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Message from the Dean

Welcome to Canada’s first and oldest faculty of social work. But more importantly welcome to the social work profession. You have come to FIFSW and the social work profession at a time when the world is deeply troubled and in the midst of a global COVID-19 pandemic, economic instability and racial reckoning. It is also a time of great expectation, fuelled by the unembellished recognition that all of our lives and futures are tightly woven together.

You have come to the profession at a time when there are also growing calls from communities across Canada and North American to reimagine policing and remedy our broken criminal justice, child welfare and mental health systems. Many of our Faculty are working at the intersection of these systems while addressing how immigration and migrant status, race/ethnicity, life course development, sexual orientation, and the larger social determinants of health impact successful outcomes for clients and communities. I strongly encourage you to get to know our internationally recognized faculty, to discover and get involved in their projects, or to simply reach out and get to know us.

An effective FIFSW degree in social work will enable you to advocate for clients, improve client systems, and enact social change. However, to truly prepare you to be an effective social worker in the 21st century, we must also challenge you to courageously confront and address the myriad ways in which this profession has helped but also hurt marginalized communities. We must embrace the hope for change and work towards change together.

Social workers have been at the forefront of social and societal change. Together we can make a difference, and we are delighted that you have joined us in this mission. I look forward to meeting you during your time at FIFSW.

Dexter R. Voisin, PhD
Dean & Professor
Sandra Rotman Chair in Social Work

“The true focus of change is never merely the oppressive systems we seek to change but the oppressor that is planted deep within each of us.”

—Audre Lorde
Welcome to the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. FIFSW is ranked as the top school of social work in Canada and second worldwide. Our MSW programs are highly recognized locally, nationally, and internationally.

As an alumni of FIFSW myself, I am extremely proud to be a part of this academic community. Our aim is to graduate students with foundational social work knowledge and competencies and skills that will allow them to navigate increasingly complex service systems in specialized fields of study. Students are taught by internationally recognized social work educators and researchers who bring cutting-edge scholarship into the learning experience.

Our faculty has developed innovative and applied teaching methods, including simulation-based learning, to help students develop social work practice competence. Students are trained to understand and appraise research and develop an evidence-based approach to practice while integrating a critical social justice lens to work with diverse populations in both community and institutional settings.

Situated in the heart of Toronto, FIFSW students are exposed to a multitude of practicum settings and have the opportunity to train in one of the most diverse cities in the world. Social work is an incredibly rewarding and challenging profession with a broad range of potential roles, including direct practice, policy-making, and community organizing.

We are excited about the responsibility to help students become competent social workers, and we welcome you into the program.

David Burnes, PhD  
Associate Dean, Academic  
Associate Professor
Welcome Video

Featured in the Video:

Dexter R. Voisin
Dean of FIFSW
Professor

David Burnes
Associate Dean, Academic
Associate Professor

David Brennan
Associate Dean, Research
Professor

Eileen McKee
Assistant Dean, Field Education

Keith Adamson
SWK4510H Course Coordinator
Assistant Professor

Stephanie Begun
SWK4102H Course Coordinator
Assistant Professor

Bryn King
SWK4107H Course Coordinator
Assistant Professor

Marion Bogo
SWK4605H Course Coordinator
Professor

Ka Tat Tsang
SWK4103/4105/4602H Course Coordinator
Professor
**Wednesday, September 9, 2020**

**Agenda:** Orientation

Please register for the Zoom event by clicking [HERE](#).

The workshop at 10:20 AM will be on a different Zoom meeting; link provided below.

The lecture by Chancellor Rose M. Patten is a separate webinar. Please register [HERE](#). Once the lecture is done, please return to the original Zoom meeting to continue with Orientation.

