

# IN THE LOOP

## SSW STUDENT NEWSLETTER

**February 4, 2026**

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### Important Update

**Meet your Spring 2026 Undergraduate and Graduate Student Leaders (USL/GSL)!**

Your USL/GSLs serve as advocates and communication facilitators for School of Social Work (SSW) students, fielding questions about all of aspects of the undergraduate and graduate experience, including advising, practicum, registration, orientation, scholarships, deadlines, program policies, and more. They are able to provide quick and accurate answers to your questions.

All BSW and MSW students have been invited to join a Teams Channel (SSW Undergrad Student Channel OR SSW MSW Student Channel). These channels will serve as the communication hub for your SSW needs.

If you don't see the Teams Channel, please reach out to [sswengage@uta.edu](mailto:sswengage@uta.edu).

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### Advising Updates

Current UTA students should now schedule advising appointments through MavInspire Appointment Scheduling. To learn more on how to schedule your advising appointment, visit the Office of Advising & Student Retention [website](#)!

To drop courses, students need to use the drop form in MyMav. Visit the Registrar's Office [website](#) for instructions. Last day to drop is 4/3/2026.

Be sure to check your financial responsibility for dropping/withdrawing on the Student Accounts [website](#).

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### Practicum Updates

Summer 2026 Practicum applications **are open now and will close on 3/6/26 @ 4pm CST** for those students who have met the prerequisite and GPA requirements. Please check eligibility requirements here prior to applying on the practicum [website](#).

Need help formatting your resume? Be sure to check out our [resume resources](#) for helpful tips, resume format examples, and more.

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# Opportunities & Events



## Free Peer Support Groups – **New 4-Week Series Starts February 2!**

The UTA School of Social Work Virtual Peer Support Clinic is offering free, peer-led groups focused on Mindfulness & Resiliency. These virtual sessions provide a supportive, non-judgmental space to explore stress-management skills, grounding techniques, emotional awareness, and mindful coping.

Sessions meet once a week for 4 weeks and are offered at flexible times:

- **Mondays: 12 PM CST**
- **Tuesdays–Thursdays: 12 PM & 6 PM CST**

All students are welcome, and no previous experience is needed.

**Sign up here!**

Build community, strengthen coping skills, and support your well-being this semester!

## **The Power of Presence: Black Identity in Professional Social Work**



UTA School of Social Work invites you to a reflective and forward-looking Black History Month panel, *The Power of Presence: Black Identity in Professional Social Work*, on **February 5 at 5:30 p.m.** in the SWSH Lobby and virtually. Black leaders will explore identity, navigating systems, resilience, and collective action in the profession. In recognition of the 100th anniversary of Black History Month, this conversation creates space for honest dialogue, shared learning, and community connection. Open to students, faculty, staff, and community partners.

**Date:** February 5, 2026

**Time:** 5:30 p.m - 7:30 p.m

**[RSVP Here!](#)**

**Spring 2026 Group Work Series: Navigating Boundary and Dual Relationships in the Era of AI: Individual and Group Practice Dilemmas**

**Loyola University Chicago**  
Spring 2026 WORKSHOPS  
For more info on individual sessions, click the presenter name

**Group Work C.E. Series**

Date	Topic	Presenter	Time	CEUs
Feb 6	Navigating Boundary and Dual Relationships in the Era of AI: Individual and Group Practice Dilemmas	FREDERIC REAMER	1-4 PM CT   ZOOM	3 CEUs
Feb 13	Conflict and Other Challenging Issues in Groups	AMBERBART	10-4 PM CT   ZOOM	4 CEUs
Feb 20	Working with LGBTQIA+ Individuals: Practical & Effective Group Work Strategies	MANUEL G. GONZALEZ	1-4 PM CT   ZOOM	3 CEUs
Feb 27	Effective Intervention with Suicide Bereavement: Challenges, Strategies, and Practical Approaches	DESA SODREY-SAPKAN & GLYDE SODREY	1-4 PM CT   ZOOM	3 CEUs
Mar 13	Healing Connections Using the Power of the Arts	JEN CURRIE, SACCALLOCH & BRIDSON T. HOLLOWAY	1-4 PM CT   ZOOM	3 CEUs
Mar 20	Essentials of Clinical Group Work Practice: Effective Use of Self	WILLIAM POLECH	1-4 PM CT   ZOOM	3 CEUs
Mar 27	The School-Age Child in Groups	SARA MUKAS	1-4 PM CT   ZOOM	3 CEUs

