

# **Christopher S. Toenes, LCSW, LCAS, CCS-I**

[toenes6@unc.edu](mailto:toenes6@unc.edu) • he/him/his

## **Personal Profile**

Clinical assistant professor, experienced clinical social worker, substance use counselor, trainer/educator, and clinical supervisor with strengths in psychotherapy for mood disorders and substance use disorder treatment. Long-term experience with adults experiencing depression, anxiety, and traumatic stress. Teaching and training social work students and social work clinicians. Clinical experience in residential, outpatient and crisis environments, on interdisciplinary teams with psychiatrists, counselors, medical providers and with evaluation and administration of grant-funded projects investigating interventions effective for trauma.

## **Education**

North Carolina State University · Raleigh, NC

Master of Social Work, Summa Cum Laude, with Honors. 2013

Master's Thesis/Capstone: "A Needs Assessment and Issue Characterization of School 'Push-Out' in Wake County, North Carolina" 2013.

University of Alabama · Tuscaloosa, AL

Bachelor of Arts, 1991

English, Minor in Creative Writing

## **Credentials and selected training**

- LCSW, License # C009750
- LCAS, License #LCAS-20095
- CCS-I, License # CCS-20947
- LCSW Clinical Supervision Certification, June 2022
- Ethics in End of Life Care, 2022
- Pandemic Grief and Loss, 2022
- Clinical Supervision: Teaching Psychotherapy
- Relational Perspectives in Contemporary Psychoanalytic Theory, 2020
- Thinking Psychoanalytically: The Basics, 2019
- From Ruin to Rebirth: Relational and Attachment Perspectives on the Treatment of Addiction and Developmental Trauma

- EMDR Basic Training Weekend One and Weekend Two, 2017-18
- Contemporary Applications of the CBTs, 2017
- New Frontiers in Trauma Treatment with Bessel van der Kolk, 2016
- NCI Interventions-Part A-Current
- CPR/First Aid 2011-Current
- HIV/Bloodborne Pathogens-Current

## **Work Experience**

### **Clinical Assistant Professor**

UNC Chapel Hill School of Social Work

2023-Present

Teaching primarily direct practice courses and courses in SUAS program with focus on adult mental health, substance use treatment and policy and adult human behavior. Advising students, and providing clinical supervision for practicum students, and currently member of several committees including Committee on Students, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, and People, Culture and Well-being Committee. Volunteer member of mental health first aid support team after 2023 campus shooting, and ongoing member of Community Resilience and Support Team.

Lead lecturer for several sections of SOWO 505, on Substance Use's Intersection with Development and Identity in TTK auditorium.

### **Senior Clinician**

Triangle Residential Options for Substance

Abusers (TROSA) July 2014-2023

Clinical assessment, individual psychotherapy and group therapy to clients in a two-year residential treatment program with a consistent population of 500 residents, average caseload of 50-55. Psychotherapy utilizing psychodynamic approach, mindfulness, Seeking Safety, trauma-informed care, EMDR. Weekly lectures to over 100 residents. Work closely with Duke Psychiatry in client care coordination. Psychiatric evaluator for applicants' fitness for admission to program. Crisis assessment, intervention and coordination of care. Group facilitation of clinical groups including Healthy Relationships, sexual health in recovery, DBT, grief and loss, anger management and relapse prevention. Coordination of and management of evaluation process for grant-funded trauma-informed yoga courses at agency.

**Supervision:** Field Supervision for nine years of MSW students from UNC School of Social Work, NC State School of Social Work, NC Central Department of Social Work, and Task Supervision of a variety of disciplines including students from counseling and mental health and family counseling graduate programs.

### **Outpatient Therapist**

Freedom House Recovery Center: SABIOS Program

June 2013-June 2014

Supervisor: Janeen Gordon, MEd

- Provide clinical assessments, individual and group therapy sessions and case management for clients with substance use and mental health disorders. Utilize CBT and other modalities for treatment of depression, anxiety and relapse prevention.

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant**

North Carolina State University

Dept. of Social Work August

2012-May 2013

Supervisor: Dr. Jocelyn Taliaferro, Program Director, Master of Social Work Program

- Projects include coordination of departmental video documentary; editorial work on adjunct faculty handbook; topical research on clinical supervision for substance abuse counselors and survey instruments.

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

North Carolina State University

Dept. of Social Work March-June

2012

Supervisor: Dr. Jocelyn Taliaferro, Program Director, Master of Social Work Program

- Research and Curriculum Development for new masters-level course "The Wire: Contemporary Analysis of Social Welfare Problems and Solutions," which used television show *The Wire* as text.