Please sign on 5 minutes in advance to address any technical issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM – 9:20AM</td>
<td>WELCOMING REMARKS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20AM – 9:40AM</td>
<td>BREAK-OUT GROUPS: ICE-BREAKER</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:40AM – 10:00AM</td>
<td>REGISTRATION INFORMATION – SHARON BEWELL, REGISTRAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00AM – 10:20AM</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20AM – 10:50AM</td>
<td>SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION &amp; SUPPORT CENTRE – zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00AM – 11:30AM</td>
<td>THE HEART, MIND, AND SCIENCE OF SOCIAL WORK ANNUAL LECTURE – CHANCELLOR ROSE M. PATTEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30AM – 11:45AM</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45AM – 12:15PM</td>
<td>BREAK-OUT GROUPS: REFLECTING ON CHANCELLOR PATTEN’S TALK</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15AM – 12:30PM</td>
<td>MINDFULNESS – ELLEN KATZ</td>
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Thursday, September 10, 2020

Agenda: Conference
Day 1

Please rejoin us for the Conference using the same Zoom link as yesterday.

For the segments with options, students will be randomly assigned to a talk. Both options will be recorded and will be available to access after the conference.

Note: Students are encouraged to take notes and incorporate their reactions to the anti-Black and Indigenous racism talks into the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion discussion tomorrow at 9:35am.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30AM - 9:45AM</td>
<td>TRADITIONAL OPENING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45AM - 10:15AM</td>
<td>OPTION 1: CHILD WELFARE &amp; SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE: DEBORAH GOODMAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15AM - 10:30AM</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30AM - 11:00AM</td>
<td>OPTION 2: SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH OLDER POPULATIONS: MARIA MARTINEZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>BREAK-OUT GROUPS: REFLECTING ON SPEAKER TALKS</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>OPTION 1: BIGGER: TANYA SHARPE</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>OPTION 2: ADDRESSING ANTI-INDIGENOUS RACISM: ASHLEY QUINN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM - 12:00 PM</td>
<td>MINDFULNESS – ELLEN KATZ</td>
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Friday, September 11, 2020

**Agenda: Conference Day 2**

Please rejoin us for the second day of the Conference using the same Zoom link.

In the first break-out session, you will have the opportunity to discuss the material sent out over the Summer.

For the segment with options, students will be randomly assigned to a talk. Both options will be recorded and will be available to access after the conference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30AM - 9:35AM</td>
<td>LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:35AM - 10:35AM</td>
<td>BREAK-OUT GROUPS: DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION DISCUSSION</td>
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<td>10:35AM - 10:50AM</td>
<td>MOVEU MOVEMENT ACTIVITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50AM - 11:00AM</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00AM - 11:30AM</td>
<td><strong>OPTION 1</strong>: I CAN’T EVEN SEE STRAIGHT: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK IN ADDRESSING HETEROSEXISM: DAVID BRENNAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM - 12:00PM</td>
<td>BREAK-OUT GROUPS: MEET OUR FACULTY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>TRADITIONAL CLOSING</td>
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The Heart, Mind, and Science of Social Work

Speaker: Chancellor Rose M. Patten

Rose Patten is the 34th Chancellor of the University of Toronto. Currently Special Advisor to the CEO and Senior Executives at BMO Financial Group, Dr. Patten is well known from her 30-year career as a senior leader in the Canadian financial services industry.

Dr. Patten has extensive experience as an advisor in the fields of senior leadership development and succession, strategy execution, and governance, in corporate and community settings. At U of T, currently she is Executive in Residence and Adjunct Professor in executive leadership programs at the Rotman School of Management. She is also a member of Massey College.

Dr. Patten served on U of T’s Governing Council for nine years, from 1998 to 2007, including three years as Chair, from 2004 to 2007. She chaired the Task Force on Governance, whose report in 2010 included the recommendations that led to the University’s current tri-campus governance structure. She has also established several scholarships, fellowships, and awards, and supported the education of women, underprivileged children, and new Canadians.

In addition to her service to U of T, Dr. Patten has built an extensive record of leadership in other major institutions and organizations. From 2014 to 2017 she was Chair of the Board of Trustees of The Hospital for Sick Children. She has also served as a director on the boards of the National Ballet of Canada and the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. In 2019 she was appointed to the boards of Canada Company and the Canadian Foundation for Physically Disabled Persons.

