

Curriculum Vitae
ROBERT SEYMOUR WRIGHT, MSW, RSW

Office
202-6169 Quinpool Road
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3L 4P6
phone: 902-832-1593
fax: 902-832-0061

Home
34 Inverness Avenue
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3P 1X7

robertseymourwright@gmail.com
www.robertswright.ca

PROFILE:

A Registered Social Worker (RSW) and Sociologist with experience and education in areas of Child Welfare, Education, Mediation, Mental Health, Direct Practice, Forensics, Administration and Cultural Competence. Master's Degree and Postgraduate Training in Social Work and Post Graduate Study in Sociology, Certificate in Divorce Mediation Theory, Completed Nova Scotia Public Service Commission Executive Development Program, Registered Social Worker - Clinical Specialist, Clinical Member of Association for the Treatment and Prevention of Sexual Abusers and the Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health.

(updated December, 2025)

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

SOCIAL WORK CLINICAL SPECIALIST

Private Practitioner

1989 - Present

I have maintained a registered private practice in social work over the past 35 years. I describe myself as a clinician/academic/administrator. I have always integrated my work delivering direct practice clinical service to clients with teaching and supervising interns and promoting lasting systemic change through social policy advocacy. I have specializations in the areas of Direct Practice and Forensics. I have been qualified as an expert witness in courts in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Ontario in areas including mental health, child protection, parenting capacity, domestic violence, sex offender assessment and treatment, the impact on parenting of a range of medical conditions and the impact of race and culture on patterns of criminal behaviour and family matters. I have conducted scores of parenting capacity, custody access, voice of the child, risk of violence and sex offender assessments over the past 21 years and have testified in court in support of these on many occasions. I am also the pioneer of Impact of Race and Culture Assessments, a specialized, psycho-social, pre-sentence assessment for adjudicated persons of African descent. This work has made a significant contribution to more just sentences, countering the anti-Black racism present in sentencing. My practice is a “teaching practice”, and I regularly supervise student interns from a range of human service, social work and counselling programmes. In 2011 I started ManTalk, a professionally supported, educational and emotionally supportive group for male victims of sexual abuse. This continues to be a programme of the Peoples’ Counselling Clinic, though I do not lead it directly.

SAINT MARY’S UNIVERSITY

923 Robie Street

Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 3C3

Assistant Professor of Criminology

July 1, 2025 - Present

I have recently confirmed my appointment to this full-time, tenure track position. The position was designed for an Indigenous person or a person of African heritage. The role did not require the incumbent to hold an earned PhD.

THE PEOPLES’ COUNSELLING CLINIC

200-6169 Quinpool Road

Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3L 4P6

Executive Director

November 2017 – April 2024

Director Emeritus

April 2024 - Present

In the Fall of 2017 when the pro-bono activities of my private practice became extensive and was supported by several grants from government and foundation sources, I formed this non-profit. The Peoples’ Counselling Clinic provides free and low-cost counselling to individuals, families, and groups. Services are provided by counselling professionals and students in a professional, supervised environment.

THE AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE

5832 Bilby Street

Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3K 1V8

Acting Executive Director November 2021 – April 2024, March 2025 - Present
Special Advisor April 2024 - December 2024

I served on the organizing committee of the ANSJI and in November became its inaugural executive director. In this role I have led the organization to become a national leader in addressing anti-Black racism in the criminal justice system. Through its network of clinical assessors, it has become the sole provider of Impact of Race and Culture Assessments for courts in Nova Scotia and has contracted with the Legal Aid Secretariat of Canada to provide training to IRCA assessors nationally.

MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY

166 Bedford Highway

Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3M 2J6

Sessional and Term Instructor

Summer 2008 – Spring 2013

Departments of Education and Child and Youth Study

I taught in the undergraduate programme in Child and Youth Studies and in all three of the Africentric MEd programmes in the Education Department which were co-sponsored by the Council on African Canadian Education.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Nelson Place, 5675 Spring Garden Road

PO Box 696

Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T7

Executive Director of the Child and Youth Strategy

May 2007 - July 2010

In this role I was responsible for the coordination of efforts involving five (5) key government departments as they work together to improve services to and outcomes of children and youth.

IWK HEALTH CENTRE

5850 - 5980 University Ave.

