



Social Work

School of Social Work

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

KEY STRENGTHS

- Five-year program to complete B.S.W. and M.S.W. degrees
- Social work practice informed by faith and best evidence
- Supervised internships in selected social service agencies
- Individualized attention to student progress

POINTS OF EXCELLENCE

- Faculty work hand-in-hand with students in research and community service.
- Graduates are eligible for licensure in all 50 states.
- Program recognized by the Council on Social Work Education for “uniquely and well conceptualized” curriculum and “strong and unified faculty.”
- Diverse professional faculty backgrounds
- Faculty/student community activities
- Individualized attention to student progress
- Nationally accredited undergraduate social work program
- Graduate program, which began Fall 2007, earned candidacy status in October 2007 for accreditation. Admission to candidacy requires extensive documentation and planning and is an important step toward full accreditation, which will require a minimum of two more years. Initial accreditation automatically covers graduating classes of students admitted while the program is in candidacy.
- Integration of faith, learning and service as a preparation for professional careers.

DEGREES OFFERED

- Bachelor of Science
- Master of Science
- Graduate Certificate in Social Service Administration

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Mental Health Therapy
- Disaster Relief
- Military Social Work
- Rural Social Work
- Adoption and Foster Care
- Child Welfare Services
- Family Preservation Services
- Homeless Family Assistance
- Eating Disorders

- Genetics
- Hospital Social Work
- Crisis Intervention
- School Violence
- Hospice and Palliative Care
- Depression
- Institutional Care
- Chronic Pain
- Outpatient Treatment
- Development Disabilities
- International Social Work
- Advocacy
- Social Justice
- Consulting and Planning
- Community Mental Health
- Employee Assistance
- Private Practice
- Veterans Services
- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Domestic Violence
- Political Development
- Parent Education
- Family Planning
- HIV/AIDS
- School Alternative Programs
- Difficulties in School
- Gerontology Services
- Community-Based Services
- In-Home Services
- Senile Dementia and Alzheimer’s/Dementia
- Addictions Prevention/Treatment
- Criminal Justice
- Housing Assistance
- Public Welfare
- Employment Services

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Community field internships and experiences

- Second-year graduate student field placements worldwide
- Department of Human Services
- Medical centers
- Child and family services
- Abilene community planning
- Probation and parole offices
- Mental health and counseling centers
- Drug treatment programs

- Business organizations
- Programs for older adults
- Community research projects
- International studies
- Mission field placements
- Adoption and maternity services
- Public school programs
- Inner-city and neighborhood revitalization programs
- Partnership with the Nonprofit Management Center provides ample opportunity for community involvement.
- Vibrant Social Work Club is actively involved in the campus and Abilene community.

Scholarships available

- ACT/SAT Academic Scholarship
- Social work scholarships for graduate study leading to the M.S.S.W. degree.

Please consult with your admissions counselor for details on these and other scholarships available to you.

FACILITIES

The school occupies the first floor of the north side of the Hardin Administration Building and the house at 1926 Campus Court. The school introduces each student to the latest in contemporary concepts, theories and experiences for the student's chosen area of interest.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Majors in the 2007-08 school year: 81

2005-07 graduates in graduate school or with jobs in the field: 100 percent

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Beth (Isbell) Baker, class of 1999, M.S.W., 2002; Columbia University; chair of 911 Disaster Relief Fund for the Manhattan Church of Christ, New York, N.Y.

Virginia Davis, class of 2005, M.S.W.; University of California, Berkeley; Social Worker III, Solano County Child Welfare Services.

John Newton, class of 1981; budget analyst, Legislative Budget Committee, Austin, Texas.

Kahlyne (McAdams) Nolde, class of 1999, M.S.W., The University of Texas in Austin; LCSW and therapist at Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare in Roanoke, Va.

Matt Robbins, class of 1992, M.S.W., The University of Texas at Arlington; private practice, Fort Worth, Texas.

Jessica (Flores) Washington, class of 2005, M.S.W., The University of Texas at Arlington. Employment with Optimist International as an international development manager. Travels internationally as a nonprofit business consultant networking in countries including France, Korea, Mongolia and Latin American region.

