



GENERATING KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATING ADVOCATES FOR
INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

MSWwp News School of Social Work Summer 2023

We acknowledge that The University of Windsor sits on the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibwa, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi. We respect the longstanding relationships with First Nations People in this place in the 100-mile Windsor-Essex Peninsula and the straits - les détroits of Detroit.

Hello! On behalf of the MSWwp Team, we all look forward to seeing everyone advance their education and profession. We love to see our students succeed, so please enjoy this newsletter featuring news and updates, plus student and staff accomplishments!

Student Spotlight

Alexander Orr



Hello! My name is Alexander Orr. I am a registered social worker and a student in the MSWwp program at Windsor. I am also the student representative for section 42. I live in Selby Ontario with my husband and our four cats.

I started in the field in 2016 while taking the Social Service Worker program at Loyalist College. After completing that program, I went to Nipissing University for their BSW program. After graduating, I decided I wanted to do more and ended up at the University of Windsor.

I have had the opportunity to work in many different roles as a student and as an employee. I have worked in addictions and mental health, outreach, harm reduction, housing, prevention diversion, healthcare, peer support, and youth services.

As a queer and trans social worker, I have had the opportunity to utilize my lived experience through the system and relate it to my work and with my clients. I remember vividly what it is like to have professionals not take you seriously, misgender you, or ask invasive questions. It is my hope to try and change this.

I will be done with the program as of December 2023 after 8 and a half years of postsecondary. It's weird to think about not being a student anymore, but I am excited about what comes next! :)

Regina Ntriwah Berko



My name is Regina Ntriwah Berko, born and raised in Ghana (West Africa). I am grateful to be featured in our school's newsletter; it is a great honor and I am delighted to be a member of the University of Windsor family.

I am the mother of four beautiful children and each of them has enriched my life in inexpressible ways. I am also a hard-working student at the University of Windsor. I received a Community Service Worker diploma from George Brown College in 2005 and, after graduating from George Brown, I have been working and supporting individuals with disabilities for nearly 18 years. I would not change any of it for the world.

In 2017, I decided that I needed to further my education. In 2018, I was granted admission to Ryerson University for Disability Studies. During my time at Ryerson, I was the recipient of the M.K. Chant Disability Award and the Harry E. Foster Memorial Award. I earned praise for my work ethic and for always putting those whose care was entrusted to me first. I successfully completed my undergraduate studies and resolved to pursue a Master's degree. With the above uppermost in mind, I applied to the University of Windsor for the MSWwp Program. I was accepted and my future plans are now to practice as a Clinical Social Worker in a hospital setting. I am deeply grateful for the opportunities that the University of Windsor has given me and it is my vow to give back as much as possible to help as many people as possible. I chose the University of Windsor's MSWwp program because of its commitment to excellence and because of how earnest and tenacious it has been in promoting the well-being of others. The flexibility and accommodation offered by the program also drew my interest and I was immediately delighted by the fact that the program is even better than I could have ever imagined.

To close, thank you for featuring me. It is indeed a thrill to be a part of Windsor's student body.

Instructor Spotlight

Kathy de Jong

Dr. Kathy de Jong, (pronouns:she/they) completed her PhD. at Wilfrid Laurier University in 2020. She previously earned an MSW (with distinction) at Wilfrid Laurier University in 1995 and an honours BA in sociology at McMaster University in 1991. Kathy joined the Memorial faculty in 2018. Prior to that, she spent 23 years in Ontario employed as a Social Work professional in the field of Children's Mental Health. During this time, she



served in various capacities, both clinical and administrative.

Kathy's area of scholarly interest is critical mental health as it pertains to service delivery to 2SLGBTQIA+ youth and their providers. She is particularly interested in the lived experience of youth service users and how they have experienced the embedded heteronormativity in the service system. Similarly, she is interested in understanding how service providers experience the same and what they do to try and mitigate its impact. All of this is with a view toward creating a safer and more inclusive mental health service delivery system for all children, youth and their families regardless of

gender and sexual expression/identification.

Kathy focuses her energies on teaching practice-based courses in a safe, transparent and engaging learning space. Her greatest passion is challenging conventional practice wisdom and encouraging the inclusion of a critical lens into micro-practice while integrating practice-based learning with social work theory. Her hope and desire is to be a mentor and to foster a new generation of social workers that will not only serve clients well but also transform the service delivery system in the process.

Kathy is a second-generation Canadian settler of European descent. She acknowledges that she is a guest on the lands where Memorial University's campuses are situated and in doing so humbly acknowledges and respects that these lands are in the traditional territories of diverse Indigenous groups and represent the diverse histories and cultures of the Beothuk, Mi'kmaq, Innu, and Inuit of this province.

de Jong, K. (2018). Book review: LGBTQ people and social work: Intersectional perspectives edited by Brian J. O'Neill, Tracy A. Swan, Nick J. Mulé, Toronto: Ontario, Canadian Scholars' Press, 2015. *Journal of LGBTQ Youth*, April 2018.

de Jong, Kathleen, "STORIES FROM THE RAINBOW ROAD: 2SLGBTQIA+ Identified Youth and Service Provider Experiences of Mental Health Service Delivery in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador" (2021). *Theses and Dissertations (Comprehensive)*. 2342.