Halifax, NS

B3H 1V7

Social Worker - Child Protection Team

August 2006 - May 2007

I shared the social work intake position on this team for 10 months. While there, I implemented a single session intervention clinic and eliminated the 2 year waiting list for families and their children who experienced sexual abuse to see the therapist.

CENTRAL REGION CHILD AND YOUTH ACTION COMMITTEE (CAYAC)

2131 Gottingen St., Suite 501

Halifax, NS

B3J 3P7

Social Worker/Principal Investigator

July 2005 - June 2006

While on leave from my permanent position (see below), I was employed by CAYAC to develop a profile of students described as “youth-not-in-school” and to develop an inter-agency method of practice to better serve them. Major accomplishments: Introduced weekly group therapy as a core element of the programme; successfully established resilience theory as a model for shaping the programme’s interventions.

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE

P.O. Box 1000

South Lancaster, MA 01561

Visiting Instructor of Social Work

January 2002

Instructed Fundamentals of Social Research II. I was specifically requested to return to my alma mater to infuse greater emphasis on the application of statistical tools of analysis. Major accomplishment: Integrating statistics and quantitative research in this largely arts based curriculum programme which enhanced students' success when pursuing graduate training.

WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Work

75 University Avenue

Waterloo, Ontario

N2L 3C5

Teaching Assistant

September 2000 - December 2000

Was part of a team of four instructors responsible for delivering weekly lectures (a shared responsibility) and seminars (we each led separate seminars) in the course SK500 Human Growth and Development.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

26-28 Prince Arthur Street

PO Box 399

Amherst, Nova Scotia

B4H 3Z5

Executive Director

December 1998 - December 2007

Casework Supervisor/Clinical Assessor

August 1997 - November 1998

At this agency I oversaw all human resource, finance, casework and clinical services offered by the Agency. In addition to these administrative functions I continued to provide direct clinical supervision of social work practitioners and provided direct clinical services to a small caseload of forensic clients (largely sex offenders). Major accomplishments: Leveraged the powerful role of a child welfare agency to establish partnerships with a range of community based agencies establishing an enduring collaborative community practice; significantly reduced volume and risk level of referrals to child welfare by investing and partnering with community agencies; established a model of joint case management of extremely complex cases that has served as a model of practice in other jurisdictions.

WASHINGTON STATE PENITENTIARY

1313 13th Street

Walla Walla, WA 99362

Correctional Mental Health Counsellor

August 1996 - March 1997

Provided clinical assessment, treatment and casework management to incarcerated men presenting with severe and persistent mental illness, personality disorders, addictions and a wide range of criminogenic problems (including homicide and sex offences) in this 2600 bed State Penitentiary. Major accomplishments: Studied and wrote about trauma

among protective custody inmates; established the effectiveness of trauma informed practice with this population.

DARTMOUTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

95 Victoria Road

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Race Relations Co-ordinator

March 1994 - May 1996

Provided in-service training, supervision and consultation to all levels of administration and staff regarding issues of cultural competence and race relations. Contributed to provincial educational initiatives including curriculum and policy development. I left this post to complete my graduate studies on a full time basis.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF HALIFAX

5244 South Street

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Family Care Worker

June 1992 - February 1994

Summer, 1991

Under contract to cover a leave of absence, and later as a permanent employee, I managed a family care (protection) case load, and participated in developing a program for contracting and training paraprofessional service providers in this well respected child welfare agency.

HALIFAX DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Highland Park School

3479 Robie Street

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Student Support Worker

April 1991 - June 1992

In consultation with the school principal and administration, provided and co-ordinated services to "at risk students" and their families as well as community organizing activities in the field of education.

PARKER ST. FOOD & FURNITURE BANK

2063 Parker Street

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Community Worker

December 1989 - January 1991

Was responsible for volunteer staffing and supervision, program and community development, fund-raising, and direct services including family visitation and crisis intervention in this private, charitable organization.

Y.O.U. Inc.

Worcester, Mass

01605

Assistant Co-ordinator Mediation Program

February - December 1989

Was responsible for intake and case assessment, co-ordination of volunteer mediators, assisted in mediation training, and mediated various types of family conflict.

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE

South Lancaster, Mass.

01561

Assistant Dean of Men

September 1988 - December 1989

Supervised Dons, clerical, reception, housekeeping staff; directed training of residence dons, implemented in house education programs, provided orientation and ongoing adjustment counselling and support to residents.

