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# SOCIAL JUSTICE *Spotlight*

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### **Disability Pride Month**

There may be months out of the year that you weren't aware of when it comes to celebrating certain movements or events. This was the case moving into July. As a social worker it is important to be inclusive, understand diversity, and celebrate the movements that led to equal rights and freedoms certain groups and individuals may not have had before. One of those we celebrate in July is Disability Pride Month. A catalytic event known as The Capital Crawl occurred on March 12, 1990, uniting roughly 1,000 community members of people with disabilities. They made their way up the stairs of Capitol Hill, crawling or moving with mobility aids they depended on set aside, like wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, and others. This was a clear and dramatic statement that demanded the U.S. Congress pass the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act), which it did in July of 1990.

You may only think of visual indicators of disability. However, there are many disabilities that cannot be seen by the naked eye. You would never know someone may have a disability until they chose to disclose that information with you. The disability pride flag incorporates many colors and meanings that represent such cases. Within the flag, each color stripe has a meaning: Red - physical disabilities (chronic pain/fatigue, mobility impairment, loss of limbs). Gold - neurodiversity (autism, ADHD, dyslexia). White - invisible disabilities and disabilities that haven't yet been diagnosed. Blue - emotional and

psychiatric disabilities, including mental illness, anxiety, and depression. Green- sensory disabilities (hearing loss, visual impairments, etc.). The charcoal background honors the memory of those victims of ableist abuse and violence, including children or those killed, suicides, or individuals who suffered from negligence. The diagonal band represents the cutting across barriers blocking people with disabilities from full participation, integration, and inclusion in society.

Remember that individuals with disabilities are people first. Use people first language and avoid labeling them as handicapped or less than. Help people with disabilities connect while raising overall awareness by using notable disability pride hashtags to include #TheBarriersWeFace, #WheelchairLife, and #ActuallyAutistic. Celebrating Disability Pride Month is an annual event, but we should always embrace its message. It's a blueprint for promoting inclusivity through raised awareness and empathy for our fellow human beings. It implores us to promote physical and digital accessibility for people of all abilities, a principle all businesses and individuals should be proud to support.

Love and Light,  
Krystle Vela, GSL Intern  
Rae Martin, USL Intern  
The University of Texas at Arlington



# Resiliency In Interprofessional Teamwork

## An Interprofessional Education Summer 2024 Activity

As interprofessional teams are becoming increasingly important in healthcare delivery. The benefits of interprofessional collaboration are becoming more apparent and can lead to an improved morale, decreased burnout, and increased patient safety. The purpose of this virtual IPE event is to discuss and reflect on the reciprocal relationship between teamwork and individual/team resiliency. Interprofessional small groups will also discuss team and individual strategies/tools to build resiliency and understanding of emotional intelligence which is necessary in preventing burnout.



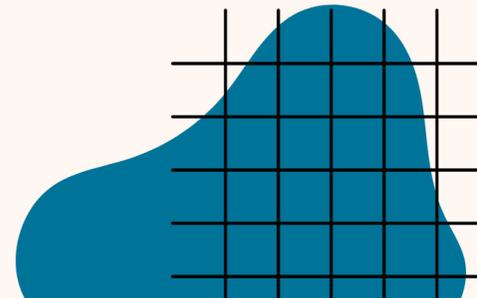
### Deadline to Register: July 9th

**Discipline Involved:** Nursing, public health, medical students, athletic training, pharmacy

**Classes Recommended:** Substance misuse, mental health, aging, health courses

**Online Event**  
**July 19th 8:30am-12:00pm**

**Contact Information:**  
**Tracy Orwig**  
**[Tracy.Orwig@uta.edu](mailto:Tracy.Orwig@uta.edu)**



## Important Dates

- **July 1st** - Deadline to apply for graduation
  - **July 31st** - Deadline to apply for EDGE Scholarship
  - **August 7th** - Last day of classes for summer semester
  - **August 18th** - Deadline to register for fall classes
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# Student Spotlight

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**Sheteria Waters**

My name is Sheteria Waters, and I live in Greenville, Texas, with my two wonderful children. I couldn't be more excited to embark on this exciting journey as a social work student. I graduated with a degree in Early Childhood Education in 2021, hoping to educate young minds in the classroom. However, my heart led me on a different path. I found that my passion was assisting children and families struggling with mental health challenges. In order to accomplish my goal, I plan to tackle the LMSW exam in my last semester and dive headfirst into the field of mental health and substance misuse within

the field of social work. This has been a challenging journey, but with dedication, I know I will be able to make a positive impact in the lives of those who need it most.