In 2009 the University of Toronto awarded Rose Patten the degree Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, for her leadership as a role model for women executives in Canadian banking, for her community volunteerism and for her service to the University. In 2017 Dr. Patten was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada.
Meet Your Faculty

FIFSW Faculty members are passionate about teaching, research, and continued learning in collaboration with students. In joining the MSW Program, you will have the opportunity to learn from internationally-recognized faculty and researchers who bring diverse community experience to the classroom. We have innovative teaching methods, including simulation-based learning, classes in community settings, and involving community members in course design and instruction. Through these methods, you will learn to apply a critical social justice lens to work with diverse populations in both community and institutional settings.

FIFSW Faculty ask hard questions about big issues, with an eye to improving service and care for the communities we partner with to support sustained social change. Here are some highlights from the 2019-2020 academic year:

- **Professor Barbara Fallon**'s research, which reveals the stark disparities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children and families in the child welfare system, has informed organizations such as the United Nations and Canada’s Senate Committee on Human Rights.
- **Professor Peter Newman** served as lead researcher for a four-country UNICEF report that is contributing to the UN’s efforts to reduce new HIV infections in young people and ending AIDS by 2030.
- **Assistant Professor Jia Xue** has been examining social media data to help policymakers and clinical practitioners better understand the public’s response to COVID-19, and the psychological consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Associate Professor Michael Saini** launched a study on co-parenting during the pandemic to better understand why some families thrive under physical distancing conditions and some deteriorate.
FIFSW
In the Media

Between September 2019 and July 2020, FIFSW was featured over 85 times in the global media advocating for social issues. Below are a few examples.

• CTV News interviewed Assistant Professor Keith Adamson about options for people in a mental health crisis who don’t want to call the police.

• Associate Professor Lin Fang spoke to Global News about the surge in people seeking mental health support with the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

• Dean Dexter Voisin’s new book America the Beautiful and Violent was featured on PBS Chicago, WVON, and the Chicago Sun-Times.

• Research on the vulnerability of LGBTQI2+ youth by Professor Peter Newman and PhD graduate Sophia Fantus was featured in Maclean’s.

• Professor Esme Fuller-Thomson’s research on recovering from anxiety received international attention, including coverage in The Times of London.

• Professor David Burns’ research on combating ageism was featured in The New York Times.

Associate Professor Carmen Logie launched a new podcast focused on stigma in May titled ‘Everybody Hates Me: Let’s Talk About Stigma’. Each episode features a guest who talks about different kinds of stigma, and addresses the questions of why it matters, what it looks like, and what we can do about it. Click here to listen to the podcast.

Associate Professor Tanya Sharpe, also the Founder & Director of The Centre for Research & Innovation for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims (The CRIB), hosted a series of Instagram Live talks this past Spring. This series, titled 30@8:30, aimed to investigate COVID-19’s impact on vulnerable populations throughout the global community. To rewatch Season 1 of 30@8:30, click here. The series is also returning for Season 2 this September.

Visit the news section of our website to read more!
Student Services

Financial Support & Funding Opportunities

The University of Toronto is working to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including providing emergency financial support and work-study opportunities for students. The new Funding Opportunity Directory is a great resource for you.

Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work Scholarships/Bursaries

The Internal Social Work Awards System will open on Monday, September 20, 2020. To be considered, the applicant must be a full-time student, either in the MSW or PhD programs. Award values will range from $1,000-$4,000.

General Information

COVID-19 updates are available on our Faculty website here. You will find information about FIFSW FAQs; links to mental health and wellness resources and Accessibility Services; Absence Declaration forms; and the impact on Practicum Courses.

You will be receiving the Gradschool e-news from sgs.communications@utoronto.ca, which will keep you informed and connected.

There is a network of support services on campus under Student Life available to you to help you get connected. For Health and Dental Plans, visit https://utgsu.ca/health-and-dental/ for details. The period to Opt-In or Opt-Out is from September 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020.

To obtain your TCARD and set up your UTmail account, please visit https://tcard.utoronto.ca/. Note that after September 11, all correspondence from Social Work and the University will be through your UTmail account.

