



The Neuroscience of Social Work

Dr. Brandt Wiskur

The primary focus of this series is to establish a fundamental understanding of the potential neurophysiological modifications and behavioral outcomes of social work practice. This course uses a neurodevelopmental perspective to highlight the significant role of social workers and public health professionals as they are well-positioned to effectively work with diverse client populations and across a broad-spectrum of professional social service and public health settings. With an advance understanding of neuroscience social welfare representatives will be able to use that knowledge to advocate for well-timed and optimal interventions, aid in the development of effective human service policy, and educate both practitioners and the general public on how the brain physiologically responds to the social environment throughout the life course. This course will utilize the most relevant and cutting-edge, peer reviewed neuroscience literature to establish a foundational knowledge base of the neurobiology of resiliency and behavioral transformation for application in social work practice.

March 24

- Your Brain on Empathy: Implications for Social Work Practice
- How Neuroscience Can Inform Educational Practices for Youth Involved in the Child Welfare System
- Using Neuroscience to Inform Social Work Practices in Schools for Children with Disabilities

May 5

- Mirror Neurons
 - Traumatic Stress Response Transactions on Development
 - Targeting Transdiagnostic Processes in Clinical Practice through Mindfulness: Cognitive, Affective, and Neurobiological Perspectives

September 8

- Toxic Stress and Brain Development in Young Homeless Children
- Traumatic Brain Injury and Military Families
- Major Depression Is Systemic Inflammation

November 10

- Neuroscience of Risk-Taking in Adolescence
- Neurodevelopmental Approaches to Understanding and Working with Adolescents in the Juvenile Justice System
- Adult Criminal Justice System

Master Presenter

Dr. Brandt Wiskur served in the U.S. Army from 1994-2003 and was deployed multiple times to Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as recalled for military service after 911. He completed a B.S. Degree in Chemistry (cum laude) at the College of the Ozarks in 2003. He graduated with a degree in neuroscience from the OU Health Sciences Center in 2008. He concurrently served as a programs coordinator and post-doctoral fellow at the Oklahoma Center for Neuroscience (OCNS) from 2009-2011. He served as the program manager at the OCNS and later assisted the Graduate College (OUHSC) as a program analyst in 2012. During his time as a post-doctoral fellow until today he has periodically lectured at OUHSC and has thirteen peer-reviewed publications. He is the current Director of Institutional Research at the OUHSC. He is scheduled to graduate this year with his MSW.

Location: Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work, Room 250

Time: all sessions are 9-noon

Cost: \$30.00 Professionals per session
\$10.00 Students per session

CEU's: You will receive 3 hours of CEUs for all LCSWs

