

VERONICA KNOWLES, LCSW-SUPERVISOR

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EDUCATION

University of Alabama

Master of Social Work

2004

Emphasis: Children Youth and Families

Advanced Standing, Outstanding Graduate Student Recognition

University of Mississippi

Bachelor of Social Work

2002

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Mississippi State University
Instructor**

Aug 2017-Current

Instruct undergraduate students interested in Social Work or related studies. Provide advising to students to help them successfully matriculate through a CSWE accredited BSW program. Offer insight into the field of Social Work to students and serve as a resource to practice opportunities for students seeking experiences outside of the classroom. Monitor students' success by creating and administering measurement tools that capture information presented in class. Developed a course for Distance Education.

Serve as Social Work Practice Instructor for Micro and mezzo-level courses. In these courses, students are challenged by simulation activities developed by the instructor to grasp the concepts presented in course objectives. Students have complemented the training and presentations to field expectations/goals.

Primary Instructor of Record for Populations at Risk. This course examines the role and interaction of social workers with vulnerable groups. This course incorporates the impact of oppressive behaviors such as racism, sexism, homophobia, affirmative action, xenophobia, and other oppressive structures today. Students are stretched to think outside the box and examine the world's encounters through a multicultural lens. This course has been complemented by students and each semester the enrollment of non-SW majors increases, often via student referrals. HBSE highlights the person-in-environment and examines the biological, psychological, social-structural, and cultural aspects of human development from infancy and childhood to adolescence from a social systems perspective, emphasizing diversity and oppression as well as ethical issues. Students are encouraged to consider themselves and the personal stories of person-in-environment and how circumstances would differ with a shift in the environment.

Expand student views of Social Work practice by instructing a variety of electives. In SW Practice for Healthcare students were linked with highly esteemed practitioners from across the U.S. working in a role related to the students' interest. Students were interviewed social workers and gained a better understanding of the role. Students complimented that this assignment was: meaningful, fun, educational, and solidifying as a career goal. Seminar in Resilience students were forced to explore self-care measures for themselves and develop a wellness plan to help future clients do the same.

COURSES TAUGHT/DEVELOPED

- SW 2303: SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY I
- SW 3003: POPULATIONS AT RISK
- SW 3013: HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT I
- SW 3023: HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT II
- SW 3513: SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE I
- SW 3523: SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE II
- SW 4533: SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES IN SOCIAL WORK
- SW 4613: CHILD WELFARE SERVICES-DEVELOPED ONLINE
- SW 4643: SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN SCHOOLS
- SW 4653: SOCIAL WORK AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

Adjunct Lecturer- Social Work Program, Mississippi State University**2014-2017**

Served as an instructor for a 3-hour undergraduate course.; focused on helping undergraduate students identify populations at risk and establish a professional approach to working with identified populations as determined by CSWE, developed course materials and syllabus, evaluated student performance, and provided timely grade reports to the department.

Lecturer- The Allied Health Approach Stepping Stones Career College**2013**

Collaborated on curriculum and professional development of students. Served as night lecturer throughout the program, instructing on the different roles of the healthcare team and best practice methodologies for a professional setting.

Field Instructor- University of Southern Mississippi**2012**

Served as a preceptor for MSW students and incorporated theories identified in the traditional classroom setting with field practice.

WORK EXPERIENCE**InTouch Psychological Services
Therapist****Jan 2018-April 2020**

Provide psychotherapy to patients served by the clinic. Clinic is housed in a small rural hospital and services are provided as an outpatient clinic. Work with Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner to create the best plan of care for patients.

**Ellisville State School
Bureau Director****June 2015-Aug 2017**

Served as director and operating administrator of Columbus Community Programs that include: Community Respite, Waiver Services, Work Activity Center, Prevocational Skills Training, Targeted Case Management, IDD Community Home, and Supported Living. Managed the finances established through the operating budget set by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health. Wrote grants and managed the resources. Oversee all operating programs and serve as the chief liaison between professional staff and MDH.

**Neshoba County DHS
Area Social Work Supervisor****Jan 2015- June 2015**

Supervised frontline social workers in the Department of Family and Children Services. Provide support for workers in the field and offer best practice model coaching according to the family-centered model. Collaborate with community stakeholders for the best interest of Neshoba County, Mississippi children and youth.