**REGISTER HERE**  
Enroll in 3 or more sessions for a 20% discount.  
Discounts available for students and internship supervisors

Co-sponsor: IASWG

Contact Caroline Gonzalez at [cgonzalez@luc.edu](mailto:cgonzalez@luc.edu) for info and scholarship options.

**LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO**  
OFFICE OF SOCIAL WORK

Loyola University Chicago is offering a Group Work Continuing Education Series this spring. Every session is open to students at a significantly reduced rate with scholarships available.

The Series begins on **Friday, Feb. 6th** with Dr. Frederic Reamer, who will discuss the emergence of AI in behavioral health care and clinical group work; complex ethical challenges, including boundary and dual relationship issues; and state-of-the-art risk management protocols.

- Friday, Feb. 6, 2026
- 1PM-4PM Central (Chicago) Time | Zoom | 3 CEUs
- Student Fee: \$25
  - \*20% discount if enrolled in 3 or more sessions

[Register here!](#)

## DFW Alliance in Mental & Behavioral Health Research Symposium: Development, Mood, Psychosis, and Addiction



The 2026 DFW Alliance in Mental & Behavioral Health Research Symposium: Development, Mood, Psychosis, and Addiction. This event is hosted by Metrocare’s Altshuler Center for Education and Research (ACER) in partnership with faculty from UT Southwestern, UT Dallas, UT Arlington, University of North Texas, and East Texas A&M University - Commerce.

The Symposium brings together academic and community-based investigators to expose research informing mental and behavioral health care—and is designed to strengthen cross-institutional relationships to catalyze future research collaboration.

- **Friday, April 10, 2026**
- **8:30AM - 3:00PM**
- **Scottish Rite Hospital for Children**
- **T. Boone Pickens Training and Conference**
- **(2222 Welborn St., Dallas, TX 75219)**

Early Bird Registration: \$40 (**until Feb. 9, 2026**)

To learn more and register, visit the **Metrocare Services website.**

## Graduate School Info Session





The Office of Admissions will be hosting a Graduate School Info Session. Whether you’re exploring options or preparing to apply, this session will equip you with the knowledge and confidence to take the next step toward your future.

- Wednesday, Feb. 11th
- 12pm-1pm
- University Center (Guadalupe)

Sign up using this [link!](#)

### 9Ds Wellness Fest



Learn about the 9 dimensions of wellness!

- **Wednesday, Feb. 11th**
- **11AM - 1PM**
- **Maverick Activity Center -Front Gym**

There'll be a selfie station, t-shirts, activities, snacks, crafts, dance floor, giveaways, and campus resources!

## Spring 2026 Group Work Series: Conflict and Other Challenging Issues in Groups



**SPRING 2026 GROUP WORK**  
CONTINUING EDUCATION  
WORKSHOP

**Conflict and Other Challenging Issues in Groups**  
Friday, February 13th, 2026  
12 pm - 4 pm Central (Chicago) Time | Zoom | 4 CEUs

This workshop focuses on developing knowledge and skills to effectively address common challenges in group work, including monopolizing, silence, and scapegoating. It combines didactic instruction with practice examples and provides opportunities to apply concepts and strategies to one's own professional practice.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Appreciate the value of resolving group members' conflicts
- Better understand the underlying meanings of challenging member and group behavior
- Help members learn to deal constructively with conflict
- Deal productively with common challenges like monopolizing, silence, and scapegoating

**Fees:** General \$100  
Loyola Alumni/Staff/Supervisors \$50  
Students \$25  
20% discount if enrolled in 3 or more sessions

**REGISTER HERE**  
[www.loyola.edu/ce/continuingeducation](https://www.loyola.edu/ce/continuingeducation)



**Ann Bergen, PhD, LCSW**  
Ann Bergen, PhD, LCSW, has over 25 years of practice experience in family service agencies including facilitating various types of groups, supervising, and training others in group work. She taught social work with groups at the university level for 40 years. It is a pleasure to writing articles and presenting workshops on group work, facilitation and leadership. She has led groups for the International Association for Social Work with Groups (IASWG) helping social workers experience the power of groups in her practice.