For more information on Getting Started as a New Student, please visit https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/admissions/getting-started-as-a-new-student/.

All conditions of admission should be met by September 14, 2020. If you have any questions related to your conditions of admission, contact Angela Umbrello at angela.umbrello@utoronto.ca.

Registration Deadlines

August 28, 2020 is the recommended tuition fee payment deadline to ensure payment is received at the University. This is to avoid cancellation of registration and course enrolment. International students must make a payment by this date to ensure they are covered by UHIP at the beginning of September.

September 11, 2020 is the registration deadline for the Fall session; after this date, a late registration fee will be assessed. Minimum required payment due is 100% of current Fall tuition fee charges.

Angela Umbrello
Administrative Coordinator, Admissions & Programs
(pictured above)

Sharon Haughian-Bewell
Registrar and Administrative Coordinator of the Graduate Programs and Student Services

Registration Deadlines

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Accessibility Services remains open and committed to providing students with disabilities access to academic accommodations, programs, and services that may be helpful as they work to achieve their academic goals.

We continue to register new students and offer intake appointments via phone or video. Information about how to register with our services is available on our website:

https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/service/accessibility-services-registration-and-documentation-requirements/

We recommend applying as early as possible to request course and/or practicum accommodations.

If you need to provide documentation to Accessibility Services, many health-care providers are offering virtual appointments, including Health & Wellness on the St. George campus. If you are unable to provide complete documentation at this time, please communicate with the intake/triage team at jennifer.stewart@utoronto.ca.

There is helpful, important information available on our website with FAQs re: remote/online learning that we invite students, faculty, and staff to review:

https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as/covid-19-updates

Also available on this page is information on strategies for online learning, as well as mental health strategies and resources that may be helpful to students.

Learning Strategist appointments are available to support registered students with academic skill-building and reinforcement related to challenges with motivation, time management, procrastination, perfectionism, and the transition to online learning among other issues.

We have an Adaptive Technologist on staff who can provide information on and assessments for adaptive technologies. We ask that students first speak to their Advisor to discuss whether a meeting with the Adaptive Technologist may be helpful.

Our office also offers many programs for registered students including Virtual Accountability Check-in Groups, Learning Skills Workshops, Accessibility Dialogues, Accessibility Grad Chats, and various peer support programs:

https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/accessibility-services/

Drop-in hours are not currently available due to COVID-19 measures. Registered students can book phone or video appointments with their Accessibility Services Advisor, a Learning Strategist, or our Adaptive Technologist by phone or email:

**Contact Information:**

416-978-8060
accessibility.services@utoronto.ca.

We remain available to meet with students who need to connect with our office to discuss their accommodation plan, ongoing access to disability-related services, or other related issues. We encourage any student who requires support from their Accessibility Advisor to reach out to book an appointment – we are happy to help.

Reshma Dhrodia
MSW, RSW
Welcome to FIFSW! Members of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) are excited for your journey to begin at the Master of Social Work program. Your time here can go by quickly, so it’s best to make the most of it while you can. One way to do that is by becoming involved in the GSA. Being involved in the GSA can be rewarding, as it gives students the opportunity to give back to the student community and offers a platform to network with other students and faculty. There are many other benefits such as being involved in events, advocating for students and many more.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions!

What the role of the GSA includes:
- Cultivating a community among students, faculty, staff and the social work field
- Representing social work students in University matters
- Attending meetings within the University of Toronto Graduate Students’ Union (UTGSU)
- Promoting linkages with social agencies
- Monitoring and evaluating social work education
- Planning extra-curricular activities throughout the year

Upcoming Event:
Elections for many positions within the GSA are happening in mid-September so stay tuned for updates soon! You can check out the different roles that you can self-nominate for in our website, under “Governance”.

