWRK 5772: Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy
- SWRK 5773: Approaches to Trauma Care
- SWRK 5786: End of Life Care
- SWRK 5898: Independent Study
- IM 102: Geriatric Skills Workshop: Gerontology Elective

## CONCENTRATION PRACTICA SITE: ___________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONCENTRATION PRACTICA</th>
<th>Semester/Year Completed</th>
<th>Grade Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 5832: Community Practicum II OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 5842: Clinical Practicum II</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 5833: Community Practicum III OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 5843: Clinical Practicum III</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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  
Date

________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Gerontology Specialization Chair  
Date

________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Director of Field Education  
Date

________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Director of MSW Degree Program  
Date

Revised 2/2016 ACB