Residence Hall Counsellor

September 1987 - August 1988

Assisted in scheduling in house education and recreation programs, provided counselling and support, co-ordinated clerical staff, provided computer training to office staff.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES

(Precursor of the Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank)

2063 Parker Street

Halifax, N.S.

B3P 1X7

Co-ordinator

Summer 1985, 1986

Co-ordinated all aspects of the food bank operation of this service under the direction of the director

Research worker

Summer, 1984

Assisted in the establishment of the Metro Food Bank Society and the Seventh-Day Adventist Community Service Center, co-ordinated and supervised grant.

VOLUNTEER/CIVIC EXPERIENCE

Urban REZ Solutions: Social Enterprise

1225 Kennedy Road Suite 2000

Scarborough, ON

M1P 4Y1

Member - Board of Directors

2025

Urban Rez Solutions is a Black-led mandated social transformation agency. Urban Rez empowers people who experience systemic socio-economic barriers (identifying as Black, Indigenous, racialized, or justice-impacted) to get optimal performance out of their potential. Through culturally-relevant programming our team imparts professional development and social education thereby equipping people to navigate life. Urban Rez creates spaces conducive to positive change by building meaningful rapport and progressive relationships.

iMOVE

2439 Gottingen St.

Halifax, N.S.

B3K 3C3

Member – Board of Directors

January 2014 – Present

iMOVE delivers community & prison-based programs for marginalized youth. Drawing on the expertise and support of many service providers and community volunteers, iMOVE's ensures that youth voices are important and heard as they gain tremendous

leadership experience – being interviewed, standing on both sides of a video camera, hosting radio shows, witnessing the other side of the law without fear of reprisal, conferring with government officials, and cultural change activists.

SERIOUS INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM

Suite 203, 1256 Barrington St.

Halifax, N.S. B3J 1Y6

Member – Community Liaison Committee

January 2012 - 2017

Support and assist the SiRT administration and investigators with navigating within communities and families particularly when matters involve persons from marginalized communities or who suffer from physical or mental disabilities

AFRIKAN CANADIAN PRISONER ADVOCACY COALITION

A new national coalition of individuals and agencies organizing to highlight the unique needs of Afrikan Canadians under correctional supervision. From October 2011 – 2014 as a member of this group I was involved with consultations on the mental health needs of incarcerated African Canadians. I also led a project to conduct a literature review for the Office of the Correctional Investigator on the experience and needs of incarcerated African Canadians.

December 2011 – 2014

NORTH END COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

North End Community Health Centre

2165 Gottingen Street

Halifax, NS B3K 3B5

Member, Board of Directors

March 2010 – November 2011

NOVA SCOTIA BARISTER'S SOCIETY

1101-1645 Granville Street

Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 1X3

Member, Race Relations Committee

Fall 2009 – Fall 2014

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION OF CANADA

Suite 600, 100 Sparks Street

Ottawa, ON

K1P 5B7

Member, Diversity Task Group

2008-2009

This group, a Task Group of the Mental Health Commission of Canada worked to produce the document: Improving mental health services for immigrant, refugee, ethno-cultural and racialized groups: Issues and options for service improvement.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

P. O. Box 696

Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T7

Member, CFSA Advisory Committee

Mar 2006 - May 2007

NOVA SCOTIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 31191

Halifax, Nova Scotia B3K 5Y1

Vice-President & Chair, Policy & Public Education Committee Feb 2006 - Apr. 2010

President April 2010 - December 2010

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN CANADA

1148 King Street

EastOshawa, Ontario L1H 1H8

Member of the Sexual Ethics Pool January 2002 - c. January 2009

Appointed to this national pool of recognized experts in the area of sexual misconduct.

The organization maintains this pool of experts to serve as investigators in matters related to sexual misconduct of its clergy, lay employees and volunteers.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

P.O. Box 7

Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2L6

Member, Advisory Committee on Judicial Appointments Jan 2002 - Dec 2006

CORRECTIONAL SERVICE OF CANADA

Brunswick Hotel

Moncton, NB

Celebrating the Volunteer International Year of Volunteers September 15, 2001

Received recognition for my volunteer efforts with CSC in the area of prison chaplaincy

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

12501 Old Columbia Pike

Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600

Member of the Division Operating Committee 1996 – 2001

Having served on a number of administrative committees within my church on a local, regional and national level, I was elected in 1996 to serve on the North American operating committee. This committee meets annually.

