

CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES FIELD OF STUDY 2020-2021

Coordinator: Prof. Susan Stern s.stern@utoronto.ca

Core Faculty List: Profs Ramona Alaggia, Tara Black, Barbara Fallon, Kyle Ganson, Deborah Goodman, Ellen Katz, Bryn King, Barb Muskat, Michael Saini, Susan Stern

Required Course Offerings for Children and their Families

1. [SWK 4620H](#): Social Work Practice with Children and Adolescents
2. [SWK 4608H](#): Social Work Practice with Families
3. [SWK 4625H](#): Intersection of Policy and Practice with Children and their Families
4. [SWK 4514H](#): Research for Practice with Children and their Families
5. Two half-credit graduate level electives
6. [SWK 4702Y](#): Social Work Practicum II

MSW Program with Advanced Standing complete the above courses plus, the compulsory course: [SWK 4510H](#) Research for Evidence-Based Social Work Practice. SWK 4510H must be completed before taking any of the required research courses in this field of study. Students take this course in the first term of the MSW Program.

Related Elective Examples*

[SWK 4610H](#) Advanced Social Work Practice with Couples

[SWK 4619H](#) Family Mediation: Theory and Practice

[SWK 4623H](#) Violence in Families: Multilevel Intervention in Interdisciplinary Practice

[SWK 4633H](#) Advanced Clinical Practice with Families of Children & Adolescents

[SWK 4638H](#) Social Work Practice in Children's Mental Health

[SWK 4639H](#) Advanced Topics in Family Therapy

[SWK 4668H](#) Welfare of Children

[SWK 4639H](#) Core Concepts of Child and Adolescent Trauma

Practicum Examples include: 1) children's mental health centres and juvenile justice systems 2) child welfare settings 3) school boards 4) hospital settings 5) child advocacy and Ministry**

Yorktown Child and Family Services	Toronto District School Board
George Hull Centre for Children and Families	Children's Aid Society of Toronto
Child Development Institute	Native Child and Family Services
Hospital for Sick Children	Office of the Children's Lawyer
Sunnybrook Medical Centre: Adolescent Unit	Covenant House
Evergreen Youth Services	CAMH – Child and Adolescent Unit

Career Prospects:

Variable depending on the economy and market conditions. Jobs are in areas of children's mental health, child welfare, school settings, health units. As with many social work jobs they usually start as contract positions. We don't have statistics specific to child and youth service jobs.

* These are examples of electives related to children and families – offered most years but not every year

depending on instructor availability

**These are examples of placements – offered most years but not every year depending on supervisor availability

FAQs:

When do I declare my field of study?

- **Year 1 of 2-year MSW Program:** Submit your form to the Registrar, normally by the beginning of February <http://socialwork.utoronto.ca/current-students/forms/>
- **Advanced Standing MSW Program:** Indicate field of study when applying for admission to the program.

Who do I contact for advice on field of study selection?

Your faculty advisor. Advisors are assigned to students by the Associate Dean, Academic's Office. Notification is by e-mail at the start of September. If you do not know who your advisor is, e-mail associate.deanfifsw@utoronto.ca

May I take core courses offered in other fields of study to count as my electives?

Students have the option of taking a course from another field of study to count as an elective if there is room in the course after students in the field have enrolled. Check with the Faculty Registrar sharon.bewell@utoronto.ca to see whether there is space in another course prior to the start of the term the course is offered. Typically, we will know if there is room in a course by the end of July for Fall Session courses and by the end of November for January Session courses.

What competencies can I expect to gain from this field of study?

Students will become familiar with the social ecological/developmental model which views children as interacting with and affected by their whole environment, an approach that is informed by the most current empirical research. Child mental health and the various issues children and youth are referred for services will be covered. Students in Children and their Families can expect to learn how to engage children and their families, and conduct trauma and evidence-informed assessments and interventions across systems levels. Students will learn to critically analyse policies and identify impacts on children and families. Evaluating practice and programs and developing proposals for service funding will also be part of the student learning experience. Students will leave the program with networking and advocacy skills and knowledge of program and policy development.

