

Requirements to meet the FLO

Mental Health Advanced Practice in Social Work (MHAPS) Program

Requirements and Description – Students must complete four components total. The Field Education and Coursework components are required. Students may choose from the remaining components listed to complete the other two required components. Please note that the Clinical Concentration is a co-requisite for the MHAPS Program FLO.

Field Education Component (required) – Students in the Mental Health Advanced Practice in Social Work Program (MHAPS Program) are required to complete a field placement in an agency that includes some direct mental health practice with individuals, families, or groups. The placement can be in any agency where some (a minimum of 30%) of their time focuses on direct mental health practice, including community agencies, outpatient services, inpatient units, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), hospitals, schools, or organizations that involve direct mental health treatment, care, or services with clients. Students need to have only one placement that includes this element. This is a required element for successful completion of this FLO. A potential exemption to this requirement is if a student is working at or has recently worked for more than one year in a setting where they are engaging in direct mental health practice.

Research Component – Sustained participation via a research assistantship, independent study, or volunteer opportunity with a community or academic research project focused on mental health assessment, engagement, treatment; mental health service delivery; service access and utilization for underserved racial, ethnic/cultural, and stigmatized populations; mental health outcomes; mental health stigma; mental health intervention science or intervention adaptation science; etc.

Community Engagement – Sustained and current participation in a mental health focused/serving organization, community-based agency, hospital, mental health association, or healthcare agency that is separate and outside of Field Education/academic responsibilities. This element of community engagement is to recognize, support, and promote students engaging with individuals with a mental health issue and/or their families. In the spirit of advancing mental health education, anti-racist practice, and social justice, this engagement may include community work, volunteer work, religiously based work, advocacy work, association work, and/or paid work within the area of mental health. It is specifically encouraged that students promote social justice within mental health practice. Community engagement is encouraged to focus on underserved, minority, hard-to-reach, low-socioeconomic status, social justice, and/or stigmatized communities. Students design their own individual community engagement plan will need it approved by faculty within the MHAPS Program.

Training – Completion of at least three trainings regarding advanced mental health social work. Acceptable trainings are intended to advance mental health practice assessment or treatment skills of the student, to develop practice skills with specific populations that are often underserved within mental health, and/or advance social justice and inclusivity practice skills/knowledge within mental health. A number of trainings will be provided by The MH-

RITES Research Center, and other mental health trainings will be identified within the larger community, GCSW, UH, and professional opportunities (e.g., SSWR, CSWE, professional associations, etc.). Elements of mentoring will be infused in the trainings. Trainings need to be approved by faculty within the MHAPS Program.

Coursework (required) – The Clinical Concentration is a co-requisite for the MHAPS Program. Students must successfully complete one advanced GCSW elective course, such as Advanced Clinical Practice: Suicide Assessment and Treatment, Independent Study Course, Crisis Intervention, Contemporary Issues in MH, or other equivalent course approved by faculty within the MHAPS Program. Please note that these classes may not be offered every year. The courses Behavioral Health for Social Work Practice in Integrated Healthcare or Core Concepts in Trauma Treatment of Children and Adolescents are not eligible for this requirement. This is a required element for successful completion of this FLO.