Montfort Jones Memorial Hospital**Dec 2013 –April 2014****Program Director**

Served as the manager and supervisor of the geriatric program/department. Managed a staff of more than 20 professionals which included nurses and other mental health professionals. Provided group therapy to senior citizens and worked very close with psychiatrist to develop treatment plans for patients served. Participated in hospital administration to represent the best interest of the hospital with financial decisions. Collaborated with community liaisons to promote a greater awareness of the importance of strong mental health for people living in the community.

Pioneer Health Services**Sept 2012- Nov 2014****Therapist**

Provided comprehensive individual and group therapy to individuals diagnosed with a serious mental illness. Developed a master treatment plan for services to be rendered on the unit. Worked with other agencies in the community to promote awareness of signs and symptoms of mental illness along with services available for individuals identified as having a mental illness. Offered community education and free screenings for linkage to services to treat mental illness and substance abuse.

Fresenius Medical Care**April 2008 – Sep 2012****Nephrology Social Worker**

Provided education and counseling to patients and their families affected by End Stage Renal Disease. Worked as a part of a multidisciplinary team to provide comprehensive services to patients receiving dialysis at the largest dialysis company in the world. Collaborated with Mississippi Kidney Foundation to provide services to people at risk of developing kidney disease such as free screenings, education, prevention, and awareness. Traveled throughout the country being educated on the latest best

practices and research approaches identified in Nephrology. Completed psychosocial assessments and provided linkage to community resources.

PRESENTATIONS

Knowles, V. (2024). Ethics-What it is and what it is not. Mississippi Council on Social Welfare. Oxford, MS.

Boltz, L. & Knowles, V. (2023). Preparing students for child welfare work using case simulations. Sociology Brown Bag.

Boltz, L., Knowles, V., Cooper, A., & Bellais, M. (2023). Preparing students for child welfare work using case simulation: Experiences of faculty and students. Invited speakers at the One Loud Voice Conference, Biloxi, MS. (Presented with 2 current BSW students)

Boltz, L. & Knowles, V. (2023). Using personal stories to discuss race in child welfare. Interactive workshop presented at the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting, Atlanta, GA. (Peer reviewed)

Knowles, V. & Hill Q. (2023). The beauty of collaboration: An experiential learning in Kenya. Interactive workshop presented at the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference, Birmingham, AL. (Presented with a current BSW student) (Peer reviewed)

Bellais, M., Knowles, V. & Boltz, L. (2023). The use of child welfare simulations in an inter-disciplinary setting. Panel presentation for the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors Annual Conference, Birmingham, AL. (Presented with a current BSW student) (Peer reviewed)

“Professionalism in the Workplace”
Presentation at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Golden Triangle 2012

“The Power to Thrive and Not Survive with ESRD”
Presentation at Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Health Center 2011

“Social Workers in Health Care”
Presentation for Neshoba County Allied Health Classes 2011

LICENSURES

LCSW- Mississippi C-7465, Board Approved Supervisor
LMSW
CMHT

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2024-Current Mississippi State University- FYE Instructor
2023-Current Mississippi State University – College of Arts & Sciences Scholarship Committee
2023-Current Mississippi State University – University Wellness Taskforce
2022-Current Mississippi State University – Faculty-led Study Abroad: Experiential Learning, People Planet, Profit: Kenya
2018 Mississippi State University – B.R.I.D.G.E.S. Mentor
2017-Current Mississippi State University – Social Work Program Admissions Committee
2017 -Current Mississippi State University – Social Work Program Awards Committee
2017-Current Mississippi State University – Social Work Program Curriculum Committee
2017-Current Mississippi State University – Social Work Program Scholarship Committee

MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Association of Social Work Board-Practice Analysis Task Force Member, Invited Board Member Exchange Facilitator,2024
Baccalaureate Program Directors -APM 2023 Presenter
Council of Social Work Education- APM 2023 Presenter
National Association of Social Workers, Mississippi Chapter-Board Member 2019-2024
Mississippi Board of Examiners for Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists-Board Member, Vice-Chair
Mississippi Kidney Foundation
Mississippi Conference on Social Welfare-Regional Workshop Presenter 2024