



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Certificate in Health Care Social Work

The School of Social Work offers MSSW students the opportunity to graduate with a certificate in Health Care Social Work. This certificate program prepares both Clinical and APP students for practice in diverse health and wellness settings. Coursework emphasizes the historical, linguistic, and societal context of clients, intersectional approaches to leadership, advocacy and policy grounded in interprofessional education and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Certificate Requirements

The Health Care Social Work certificate program is composed of one anchor course, Social Work and Health Care, three elective/selective courses, 12 hours of professional development, two simulations: Inpatient Teamwork and Care Coordination, and an approved practicum placement. All coursework counted toward earning a certificate must be taken at the graduate level at the School of Social Work or through approved out-of-department classes. The student is responsible for documenting that all requirements for the certificate have been successfully completed. Throughout enrollment in the certificate program, the certificate coordinator will provide ongoing support, including guidance on course selection, practicum alignment, and progress tracking to ensure students stay on track toward completion.

Approved Practicum Placement

Certificate students may complete their practicum in settings that serve or engage with their population of interest, including specialized agencies or broader organizations offering relevant services. Health Care Social Work certificate students will complete one official practicum placement focused on health care social work practice. The placement is a key educational component, providing students with hands-on learning and an opportunity to apply and integrate classroom-based knowledge. This placement may occur in the student's first or final practicum experience. Securing a final practicum placement is a competitive process. Students must confirm with the certificate coordinator that their placement meets the requirements of the certificate program. Because of external factors, such as funding, placement is competitive and not guaranteed at any specific agency. Regardless of placement, all students gain valuable experience through specialized coursework, practicum opportunities, and faculty mentorship, preparing them for effective practice across various social work environments.

Additional Proposed Coursework

Certificate students in the Clinical concentration will select three of their five choices from the suggested course options on page two. Students in the APP concentration will select three of their four choices from the suggested course options on page two. Other courses may be approved as offered, through consultation with the certificate coordinator.

Professional Development

Students are required to engage in a minimum of 12 hours of professional development during the course of their graduate program, either through attending lectures, seminars, conferences, interprofessional simulation and/or research project participation that relates to Health Care Social Work. Professional development hours must be approved by the certificate coordinator prior to the



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certificate being awarded and may not count toward the fulfillment of requirements of another course or program at the School.

Process

Email the certificate coordinator (ssloan@austin.utexas.edu) your name and EID to express interest where you will be invited to join the CANVAS.

Students will complete an application for the certificate program via CANVAS. The application can be found here: <https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1211454/files?preview=85035925>

Certificate Coordinator

For more information, please contact the Assistant Dean for Health Affairs, Sarah Sloan, ssloan@austin.utexas.edu.

APP Selectives & Electives*	Clinical Selectives & Electives*
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program Evaluation• Transformative Teams in Healthcare**• Grant Development• Loss and Grief	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cognitive Behavior Therapy• Substance Use and Social Work Practice• Coexisting• Psychiatric and Substance Use• Making Systems Work for People with Disabilities• Neurobiology & Social Work Practice• Mindfulness and Social Work Practice• Assessment & Treatment of Traumatized• Populations• Practice & Research Grief Counseling• Spanish for Social Workers• Motivational Interviewing• Solution Focused Brief Therapy• Crisis Intervention• Social Work Practice with Older Adults• Attachment
*These are not exhaustive lists. Additional courses, including out-of-department courses, may be presented to the certificate coordinator for approval. Additionally, not all courses may be offered in all semesters and seats are not guaranteed.	
** Transformative Teams is strongly recommended as an elective choice.	