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**YOU MATTER!**

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### Minority Mental Health Month

Mental health can be a big obstacle for minorities as there can be different things that can stop these individuals from seeking help or admitting their challenges. Different racial and/or ethnic minorities have negative ideas about mental health, it is stigmatized amongst many homes, leaving these communities to struggle alone and not be able to receive the care needed.

With this being said there is also the systematic barrier that makes it difficult for minorities to receive proper care from health care providers in all situations. This can intimidate individuals and cause them to avoid seeking treatment.

#### **What can we do as Social Workers?**

As social workers we can help change the stigma amongst minorities by partaking in community engagement. We must first educate ourselves and others on mental health, we can emphasize the importance of therapy and its effects, and allow them to see the normalization of expressing our feelings and being vulnerable with the people in our lives. Advocating for more social justices in the health care system for minorities is another task we can take as social workers to help minorities. I would recommend looking closer into your own circle, you may be part of a minority group or have a close friend that

is and start small and talk about it, emphasis the importance of mental health through vulnerability and empathy!

Love and Light,  
Farah Hannun, GSL Intern  
The University of Texas at Arlington

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# Opportunities

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## EDGE PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP (PPOHA GRANT)

- **Eligibility Criteria:** Applicants must be: 1) US Citizens or Permanent Residents; 2) a new or continuing graduate student at UTA; 3) enrolled in a minimum of 3 credit hours.

The EDGE Scholarship is designed to provide some much-needed financial support to new & continuing graduate students. Recipients of the EDGE Scholarship are expected to participate in activities with the EDGE Center. These include professional development workshops, academic skill building sessions, and activities outside of the classroom. As a new graduate student, you could be eligible to apply for this opportunity!

- Scholarship opened to all current and new incoming graduate students
- Application Deadline: Wednesday, July 31, 2024

More Information:





Residential Learning Communities  
DIVISION OF STUDENT SUCCESS

**WE ARE  
HIRING**



OPEN POSITION:  
**GRADUATE ASSISTANT**

FOR THE FULL POSTING:  
**HANDSHAKE JOB #: 9036962**  
FOR QUESTIONS EMAIL [RLC@UTA.EDU](mailto:RLC@UTA.EDU)

SUPPORT RESIDENTIAL  
LEARNING COMMUNITY (RLC)  
STUDENTS' ACADEMIC AND  
PERSONAL SUCCESS! THIS  
ROLE IS FOR FALL 2024-SPRING  
2025 (FULL ACADEMIC YEAR).

**PRIOTITY APPLICATION  
DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2024**

**Required Qualifications**

- ✓ Bachelor's degree
- ✓ Enrolled Full-Time in a Graduate Program at UTA
- ✓ Approximately 20 hours Per Week

**Preferred Qualifications**

Previous experience with event planning, marketing (social media/Instagram, graphic design, etc.), recruitment, and application review.

**Compensation**

- ✓ \$1300 Per Month
- ✓ Professional Development



Want to help erase the stigma of  
Mental Illness?

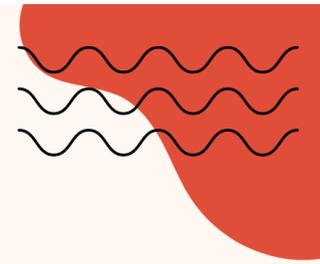
# JOIN MAVS FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS!

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday  
of the month from 7-8 pm via Teams.

All majors and concentrations are  
welcome!