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE

204 S. College Ave.

College Place, WA 99324

Organizer and Chair, Graduate Student Organization August 1996 - June 1997

Prior to August of 1996 there was no formal democratic organization of graduate students at Walla Walla College. I undertook to change that. The organization was inaugurated in December of 1996 and I became its first Chairperson.

HENSON COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS & CONTINUING EDUCATION
(DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY)

6100 University Avenue

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Co-chair of Board of Directors, Transition Year Program 1994 - 1996

The Transition Year Program is an affirmative action/access academic program which targets indigenous Blacks and Mi'q maks of Eastern Canada. The Board promotes culturally specific curriculum, advocates for continued funding, contributes to staffing selection and review, and serves as liaison to the targeted communities and the wider University Community.

DRUG DEPENDENCY SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

PO Box 896

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 3Z6

Member, Central Region Advisory Council 1994 - 1996

This citizen council serves to advise the regional director on issues of program priority, participates in public education initiatives, and supports program development and partnerships with community based agencies with similar mandates.

CITY OF HALIFAX

PO Box 1749

Halifax, Nova Scotia

B3J 3A5

Member, Organizing Committee, Uptown Community Futures 1992 - 1997

An informal group which has worked to design, acquire funds for, and implement an Afrocentric drug prevention program to serve the pre-treatment and prevention needs of members of the North End Community of Halifax (the Nia Center). This project's funding has recently come to an end, leaving behind a legacy of better equipped community volunteers (2 registered non-profit groups) and improved understanding of cultural components of substance use and treatment issues.

Member, Mayor's Task Force on Drug Awareness 1992 - 1994

As member of this Task Force, I participated in developing programs, continuing research, and promoting awareness of the problems related to the use and trafficking of illicit drugs.

Member, Board of Directors Harbor City Homes 1991 - 1994

As member of the Board, oversaw all construction, maintenance, tenant landlord relations, hiring of staff, contracting etc. Appointed by city council to this post.

SANDY LAKE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST ACADEMY

35 Killarney Drive

Bedford, Nova Scotia

Instructor, Sociology

1996

Taught a 12th grade sociology course in seminar fashion to a small group of well-motivated students.

Member, School Board

1992 - 1995

Served on the school board providing consultation on issues of student housing, curriculum and personnel

Member, Dormitory Management Committee

1990 - 1994

Provided professional support to deans and assisted in program planning and implementation.

Guidance Consultant

1990 - 1994

Provided career and personal growth guidance/counseling etc. to senior high students, consult with teachers, administration, provided some testing services, etc.

MARITIME CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

121 Salisbury Road

Moncton, New Brunswick

E1E 1A6

Member, Board of Directors

1991 - 1996

This committee is the legal operating board for the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in the Maritimes. It has responsibility for financial management, staffing, and overall administration of the regional work.

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE

South Lancaster, Massachusetts

Visiting Lecturer

January 2002

Research Methods.

Member of the Human Relations Committee

1989

Nominated to this committee to monitor human relations and mediate disputes on this multi-cultural campus.

Member of the Student Services Committee

1988 - 1989

Nominated to this committee to direct activities of the student services department:

Counseling center, student residences, chaplain service, etc. While on this committee I contributed to the development of a new student handbook and was a chief contributor to the College's policy on AIDS/HIV.

Student Representative to the Board of Trustees

1988 - 1989

Represented student concerns to the college's highest governing body.

EDUCATION

Dalhousie University September 2010 – Summer 2015
Pursued PhD studies in Sociology - Recipient of the James Robinson Johnston
Scholarship. Degree not completed

Wilfrid Laurier University September 2000-April 2001
Began studies towards the PhD in Social Work. Degree not completed

Walla Walla College June 1996-June 1997
Master of Social Work (MSW) with recognition of high academic standing. Emphasis in
mental health/children and families

Saint Mary's University September-December 1992
Advanced Assessment: A graduate course in the principles and skills of psychological
assessment using tests and other procedures. This course has allowed me to qualify to
gain access to and administer certain psychometric tools for clinical and research
application.

