

The School of Social Work

DEAN: Robin Mama, Ph.D.

DIRECTOR OF THE BSW PROGRAM:

Kelly Ward, Ph.D.

DIRECTOR OF THE MSW PROGRAM:

Nora Smith, Ph.D.

Social workers are concerned with improving the health and quality of life of persons who are disconnected or excluded from larger society. Social workers engage in practice at all levels, from working with children to working with communities and governments. The profession and the program at Monmouth are particularly concerned with human rights and social and economic justice, the representation and support of vulnerable or oppressed segments of the population, and direct action strategies to bring about positive change for the disenfranchised.

The central mission of the School of Social Work at Monmouth University is to prepare its graduates for professional social work practice that strives to secure social and economic justice, advance human rights, and improve the quality of life of vulnerable families, individuals, organizations, communities, and nations on the local, national and global levels.

The B.S.W. Program prepares students for generalist professional social work practice. Secondly, the B.S.W. Program prepares social work students for graduate social work education. The BSW Program also introduces individuals within the University community to relevant social work and social welfare issues.

On the foundation of a liberal arts tradition, students are engaged to broaden and challenge their understanding, analysis, and evaluation of

human experiences and societies in the past and in the contemporary world, and of families and individuals of varied cultural and social contexts.

The curriculum supports this mission through three perspectives: social and economic justice through the advancement of human rights, strengths-based empowerment and practice with families within a global context. Families within a global context define the initial focal social unit for all social work practice at Monmouth University.

Our three perspectives inform both our B.S.W. and M.S.W. Programs as they contribute to the development of students' knowledge, values and skills:

- To conceptualize and contribute to social work theory, knowledge, values, and skills on a generalist level for B.S.W. students, and on an advanced, concentration-specific level for M.S.W. students through three interrelated perspectives: social and economic justice through the advancement of human rights, strengths-based empowerment and practice with families within a global context;
- To develop the skills to understand, analyze, and evaluate the quality of life and well-being of vulnerable families, individuals, organizations, communities, and nations that is grounded in a strengths-based empowerment approach for social and economic justice and human rights;
- To prepare social work practitioners to develop and systematically apply knowledge, values, skills, and ethics in their work with families, individuals, organiza-

tions, communities, and nations of diverse cultural contexts in working collaboratively toward the prevention and solution of social problems;

- To think critically, analyze, produce, and disseminate research that informs theory, policy, practice, and evaluation in social work;
- To collaborate with and support vulnerable populations through advocacy, social action, volunteerism, service, education, and consultation, working from a strengths-based empowerment approach for social and economic justice and human rights.

Rosemary Barbera, Assistant Professor. Ph.D., Bryn Mawr College. Areas of interest are human rights and social justice, participatory action research, and community organizing. Current research is on the effects of human rights violations on collective participation and community organizing with diverse communities.

Carolyn Bradley, Assistant Professor. Ph.D. Fordham University. Areas of interest are addictions, spirituality, gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender issues. Current research is on spirituality and social work practice.

Kimberly Hanbury, Specialist Professor. B.A., Loyola College; M.S.W., Monmouth University. Areas of interest include child welfare. Professional experience is in the area of child welfare including child abuse/neglect and adoption services.

Helen O'Brien, Assistant Professor. Ph.D. New York University. Areas of interest are health and mental health, HIV/AIDS, and child maltreatment.

Robin Mama, Professor and Dean. Ph.D., Bryn Mawr College. Areas of interest include occupational safety and health, field education, and culturally competent social work practice. Current research projects include international social work and human rights.

Golam Mathbor, Associate Dean of the Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Professor. Ph.D., The University of Calgary. Areas of interest include development and analysis of social policies and services, community organizing and social action, social planning, community development and community participation, and international social work. Current research interests include sustainable development of coastal communities, international development, and multicultural social work.

Elena Mazza, Assistant Professor. MSW Fordham University. Areas of interest are mental health, children's mental health, and community-based mental health. Current research is on gatekeeping in social work education and mental illness and school integration.

Michelle Ann Scott, Assistant Professor. B.A., Clark University; M.S.W., Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley. Areas of interest include adolescent depression, adolescent suicide prevention, school-based screening, mental health services and financing, college mental health and initiation of alcohol use by adolescents. Current research includes evaluation of the preparation of high school students with mental health problems and the transition to college.

Nora Smith, Associate Professor. Ph.D., State University of New York at Albany. Areas of interest include child welfare, substance abuse, and families. Current research includes family reunification for substance-affected families, the Adoption and Safe Families Act, and child welfare consumer and service provider perspectives.

Mary E. Swigonski, Associate Professor. Ph.D., Rutgers University. Areas of interest include human behavior and the social environment, epistemology/human rights, diversity, sexual and affectional orientation, and feminist studies. Current scholarship addresses understanding the human condition within the context of justice and care.

Kelly Ward, Associate Professor. Ph.D., Fordham University. Areas of interest include addictions, substance abuse populations and the impact of addiction on families. Current research includes all aspects of addiction.

Undergraduate Student Honor Society: Alpha Delta Mu, Alpha Beta Chapter

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK (B.S.W.)

Please refer to the following curriculum chart for program requirements. All curriculum charts are detailed and displayed in Appendix "B".

- Bachelor of Social Work

MINOR

Please refer to the following curriculum chart for program requirements. All curriculum charts are detailed and displayed in Appendix "B".

- Minor in Social Welfare