Contact Sandra Miller @skm2706@mavs.uta.edu  
if interested

# Resiliency In Interprofessional Teamwork



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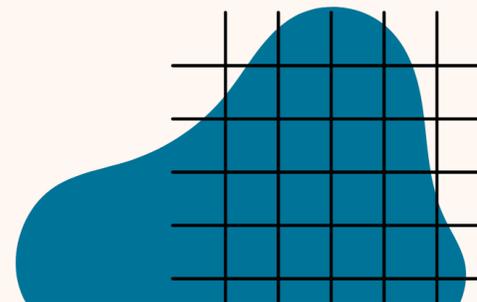
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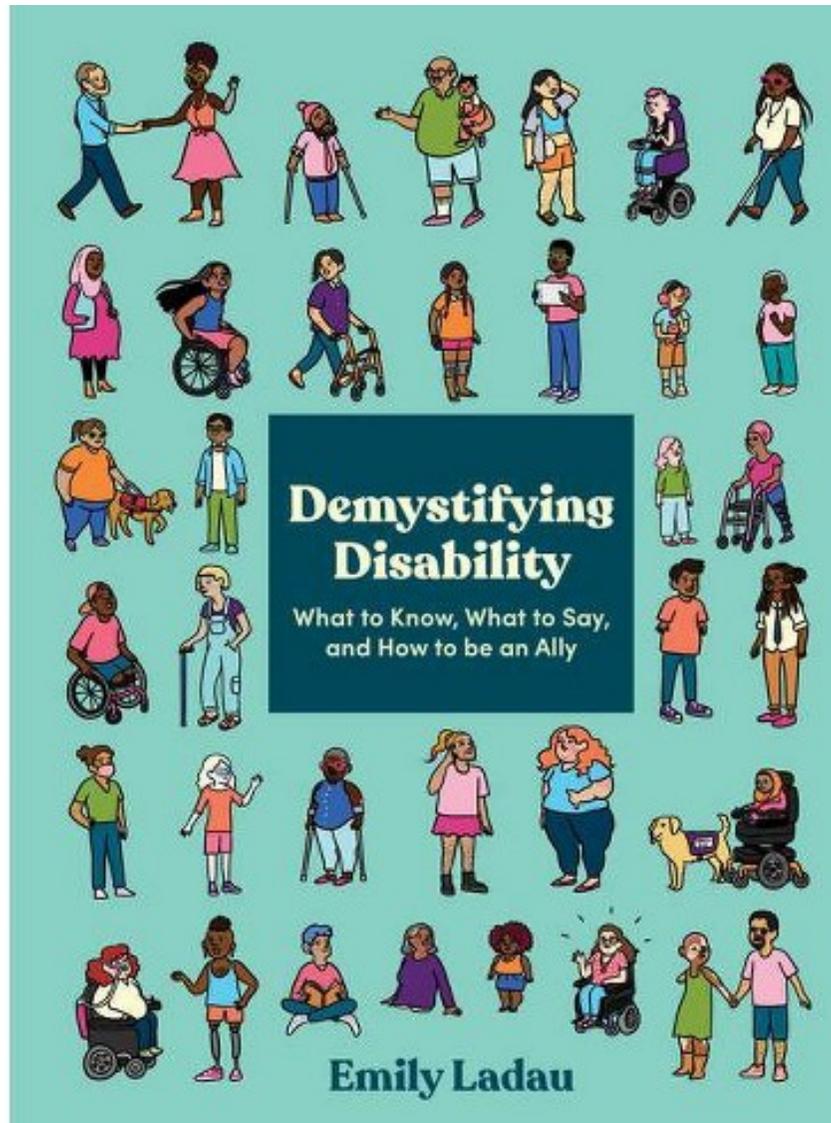
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## Book of the Week



**Demystifying Disability**  
by: Emily Ladau,

In honor of disability pride month, I wanted to feature '*Demistifying Disability*'. This book was actually recommended me to by our very own, Dr. Darlene Hunter, when I took disability in social work.