Atlantic Union College January 1987-December 1989
Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree with Departmental Honors

Dalhousie University September 1985-December 1986
Certificate in Divorce Mediation Theory

Teaching Dossier
of
Robert S. Wright, BSW, MSW, RSW
Private Practitioner
Director Emeritus, The Peoples' Counselling Clinic
(updated December, 2024)

Over the past 20 years, though my primary professional identity has been that of social worker, I have also been an educator, teaching secondary, undergraduate and graduate courses at a number of institutions. My teaching has been mainly confined to social sciences and education, though I have demonstrated my capacity to instruct in statistics within the context of the research courses I have taught. Specifically, I have taught courses in sociology, research methods in the social sciences, human growth and development, youth care theory and practice, criminology, social work, and counselling. I have coached students in writing major papers in graduate project seminars and have supervised clinical students in field placements, practica and internships.

I believe that many of the social sciences have grown up in a time when the academy and the main producers of knowledge were members of the western, colonial elite. By that I mean they were mainly white, Anglo and male. Certainly, times have changed since the foundations of our disciplines have been established. This change requires that educators and academics in the present age approach their scholarship and teaching from a critical perspective, constantly asking questions about who the producers of prevailing theory were and what effect their work has had on other peoples. The knowledge and history of others needs to be infused in all teaching and scholarship, not only to bring critique to established ideas but to introduce other sources of knowledge as sources and subjects of critical consideration.

I believe that teaching effectiveness is heightened when a teacher brings three specific qualities to their teaching practice, particularly in a professional programme of study: Theoretical mastery of the subject matter; current experience in applying and practicing theory in the field; and a knowledge and affinity (dare I say love) for students and their aspirations. I believe I bring these three qualities to bear in my academic practice.

I consider myself an expert in the health and human services field. Throughout my career I have worked to stay connected to the literature and growing body of knowledge we have about children, youth and families and what contributes to their health and wellness. A lifelong learner, I regularly attend and present at national and regional conferences. Over time I have contributed significantly to the gray literature on topics such as ethics (in particular, dual relationships), cultural competence, the intersection of race and justice, the care of difficult to manage youth, treatment of sexual and racial trauma, and Black mental health. In addition to writing and presenting on these topics in the public sphere I have also been contracted to perform assessments and to write about these matters in courts, tribunals and in policy and programme development contexts.

I have maintained a small private practice since beginning my career. In 2017 my practice spawned The Peoples' Counselling Clinic, a community based, pro-bono mental

health clinic. In 2023/24, after several years of project and partnership funding from provincial and federal government sources, The Peoples' Counselling Clinic partnered with the Department of Health to be a pilot site in the development of universal access to mental health and addiction care in Nova Scotia. As an active social work practitioner, I am privileged and challenged to be constantly in the laboratory of applying theory to practice. This has been a valuable part of my teaching practice. Having recent and relevant field examples helps to inspire students and gives them the opportunity to interrogate the relationship between theory and practice with someone who is in active practice.

Finally, I bring to my teaching practice a deep love and knowledge of the students who are coming to institutions of higher learning today. They come to university from an ever diversifying social, economic, and cultural background. And changes in the economy make the pressures on students to leave the academy "job ready" greater now than at any other time. To ignite the passion for learning, teachers must make the classroom relevant to students both in terms of their increasing diversity and in terms of their real-world pressures and aspirations. The academy can no longer be a place of "pure learning" devoid of these socio-cultural realities. As students see themselves in the academy, they are empowered to embrace all that it offers as legitimate members of the academic community, rather than as outsiders who must take an antagonistic stance in order to preserve their cultural integrity.

Courses Taught

SK500 - Human Growth and Development: Wilfrid Laurier University, Fall 2000

This course focused on theories pertaining to the social context of identity and personality development. Emphasis is placed on the evolution of these theories and how they help us to understand the human condition and social work practice. Topics may include life span, ecological systems, contemporary psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioural, feminist, social constructionist and critical theories.

SOCI345 - Fundamentals of Social Research II: Atlantic Union College, Intercession 2002

This course emphasized practical skills in research and the use of various statistical applications to analyze results. I was asked by the chair of the department to focus considerable attention to the instruction and application of relevant statistical operations during this class (syllabus not available).

CHYS3320 - Youth Care: Theory and Issues: Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU), Fall 2009, 2011

This course is designed to introduce students to the particular developmental challenges facing adolescents, problematic issues that place youth at risk, and the roles and functions of youth care workers as supportive helping agents.

CHYS2211 - Research Methods in Child and Youth Study: MSVU, Winter 2010, Fall 2011

This course is designed to familiarize students with current research methodologies in the

social sciences. Emphasis was placed on the student's ability to evaluate the quality, and potential for application of research in the field of child and youth studies.