Sponsored by:  
IASWG International Association for Social Work with Groups, Inc.

Contact: Caroline Gosselin at [cgosselin@loy.edu](mailto:cgosselin@loy.edu) for additional info and scholarship options.

This workshop focuses on developing knowledge and skills to effectively address common challenges in group work,

including monopolizing, silence, and scapegoating. It combines didactic instruction with practice examples and provides

opportunities to apply concepts and strategies to one's own professional practice.

- **Friday, Feb. 13, 2026**
- **12PM - 4PM Central (Chicago) Time | Zoom | 4CEUs**
- **Student Fee: \$25**
  - **\*20% discount if enrolled in 3 or more sessions**

**Register here!**

## Licensure Info Session

SPRING 2026  
CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERIES

## LICENSURE INFO SESSION

Interested in pursuing your LBSW, LMSW, or LCSW? Join us for a Licensure Information Session led by Dr. Karen Magruder to learn the steps to licensure, get helpful resources, and have your questions answered.

Tuesday, 2/17/26  
6:30PM – 7:30PM  
Teams

JOIN HERE:



Interested in pursuing your LBSW, LMSW, or LCSW? Join us for a Licensure Information Session led by Dr. Karen Magruder to learn the steps to licensure, get helpful resources, and have your questions answered!

- **When:** Tuesday, Feb. 17
- **Time:** 6:30PM-7:30PM
- **Where:** Teams

You can join the session by using this Teams [link](#).

## Webinar: Seeing Strengths in Action: Empowering Clients Through Ethical, Person-Centered Care



You're invited to join NASW for an inspiring Student Series webinar that celebrates the power of strengths-based care in social work practice. Together, we'll explore how centering clients' strengths, resilience, and lived expertise—grounded in the NASW Code of Ethics—can lead to more meaningful, collaborative, and effective outcomes. This session will highlight person-centered approaches, practical strategies for identifying strengths, intentional language use, and real-world practice examples that uplift client voice, promote self-determination, and foster lasting change. ALL are welcome!

**[Register Here!](#)**

**Thursday, February 19, 2026 | 6:00 pm - 7:30pm ET, 5:00pm - 6:30pm CT, 3:00 - 4:30pm PT**

**Presenter:** Emma MacDonald, LMSW-Clinical (pronouns: she/her)



# Spring 2026 Group Work Series: Working with LGBTQIA+ Individuals: Practical & Effective Group Work Strategies



This interactive workshop focuses on facilitating effective groups for diverse LGBTQIA+ populations throughout the lifespan. It

identifies unique considerations for some of the different LGBTQIA+ communities within the context of traditional human

development theory, as well as group work theory and principles.

- **Friday, February 20, 2026**
- **1PM - 4PM Central (Chicago) Time | Zoom | 3CEUs**
- **Student Fee: \$25**
  - **\*20% discount if enrolled in 3 or more sessions**

**Register here!**

**SSW Connections Tutoring Lab**



The Connections Tutoring Lab offers BSW and MSW students assistance with all aspects of the writing process for writing assignments.

To learn more about the services and to book a session, visit our [website!](#)

## Student Job Opportunity: Care Coordinator

### Now Hiring: Care Coordinator (Student Position)

Handshake Job #10874552

#### Life Connections Program

Center for Addiction and Recovery Studies (CARS)  
School of Social Work

#### Make a Difference While Gaining Real-World Experience

Are you a **social work student** looking for meaningful, paid experience supporting individuals impacted by crime? Join the **Life Connections Program**, a counseling and support program for victims of crime, and build professional skills alongside experienced social work professionals.