### **Master of Social Work Intern-Macro**

Advocates for Children's Services, a project of Legal Aid of

North Carolina Supervisor: Lewis Pitts, Managing Attorney;

MSW Supervisor: Crystal Hayes, MSW August 2012-May 2013

- Advocacy focus on education justice for children with mental health issues such as ADD, ADHD, and ODD who were at-risk of being pushed out of school for special education needs or behavioral issues. Lead interviewer of affected families for a video documentary on the school "push-out" problem and the school-to-prison pipeline; assist with clinical perspective on special education casework and client intakes.

### **Master of Social Work Intern-Clinical**

Durham Center Access operated by Freedom House, Durham,

NC MSW supervisor: Anita Daniels, MSW, LCSW, CSI, LCAS

August 2011-May 2012

Worked closely with counselors and staff in 24-hour crisis facility and outpatient program, facilitating group therapy sessions, individual counseling, job skills training, and observing diagnostic methods and involuntary commitment sessions.

## **Teaching Approach**

My teaching style incorporates popular education ideas and anti-oppressive approaches, such as providing a space where students and teachers might learn from each other. I take seriously the opportunity to help orient our future social work community and try to be approachable while providing clear objectives. Targeting maximum opportunities for learning, I use experiential activities, current or recent literature, and social classroom engagement and discussion, including sharing my own clinical experiences.

## **Teaching**

### **UNC School of Social Work**

- ◆ SOWO 831: Substance Use and Addiction Policy: Implications for Practice, Summer I 2024, 16 students
- ◆ SOWO 764: Motivational Interviewing, Summer II 2024, 14 students
- ◆ SOWO 740: Implementing Evidence-Informed Practice, Spring 2024, 18 students
- ◆ SOWO 505: Human Development II: Adulthood, Spring 2024, 23 students
- ◆ SOWO 760: SUAS Clinical Practice, Fall 2023, 20 students
- ◆ SOWO 767: Differential Diagnosis, Fall 2023, 17 students
- ◆ SOWO 840: Adult Mental Health: Theory and Practice, Fall 2023, 19 students

## **Trainings and Presentations**

Grant-funded Trainer: "Safety First: Trauma-Informed Care with People Experiencing Substance Use Disorders" with MSW students at NC State University School of Social Work, 2020.

Trainer: "Practicing Mindfulness for Substance Use Disorder Relapse Prevention and Long-Term Recovery" at Clinical Social Work Conference, Department of Case Management, Duke University Hospital, 2017

Trainer: "Practicing Mindfulness for Substance Use Disorder Relapse Prevention and Long-Term Recovery" at International Association of Social Work with Groups (IASWG) Spring 2017 symposium, "Mindfulness Across the Life Span," 2017

Presenter: "Widening the Circle: Group Therapy with Paraprofessional Leaders in a Therapeutic Community" at International Association of Social Work with Groups

(IASWG) Annual International Symposium, 2015

## **Scholarly Work and Publications**

Co-Author of book chapter on pedagogy approaches to teaching about social issues, "What Then? The Cultural Forum of *The Wire*" in *Teaching the Wire: Frameworks, Theories and Strategies for the Classroom*, 2016 Gaynor, T., and Taliaferro, J.D. North Carolina: McFarland Books

Co-Director, documentary film: "Mission Critical: Ending the School-to-Prison Pipeline in Wake County," 2014

Co-Author with Dr. J. D. Taliaferro and Dr. T. Gaynor, "Using HBO's *The Wire* to teach Urban Issues," Paper presented at the Social Equity Leadership Conference, Raleigh, NC, June 2013, <https://selc.wordpress.ncsu.edu/files/2013/05/Teaching-The-Wire-Contemporary-Analysis-of-Social-Welfare-Problems-Solutions.pdf>

Syllabus Creation and Researcher for course utilizing HBO's *The Wire* to teach social policy to social work graduate students, NC State University Social Work Department, 2013

## **Activities and Memberships**

National Association of Social Workers, NC Chapter

North Carolina Society for Clinical Social Work

International Association for Social Work with Groups, Membership Committee Chair 2017-2020

Graduate Student Social Work Association at NC State, Founding member, Treasurer and Service Project Coordinator, 2012-2013

Men at Social Work Fellowship Group, Charter member, NC State University

## **Honors, Awards, and Recognitions**

- Spotlight on Staff: TROSA, 2022
- North Carolina State Master of Social Work Program Alumni Spotlight, 2014
- Nominated for 2013 CHASS Graduate Capstone Project Award for work on Master's Thesis project, "A Needs Assessment and Issue Characterization of School "Push-Out" in Wake County, North Carolina."
- On request of North Carolina State University Dept. of Social Work, one of two students to represent department at annual College of Humanities and Social Sciences luncheon with NC State Chancellor Dr. Randy Woodson, August 2012

## **Advocacy and Civic Engagement Experience**

### **Committee Member appointed by Durham City Council, Non-Profit Sector**

*Homeless Services Advisory Committee, City of Durham* Appointed by Durham City Council, July 2017-2022; member Performance Management Subcommittee

### **Member**

*End Poverty Durham*  
2017-2023