



CHILDREN & FAMILIES SOCIAL WORK FOCUS

The Children and Families interest area is recommended to students interested in working with children and their families. Courses provide students with knowledge and skills related to the theory, research, and implications of child and adolescent development and well-being. Course content is presented within the context of social work with children and adolescents in public and private agencies and programs. Issues related to children, families, and communities are covered and attention is given to working with diverse populations. These courses explore how childhood trauma, violence and addiction impact children and families. Students interested in clinical practice oriented towards working with children and adolescents as well as providing interventions that address family dynamics, family systems and family change, will find these courses to be instrumental. Students interested in macro practice focused on child advocacy and issues that impact the well-being of families will benefit from these courses.

RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES

Volunteer at a school, child welfare shelter, or non-profit agency serving children

Become a Guardian ad Litem

Become involved with the College of Social Work Arts & Athletics Program

Volunteer at the Institute for Family Studies, the Florida Institute for Child Welfare, or the Center for Study and Promotion of Communities, Families, and Children

Join NASW Child Welfare and/or School Social Work Specialty Practice Sections

Sign up for Listservs such as the Child Welfare Information Gateway and The Center on Immigration and Child Welfare



SAMPLE COURSES

Please note that these are course suggestions, not requirements for students interested in this area. Course availability varies based on semester, program, and location. Course offerings are subject to change. Students should consult with their advisors for additional guidance about their program of study. MSW students who receive approval from the MSW Program Director may take one elective for degree credit outside the College of Social Work. These suggested courses do not necessarily contain content related to the area of interest, however the content within the course may help to prepare students interested in pursuing a career within the interest area.

COURSE NAME & NUMBER

4650/5656: CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE

4658/5659: CHILD MALTREATMENT & CHILD WELFARE

4702/5712: SUBSTANCE USE & MISUSE

4615/5614: FAMILY VIOLENCE

4665/5666: SOCIAL WORK IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SETTINGS

4247/5248: HOMELESSNESS IN AMERICA

4633/5635: SOCIAL WORK IN PUBLIC SCHOOL SETTINGS

GRADUATE ONLY:

5611: FAMILY COUNSELING

5655: SOCIAL WORK WITH CHILDREN & ADOLESCENCE

5745: SEMINAR ON LOSS & BEREAVEMENT