#### Position Details

- **Title:** Care Coordinator (Student Employee)
- **Pay:** \$15 per hour
- **Hours:** 18 hours per week
- **Schedule:** Flexible
- **Location:** Hybrid (approximately one day per week in-office)  
May be fully remote depending on program needs

#### What You'll Do

- Conduct outreach to individuals seeking services through the Life Connections Program
- Complete initial intake and screening information
- Schedule appointments and send reminders to clients
- Provide wrap, trauma-informed communication and support
- Assist with general administrative tasks and program coordination
- Collaborate with social work staff within a university-based research and service setting

#### Who Should Apply

- **BSW or MSW students** strongly encouraged to apply



Are you a social work student looking for meaningful, paid experience supporting individuals impacted by crime? Join the Life Connections Program, a counseling and support program for victims of crime, and build practical skills alongside experienced social work professionals.

**Apply for the Care Coordinator (Student Position)!**  
Handshake Job #10674650

**Life Connections Program**  
**Center for Addiction and Recovery Studies (CARS) School of Social Work**

- Title: Care Coordinator (Student Employee)
- Pay: \$15 per hour
- Hours: 18 hours per week
- Schedule: Flexible
- Location: Hybrid (approximately one day per week in-office) May be fully remote depending on program needs

**What You'll Do:**

- Conduct outreach to individuals seeking services through the Life Connections Program
- Complete initial intake and screening information
- Schedule appointments and send reminders to clients
- Provide warm, trauma-informed communication and support
- Assist with general administrative tasks and program coordination
- Collaborate with social work staff within a university-based research and service setting

**How to Apply:**

Apply through Handshake by searching for: Care Coordinator – Life Connections Program - Job #10674650

Questions? Reach out through Handshake for more information.

**Share Your Story on the School of Social Work Podcast**



## SHARE YOUR STORY

Share your story or bring attention to issues affecting society and discuss possible solutions from a student's perspective on our new School of Social Work Podcast - **BLAZE THE MIC**

### INTEREST TOPICS INCLUDE

- Importance of Race & Ethnicity in the Classroom
- How has Your Perspective of Social Work Changed
- Field Education: Taking the Classroom to the Workplace
- Balancing Work, School and Life

### INTERESTED?

Thomas Johns: [Thomas.Johns@uta.edu](mailto:Thomas.Johns@uta.edu)

The need for mental health professionals is growing every day, and the School of Social Work at the University of Texas at Arlington is the premier school in Texas for developing students into the Social Work professionals of tomorrow.

Join us to share issues that are impacting our everyday lives from a student's perspective, and how we can change the future... today!

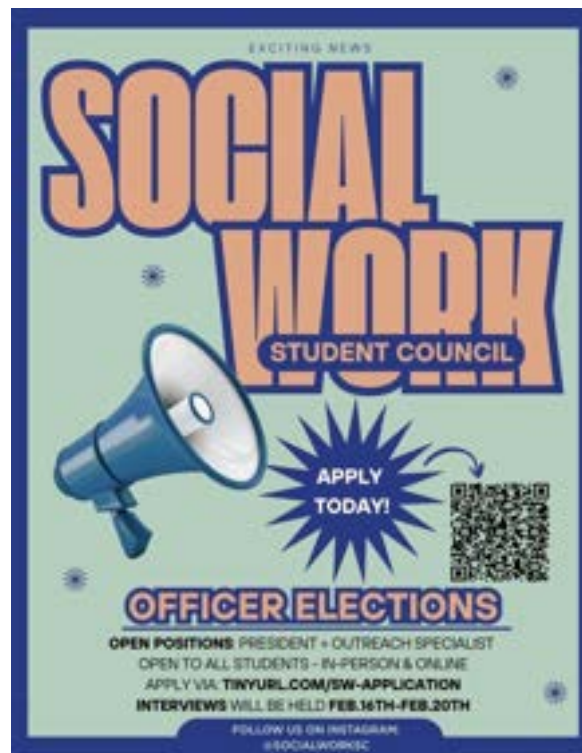
Email: [Thomas.Johns@uta.edu](mailto:Thomas.Johns@uta.edu)

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## Student Organization Corner

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### Join the Social Work Student Council!