<https://scholars.wlu.ca/etd/2342>

Link to doctoral project summary presentation:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/hyon4fipx9807ym/Stories%20from%20the%20Rainbow%20Road.mp4?dl=0>

Donna Richards



Donna Richards (she/her) is a registered social worker and a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Social Work at York University. She is also a faculty member in the Social Work department at Trent University. She obtained her MSW from the University of Toronto with a specialization in Social Justice and Diversity and a collaborative in Addictions (CoPAS). She has worked in various capacities within social work and social services settings over the years, including in the public sector, independent consultation, and private practice, and as an Infection Prevention and Control Specialist.

Donna is a member of the Academic Network, Youth Research and Evaluation Exchange (YouthREX) at York University, a member of the editorial board for the International Network on Youth Integration Journal's (INYI) special issue on anti-racism, and a funding advisor on the Bell Let's Talk Diversity Circle of Advisors.

Donna's research centres on racialized youth mental health & intersections of race, racism, ABR, and ableism and stigma. Her doctoral research qualitatively explores stigma and the intersections of race and gender on the mental health experiences of young Black women. Through her research, she hopes to foster an understanding of how race interacts with gender and other identity markers in the mental health experiences of young Black women and how these experiences shape their access to mental health services and their encounters with health professionals and the healthcare system.

Instructor and Curriculum Lead Orientations

Curriculum Lead Orientation - MSWwp

When: Thursday, June 22nd, 2023, from 9:00 AM-10:30AM

MSWwp Instructor Orientation

When: Tuesday, July 18th, 2023, from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Navigating discussions regarding anti-Black racism and micro-aggressions in the MSWwp program for Instructors

When: Tuesday, July 25th, 2023, from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Getting Started with Brightspace - MSWwp Instructors

When: Thursday, August 10th, 2023, from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Fall 2023 New Student Orientations

Regular Track (Non BSW) – Academic Orientation

When: Monday, August 21, 2023, from 8:15AM–4:30PM

8:15-8:45 Welcome and Introductions

8:45-9:15 Meet your New MSWwp Faculty

9:15-10:15 Overview of Academic Requirements, Policies and Procedures

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-11:30 Overview of Academic Requirements, Policies and Procedures (*continued*)

11:30–12:00 Lunch

12:00–1:30 Professional and Ethical Issues for Graduate Social Workers, Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers

1:30-2:30 Student/Alumni Round Table

2:30 -2:45 Break

2:45-4:15 Library Resources, Leddy Library, University of Windsor

4:15-4:30 Conclusion

Regular Track (Non BSW) – Field Orientation

When: Tuesday, August 22, 2023, from 8:15AM–4:30PM

8:15-8:30 Welcome and Introductions

8:30-9:30 Overview of Field Education Policies and Standards

9:30-9:40 Break

10:00-noon Navigating Anti-Black Racism and Micro-Aggressions

Noon-12:30 Lunch

12:30-1:45 Meet your Learning Specialist and Review of Field Forms

1:45-1:55 Break

1:55–2:55 Agency Panel with Field Learning Specialists and Alumni

2:55-4:15 Case Report Writing for Social Workers
4:15-4:30 Conclusion

Advanced Track (BSW) – Academic Orientation

When: Wednesday, August 23, 2023, from 8:15AM–4:30PM

8:15-8:45 Welcome and Introductions
8:45-9:15 Meet your New MSWwp Faculty
9:15-10:15 Overview of Academic Requirements, Policies and Procedures
10:15-10:30 Break
10:30-11:30 Overview of Academic Requirements, Policies and Procedures (*continued*)
11:30–12:00 Lunch
12:00–1:30 Professional and Ethical Issues for Graduate Social Workers, Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers
1:30-2:30 Student/Alumni Round Table
2:30 -2:45 Break
2:45-4:15 Library Resources, Leddy Library, University of Windsor
4:15-4:30 Conclusion

Advanced Track (BSW) – Field Orientation

When: Thursday, August 24, 2023, 8:15AM–4:30PM

8:15-8:30 Welcome and Introductions
8:30-9:30 Overview of Field Education Policies and Standards
9:30-9:40 Break
10:00-noon Navigating Anti-Black Racism and Micro-Aggressions
Noon-12:30 Lunch
12:30-1:45 Meet your Learning Specialist and Review of Field Forms
1:45-1:55 Break
1:55–2:55 Agency Panel with Field Learning Specialists and Alumni
2:55-4:15 Case Report Writing for Social Workers
4:15-4:30 Conclusion

Connect With Us!



If there are any further questions, please contact us at msw@uwindsor.ca

Check out our new and improved website!

Visit Our Website

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MSW for Working Professionals
c/o School of Social Work

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