RECENT GRADUATES

Brittnie (Wright) Blackburn, class of 2005, M.S.W. Washington University in St. Louis, 2006. Employed by DePelchin Children's Center of Houston as an adoption clinician in the Infant Program.

Kelly Brophy, class of 2007. Completed her Field II placement at Maadi Community Church in Cairo, Egypt, in spring 2007 and is currently employed as assistant youth pastor at that same church.

Nicole Calvert, class of 2007, enrolled in The University of Texas at Arlington School of Social Work, working towards M.S.W., Arlington, Texas.

Anna (Radomsky) Edwards, class of 2007. M.S.W., The University of Texas at Austin; Community Support Worker in the Community Care Programs at The Ozark Center in Joplin, Mo.

Daniel Gray, class of 2007, M.S.W. student at Washington University in St. Louis, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, St. Louis, Mo.

Shiloh (Webb) Jones, class of 2004, youth specialist at Tennyson Center for Children (RTC), Denver, Colo.

Pek-Kei-Kan, class of 2006. Employed by the Women's Association of Macau, China, as a social worker since June 2006, working with abused and battered women.

Kim Keely, class of 2007, enrolled in The University of Texas at Arlington School of Social Work, working toward M.S.W., Arlington, Texas.

Kasey Love, class of 2007, L.B.S.W.; program manager for Communities in Schools of Greater Tarrant County.

Marcela Martinez, class of 2007, graduate project manager at the ACU Nonprofit Management Center, Abilene, Texas.

Amanda Merritt, class of 2006, L.B.S.W.; Program Manager for Communities in Schools of Greater Tarrant County, Fort Worth, Texas.

Karyn (Gorsline) Murman, class of 2005, L.B.S.W.; a master family advocate for Early Head Start; M.S.W. student at ACU, Abilene, Texas.

Nikki Nangauta, class of 2006, Outreach Specialist for Cross Timbers Community Church, Watauga, Texas.

Leslie (Elling) Perkins, class of 2005, Ambassador Family Specialist for Arrow Child and Family Ministries, Austin, Texas.

Amy Verett, class of 2004, intake children's service worker, Bair Foundation, Dallas, Texas.

Jordan Wesley, class of 2007, enrolled in the ACU dual graduate program for a master's in Christian ministries and a master's in Social Work. Employed part time as a College Intern at Highland Church of Christ, Abilene, Texas.

Candace Williams, class of 2007, caseworker for High Sky Children's Ranch, Midland, Texas.

Flora Williams, class of 2005, enrolled in The University of Chicago School of Social Work, completing her field placement in the public schools and scheduled to graduate in spring 2008, Chicago, Ill.

Kara Wolfe, class of 2007, enrolled in the ACU dual graduate program for a master's in Christian ministries and a master's in social work, scheduled to graduate in 2010, Abilene, Texas.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

• **Paul Ammons** – "A Concentration in Evidence-Based Practice," a workshop presented at the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education, (October 2007), San Francisco, Calif. with Dr. Tanya Brice. Recognized for contributions as a consulting editor for *Families in Society*, one of the top five journals in social work (November 2007). "Putting the Practice in Evidence-Based Practice," a paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Baccalaureate Program Directors (March 2008), Destin, Fla., with Susan Clark.

• **Tanya Brice** – Recent publications: "Undermining Progress in Progressive Era North Carolina: Genuine Attitudes Towards Delinquent African-American Girls," *Journal of Sociology and Social Work*. "War on African American Girls:

Overcoming Adversities," *S. Logan, R. Denby and P. Gibson (Eds.), Mental Health Care in the African-American Community*. Recent Presentations: "Female Delinquency in Black and White: A Historical Perspective," a workshop presented at the Council on Social Work Education's Annual Program Meeting, October 2007 (co-presented with Fatina Lorick, an M.S.W. student at UNC-CH), San Francisco, Calif. "An M.S.W. Curriculum in Evidence Based Practice," a workshop co-presented with Dr. Paul Ammons at the CSWE-APM, October 2007, San Francisco. "Professional Dissonance in Social Work Education," an invited panel discussion at the NASW-TX annual conference, October 2007, San Antonio, Texas. Other recent scholarship: co-edited the "Social Welfare History" special issue of the *Arete* journal, with Dr. Iris Carlton-LaNey of UNC-CH. Recent community / professional service: Appointed by Norm Archibald, mayor of the City of Abilene, to serve on the Housing Authority of the City of Abilene's Board of Commissioners. Appointed by Dr. Gloria Batiste-Roberts, president of the National Association of Black Social Workers, as co-chair of the Civil Liberties and Social Justice Task Force. Appointed by Elvia Craig-de Silva, president of the National Association of Social Workers, to serve on the National Committee on Women's Issues (2006-09). Elected as Abilene branch representative on the board of directors of the National Association of Social Workers, Texas chapter (2007-10).

- **Susan Clark** – "Putting the Practice in Evidence-Based Practice," a paper accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Baccalaureate Program Directors (March 2008), Destin, Florida, with Paul Ammons. Consultant, Christian Service Center, Abilene, Texas. Member of the Community Ministries Team, Highland Church of Christ, Abilene, Texas.
- **Bill Culp** – Abilene Chamber of Commerce Arete Award for community service, November 2003; executive director, ACU Nonprofit Management Center; vice-chair, City of Abilene, Office of Neighborhood Services Advisory Council: director, West Central Texas University-Community Partnership Project (planning grant from AmeriCorps Texas), planning consultant to United Way of Abilene, Christian Child and Family Service Association, Disability Resources Incorporated, Texas Midwest Community Network.
- **Jean Isom** – Substitute teaching leader, evening Women's Bible Study Fellowship, member, Community Ministries Team; and mentor, engaged couples training class, Highland Church of Christ, Abilene, Texas.
- **Alan J. Lipps** – Lipps, Alan J. (1999). "Family Therapy in the Treatment of Alcohol Related Problems: A Review of Behavioral Family Therapy, Family Systems Therapy and Treatment Matching Research," *Alcoholism Treatment Quarterly* 1999, Vol. 17, Issue 3.
Lipps, A. J. (In Press). "Attachment from Infancy to Adulthood: Book Review," *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*.
Lipps, A. J. (2006). "Can a Negative Self-model Explain the Relationship Between Substance Abuse and Intimate Partner Violence?" poster presentation, International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, Portsmouth, N.H.
Lipps, A.J. (2002). "The Solution is a Problem," a paper presented at the Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapists annual conference, Houston, Texas.
Lipps, A.J. (2000). "Attachment Theory and the Relationship Between Alcoholism and Intimate Partner Violence," symposium presented at the Society for Social Work Research Annual Conference, Atlanta, Ga.

FACULTY

- Paul W. Ammons, Ed.D.**, professor, Director of School of Social Work, B.S., Abilene Christian University, 1969; M.S.W., University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1972; Ed.D., Oklahoma State University, 1976.
- Tanya S. Brice, Ph.D.**, 1998, associate professor, B.S.W., South Carolina State University, M.S.W., University of South Carolina; Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- Susan V. Clark, Ph.D.**, associate professor, M.S.W., Director of Baccalaureate Social Work Program; B.S., Abilene Christian University, M.S.S.W., The University of Texas at Arlington, 1980.
- Bill Culp**, associate professor, M.S.W.; B.A., Harding University, 1967; M.S.W., University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1976.
- Jean N. Isom**, instructor, M.S.S.W.; B.A., Abilene Christian University, 1975; M.S.S.W., The University of Texas at Arlington, 1979.
- Darrell W. Jordan, DCSW, LCSW**; assistant professor; B.S.W., Harding University, 1981; M.S.W., The University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1982.
- Alan J. Lipps, Ph.D.**, associate professor; L.P.C., L.M.S.W., B.S., Abilene Christian University, 1993; M.M.F.T., ACU, 1996; M.S.S.W., The University of Texas at Arlington, 1999; Ph.D., UTA, 2002.
- Thomas L. Winter, Ed.D.**, associate provost and professor, B.A., Abilene Christian University, 1971; M.S. in Social Work, The University of Texas at Arlington, 1977; Ed.D., University of Arkansas, 1997.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

About the School

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About ACU and Admissions

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