Social Work Student Council (SWSC) is currently accepting applications Executive Officer positions for

the upcoming academic year:

- **President:**

- Represent the Social Work Student Council to the School of Social Work and broader community.
- Facilitate and officiate Executive Board and General Body meetings.
- Coordinate Executive Board efforts to ensure organizational efficiency.
- Fulfill the mission of the SWSC.
- Monitor and oversee all affairs of the SWSC.
- Attend the President's Roundtable Meeting or designate another officer to attend.

- **Outreach Specialist:**

- Create promotional flyers for SWSC meetings and events.
- Obtain flyer approval through the Student Organizations Office in the University Center.
- Distribute flyers and share materials with the SWSC Advisor.

To learn more about the selection process and apply, visit the **leadership application form**. Deadline to apply: Feb. 15th!

## Join the Social Work Students for Children & Families!



The Social Work Students for Children & Families is a student organization for social work students that have a passion to work with children and families.

Meet other students with similar interests, gain networking opportunities, hear from professionals in the field, volunteer, and advocate!

To learn more or join, contact the faculty co-advisors:

- Dr. Hui Huang ([hui.huang@uta.edu](mailto:hui.huang@uta.edu))
- Dr. Saltanat Childress ([saltanat.childress@uta.edu](mailto:saltanat.childress@uta.edu))



# Survey on Vaccine Attitudes and Beliefs in Social Work

A vertical poster with a light blue background. At the top left is a photo of a newborn baby. To its right is a dark blue box with the title 'Survey on Vaccine Attitudes and Beliefs in Social Work' in white. Below the title, the poster is divided into sections: 'Participation' with a personal introduction from Rebecca Roten, 'Eligibility' with three bullet points, a statement about the survey's duration and anonymity, a 'Thank you!' message, a QR code, and 'Questions?' with email addresses. At the bottom left is a UT Arlington approval number. On the right side, there is a photo of a healthcare worker in a white coat using a tablet.

**Survey on Vaccine Attitudes and Beliefs in Social Work**

**Participation**  
Hello, My name is Rebecca Roten, and I am an MSW student at The University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) conducting research for my thesis on vaccine attitudes and beliefs among social workers and social work students. I'm inviting professionals and students to complete a short, online survey.  
If you would like to participate, please scan the QR code!

**Eligibility**  
• At least 18 years old, **and**  
• A social work student in Texas, **or**  
• A licensed social worker in Texas  
**The survey takes about 5-10 minutes. It is completely voluntary and anonymous.**

**Thank you!**

**Questions?**  
Email: [rebecca.roten@mavs.uta.edu](mailto:rebecca.roten@mavs.uta.edu)  
or [christine.spadola@uta.edu](mailto:christine.spadola@uta.edu)  
UT Arlington Approval # 2026-0232

Consider completing this short survey on vaccine attitudes and beliefs among social workers and social work students.

## Eligibility:

- At least 18 years old, **and**
- A social work students in Texas, **or**
- A licensed social worker in Texas

The survey takes about 5-10 minutes. It is completely voluntary and anonymous!

To participate, use this **link**!

## Questions?

Email [rebecca.roten@mavs.uta.edu](mailto:rebecca.roten@mavs.uta.edu) or [christine.spadola@uta.edu](mailto:christine.spadola@uta.edu)

# SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK RESOURCES

**ACADEMIC ADVISING**

**PRACTICUM PLACEMENT**

**CONNECTIONS LAB**

**SW LIBRARIAN**

**LICENSURE**

**DEAN'S LETTER FOR LICENSURE**

**CARE FUND**

**CARE REFERRAL**

## UTA RESOURCES

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- [UTA Academic Calendar](#)
- [Library Resources](#)
- [Office of International Education](#)
- [Apply for Graduation](#)
- [Free Windows Apps with Student ID](#)
- [Student Access & Resource \(SAR\) Center](#)

- [UTA Counseling & Psychology Services \(CAPS\)](#)
- [Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)
- [Emergency Assistance Fund](#)
- [Health Services](#)
- [UTA/Tri-C Food Pantry Distribution](#)

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