Nalian Youmer
GSA Co-President

Contact Information:
GSA website: https://sites.google.com/view/fifsw-gsa/home
Email: fsw.gsa@utoronto.ca
Office: Third Floor – Student Lounge
(246 Bloor Street West)
Follow us on social media!
- @gsa.fifsw
- FIFSW Graduate Student Association
There is no question that the COVID-19 pandemic has created a new set of rapidly evolving conditions for professional education, the network of practicum partners, and for students entering field education. The delivery of professional education is changing, is evolving and is uncertain. This is especially true of field education, as we are dependent on the pool of agencies available to provide field instruction. We are mindful that these agencies are also impacted by the pandemic.

Field education is credited by graduates, employers and educators as one of the most important elements of social work education programs, and is critical to the learning experience of students in the MSW Program at FIFSW. Field instructors have responded in creative ways in these unprecedented times. The Practicum Office continues to work with our field partners in obtaining the opportunities for you to integrate theory into practice.

In the fall you will be invited to an October online information session regarding the protocol used to match you with a practicum for the winter semester. All University of Toronto health science students, including MSW student, are required to complete an online COVID training curriculum before beginning a practicum. You will be sent the invitation in the fall. Other relevant resource, schedule and supports appear on the Practicum website which can be found at https://socialwork.utoronto.ca/practicum/

Because of the unforeseen circumstances as well as the challenges in the field to support practicums, deferring practicums from the winter semester will only be supported in extreme cases. Some of the methods now employed to facilitate the practicum opportunities for MSW students include flexible start dates, in-person as well as virtual practicums, and practicums in places of employment.

All students should be aware that agency staff, including field instructors, may be deployed to critical activities and that public health guidelines could impact all in-person activities. In those cases, students will be provided with approved alternative field education opportunities in agencies that can provide fully virtual learning opportunities or in other forms to complete outstanding practicum requirements.

In these challenging times, FIFSW and our field partners remain committed to your development as a future MSW practitioner. We look forward to ‘seeing’ you in the fall!

Sincerely,

Eileen McKee, MSW, RSW, MBA
Assistant Dean, Field Education
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work
University of Toronto
416 978 4338
Student Resources: University of Toronto

Accessibility Services
For questions related to Accessibility Services and academic accommodations, contact Reshma at:
reshma.dhrodia@utoronto.ca

Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office
For information about the services provided by the Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office, visit
https://antiracism.utoronto.ca/services/

Centre for Indigenous Studies
For information about the services provided by SAGE (Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement), visit
https://indigenousstudies.utoronto.ca/sage/

First Nations House
For information about the supports offered through First Nations House, visit:
https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/fnh

Library Support
For library assistance outside of business hours, use the Ask Chat with a Librarian service at
https://onesearch.library.utoronto.ca/ask-librarian

Writing Centre
Appointments in the Health Sciences Writing Centre are online this fall; they can be synchronous (with video/audio) or asynchronous. To book a free appointment, visit
https://www.hswriting.ca/

Mental Health & Health
For services related to mental health and health, please see the following resources:
Anishnawbe Health Toronto
http://aht.ca/
U of T My Student Support Program (MY SSP)
https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/cie/myssp
U of T Health and Wellness Centre
https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/hwc

Sexual Violence Prevention & Support Centre
For information about the supports offered through the Sexual Violence Prevention & Support Centre, visit
https://www.svpscentre.utoronto.ca/
Student Contacts: FIFSW

Dean
Dexter Voisin
dean.voisin@utoronto.ca

Associate Dean, Research
David Brennan
david.brennan@utoronto.ca

Associate Dean, Academic
David Burnes
david.burnes@utoronto.ca

Assistant Dean, Field Education
Eileen McKee
e.mckee@utoronto.ca

Registration/Funding
For questions related to course registration, program navigation, or funding, contact Sharon Haughian-Bewell at sharon.bewell@utoronto.ca.

Practicum Office
For questions related to practicum, contact the Practicum Office at practicum.fsw@utoronto.ca

International Students
For international students with questions related to immigration matters or student experience, please contact Megan Davies at megcatherine.davies@utoronto.ca

Library Support
For questions related to using library resources or research consultations, contact Nalini Singh at nalini.singh@utoronto.ca

Writing Centre
If you have difficulty with the Writing Centre website, please contact Roz Spafford, the Social Work Writing Instructor, at roz.spafford@utoronto.ca