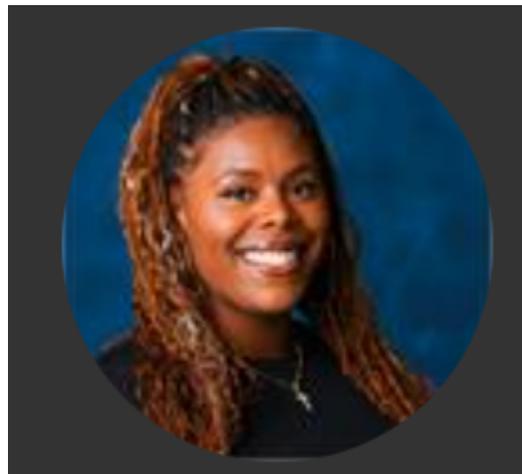
This book is a wonderful way to gain knowledge from lived experience of a disabled person about the disabled experience, how to appreciate disability history and identity, recognizing ableism, and making accessibility a standard practice, from daily life, to planning events.

As social workers, we are sure to come across people with disabilities, and disability services and advocacy is an interest and passion for many of us. *Demistifying Disability* is a great place to start your journey in advocating for an

Love & Light,  
Rae Martin, USL Intern  
The University of Texas Arlington

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# Student Success Resource



## **Resource of the Week: Student Employment**

Student Employment refers to on-campus student work opportunities, as well as specific off-campus work-study opportunities with approved employers. Through student employment you can earn an hourly wage through temporary, part-time jobs during your time as a student at UTA. Student Employment does not assign you to specific jobs but rather provides you

My name is Traecia Nichols, I am the Student Success Coordinator for the School of Social Work. In my role I work with students who are facing crises and need help accessing university and community resources. This section will consist of resources that are available to you as a student. If you are in need of resources or have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [traecia.nichols@uta.edu](mailto:traecia.nichols@uta.edu).

with the resources necessary to locate the job that is best suited to your skills, needs, and interests. By participating you'll gain a variety of experiences and workforce skills that can be used in your career after graduation.

All positions are available on Handshake: <https://uta.joinhandshake.com/login>

The Student Employment Office is located within the Career Development Center on the 1st floor of the E.H. Hereford University Center at 300 West 1st Street, Suite 180S, Arlington, TX 76019. Our office is open between 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Call us at 817-272-2932 or email us:

[studentemployment@uta.edu](mailto:studentemployment@uta.edu)

Learn more about

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# Academic Resources

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## Graduate Director Office Hours

Schedule to meet Dr. Regina Praetorius, LMSW-AP-S, the Director of Graduate Programs at UTA's School of Social Work.

# How can I help?



Virtual Meeting Request

## Academic Advising

Need to meet with an advisor but there's no upcoming appointment available? Drop-in either in person or virtually on Wednesdays. To schedule your 30-minute drop-in time, click the button below. Be sure to select in-person or virtual and your advisor. Remember, drop-in sessions are on a first come basis.

No drop in appointments available? [Visit this page](#) to find your advisor's power hour where you can always drop in and ask questions, no appointment needed.

Here are the Group Advising Links for the New Incoming Fall '24 MSW Students:

**M98 – Foundation – Face to Face**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/MS98FOUNDATION-FACETOFACEGROUPADVISING>

**MS99 – Foundation – Online**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/Fall2024MS99FoundationOnline>

**MS100 – Mental Health – Online – 12 months**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/MS100-MENTALHEALTH-12MONTHSONLINEGROUPADVISING>

**MS101 – Mental Health – Online – 16 months**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/MS101-MENTALHEALTH-ONLINE-16MONTHS>

**MS102 - Mental Health – Ft Worth – Face to Face**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/MS102-MENTALHEALTH-FTWORTH-FACETOFACE>

**MS103 - Children & Families Online – 12 months**

**MS104 - Children & Families Face to Face**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/MS103MS104-CHILDRENANDFAMILIES-GROUPADVISING>

**MS105 – CAP**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/MS105-CAP-GROUPADVISING>

**MS106 – Aging**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/MS106-AGING-GROUPADVISING>

**MS107 – Health**

<https://utaedu.questionpro.com/MS107-HEALTH-GROUPADVISING>

**MSW Social Work Mavericks! Brittany Latcher** joins us as the new academic advisor for **Mental Health and Substance Misuse**.

