

Transdisciplinary Perspectives on Trauma

A Special Topics Course for Fall 2020

HS 695 & HS 495 (no pre-requisites)

Tuesday, 4-7pm, Room 1250, 426 School of Nursing Building

This transdisciplinary course welcomes students from any discipline. It provides far-ranging views of core concepts for understanding and responding to mitigate adverse effects of trauma exposures on individuals, families, groups, and populations and to promote resilience, recovery, and posttraumatic growth. The over-arching goal is to acquaint students with rich perspectives on trauma across health and social sciences, humanities, and practice disciplines to inform their capacity to respond to trauma as citizens, professionals, and scholars.

Students from all U-M Schools and Colleges are welcome. Readings and assignment topics can be selected to meet program requirements.

Graduate and undergraduate students meet together but complete level-appropriate assignments.

Professor Seng is a nurse-midwife with 25 years of experience teaching, researching, and providing clinical expertise on trauma and posttraumatic stress. Send questions to jseng@umich.edu.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Define trauma and distinguish it from related concepts (e.g., stress, tragedy, violence).
2. Compare and contrast theories explaining trauma's effects on people and populations and consider also theories of resilience, recovery, and posttraumatic growth.
3. Describe short- and long-term health and welfare effects of varied trauma exposures on individuals, families, groups, and populations.
4. Articulate the risk or protective impacts of biological, social-ecological, and other contextual factors (e.g., sex and gender, racism and marginalization, resource restriction, developmental age, stigma, social cohesion, language and culture).
5. Argue the advantages and disadvantages of medicalization versus other response paradigms.
6. Elaborate, advocate for, and justify a coherent working model of response to trauma from your citizen, professional, or scholarly standpoint.