CHYS 4416 - Cultural Perspectives on Childhood and Adolescence: MSVU, Fall 2011

This course is a senior seminar devoted to examining childhood and adolescence in various countries. Attention will be focused on cultural attitudes and values related to children and how these values are reflected in research and social policy for children and families.

GEDU6140 - Graduate Project Seminar: MSVU, Summer 2008, 2009

This is the final course in the Africentric Leadership cohort of the MEd in Lifelong Learning offered at Mount Saint Vincent University. The course is designed to give students an opportunity to synthesize their learning in a final, major written work that demonstrates a sustained exploration of theory, research and practice. This work is approached from a critical, Afrocentric perspective in which the impact and relevance of the work to the history, experience and aspirations of African peoples is considered (syllabus attached).

CHYS4421 – Seminar in Child and Youth Research: MSVU, Winter 2011

This course is a senior seminar directed to the critical examination of research related to the field of child and youth study. In it, students are encouraged to develop the ability to critically evaluate and apply research.

GSL 6220 680 – Africentric Policy Issues in Lifelong Learning: MSVU, Winter 2013

An overview of the analytical frameworks for the study of policy as it impacts lifelong learning and an examination of selected policy issues.

GSL 6257 80 – Africentric Perspectives on Educational Policies and Practice: MSVU, Winter 2013

Educational policy development and implementation is not carried-out in a vacuum, but rather is shaped by the historical, social, economic, cultural and political context in which it is located. Therefore, using the lens of the BLAC Report and the social, economic, political, and cultural contexts which shaped it, in this course, we will focus on a critical examination of the philosophical, theoretical, historical, conceptual, cultural and applied aspects of educational policy reform as a pragmatic tool for social change and social justice.

EDUC 5553 Z4 - Topics in Counselling, Trauma-Informed Approaches to Mental Health: An Africentric Perspective: Acadia University, Summer 2017

While promoting an understanding of theory, philosophy, and evidence-based and best practice approaches to complex trauma, this course focuses on the changing theoretical assumptions and the growth of new clinical perspectives in trauma-informed counselling. The course also offers practical and experiential classroom sessions for acquiring the learning and skills necessary for various stages of intervention with complex trauma. This course will include an Africentric perspective in its examination of key issues and

approaches. This course is restricted to students in MEd Counselling and priority will be given to those who are completing their program. The course follows a seminar format and will cover a number of specialized areas important to counsellors.

CRIM 4830.2, CRIM 4836 1, CRIM 4836.2 - Race (and Racism) and the Criminal Justice System: SMU, Winter 2020, Fall 2021, Winter 2022, Fall 2025

In this Course, race will be the primary focus of study, African Canadian experience in Canada especially, as we explore the social construction of “criminality.” Indigeneity, gender, class and sexuality will also be considered using an intersectional lens. This course will challenge the conceived boundaries between theory and practice. We will reflect on both Social Control Theory and Critical Race Theory; examine the history of raced social control; and imagine alternative practices in the fields of prevention, policing, adjudicating, corrections, and broader considerations of criminal justice policy administration. Through presentation of the Course material and completion of Course requirements, the intersection of the criminal justice system with other systems of social control will become evident.

SLWK 5003.03: Critical Clinical Foundations of Social Work Intervention: Dal, Fall 2022, Fall 2023

This course develops a foundation for critical clinical practice within the context of social work values, ethics, theory, and analysis. It applies a critical clinical approach to the understanding and provision of direct social work practice intervention. Through a social justice lens a range of practice approaches and practice skills are explored. Students will learn how to apply a critical clinical social work practice framework through integrating experiential learning with critical practice theory. (Co-taught with Prof. Marion Brown. We had a teaching assistance both times we’ve taught this class.)

EDUC 5343 SU01: Counselling for Social Justice and Culturally Responsive Practices: Acadia Summer 2023

This course supported students in exploring theories of social justice, equity, and cultural responsiveness in counselling. Students were provided with opportunities for self-reflection on their social positioning and biases and how this impacts their approach to counselling. This course also provided opportunity for critical consideration of various counselling theories and methodologies.

CRIM 4830.1: Special Topics: Politics of Policing: SMU, Fall 2025

The course explores the politics of the origins and contemporary practices of Canadian policing. Through an overview of the origin and history of policing and major issues and case examples, it explores the police role in society in terms of its role in supporting freedom, equality and community.