**BSW/BSSUT Social Work Mavericks! Desiree Warren** joins us as the new academic advisor for **students with the letter set A- H**.

[Schedule Your Appointment Here](#)

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#### **Undergraduate Director's Note**

Dr. Allison Tomlinson, LCSW-S, the Director of Undergraduate Programs at UTA's School of Social Work and the Office of Undergraduate Programs encourage you to exercise selfcare this summer. Use this time to complete tasks that keep you going strong in the program.

1. Complete your BSW or BSSUT Major Declaration  
<https://bswmajordeclarationform.questionpro.com/>
2. Take the self-paced virtual asynchronous SSW Undergrad Orientation "Map for the Journey" <https://uta.instructure.com/enroll/3XEA4E>.
3. Schedule and advising appointment to ensure you're on track with your degree plan.

Most of all stay calm and cool and keep growing as a social work student! Please reach out to our office to let us know how we can help!

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**Field Placements**

- **August 9th** - Last Day to earn hours
- [Field forms are available here!](#)
- [Field FAQ](#)
- If you are having technical difficulties with Tevera please email [sswfield@uta.edu](mailto:sswfield@uta.edu) and include a screenshot of the issue.

## Field Advising

**This is an opportunity for you to ask questions, similar to Office Hours for faculty!**

### **BSW and BSSUT Students**

- Field Advisor: Vanessa Caraveo
- 1st & 3rd Thursday | 3pm - 4pm
- [Join your field advisors' power hour here](#)

### **Advanced Children & Families, Advanced CAP, Advanced Aging & Advanced Health**

- Field Advisor: Monica Brown
- 1st & 3rd Wednesday | 4pm - 5pm
- [Join your field advisors' power hour here](#)

### **Advanced Mental Health/Substance Misuse**

- Field Advisor: Sharon Martin
- 1st & 3rd Thursday | 3pm - 4pm
- [Join your field advisors' power hour here](#)

[View all field advisors and power hours here](#)

## Undergraduate & Graduate Student Leader (USL/GSL)

USLs & GSLs serve as advocates and communication facilitators for BSW & MSW students, fielding questions about all aspects of the school experience, including advising, field, registration, orientation, scholarships, deadlines, program policies, and more. You may reach out to your USL / GSL by email or Teams.

If you do not know who your assigned USL is, you may email Kimberly Jimenez ([kxj6364@mavs.uta.edu](mailto:kxj6364@mavs.uta.edu)) or Meghan Gratton ([mxg8550@mavs.uta.edu](mailto:mxg8550@mavs.uta.edu)).

If you do not know who your assigned GSL is, you may email Mia Cozzarelli ([mic3786@mavs.uta.edu](mailto:mic3786@mavs.uta.edu)) or Angie Ruvalcaba ([asr7984@mavs.uta.edu](mailto:asr7984@mavs.uta.edu)).

[Click here to meet our GSLs](#)

[Click here to meet our USLs](#)

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### Licensing

- If you're in your final semester and want to get started on applying to ASWB to take the LBSW or LMSW licensing exam, [click here](#) to request the Dean's Letter for Licensure, which UTA will send to ASWB. More info can be found [on the ASWB site](#) and our [SSW licensure page](#).
- **There's lots of great updated information about licensing in the Student Success and Advising Course on Canvas—Check it out!**
- Interested in the LCDC? Scroll to the end of this [Licensure](#) webpage and click on the Texas LCDC Licensing 2021 PDF for a chart that shows how different education levels can prepare you for the LCDC.

[UTA Resources](#)

UTA Academic Calendar

Evidence-Based Research Guide

Webinar Library

UTA Counseling & Psychology Services

SAR Center

Free Windows Apps with Student ID

SSW Writing Resources

Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Emergency Assistance Fund

Rental Assistance Program

Survivor Support Group

Free & Confidential HIV Testing

UTA/Tri-C Food Pantry Distribution

CAPS

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

*- John F. Kennedy*

Follow UTA School of Social Work on:

