

## **Trauma Theory and Clinical Social Work**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to current thinking about various types of traumatic exposures and their effects on survivors across the life span. Emphasis will be placed on differentiating single exposures from chronic trauma and on the developmental effects of toxic stress in early childhood. Topics covered in the this course include an historical overview of the development of trauma theory, the effects of trauma on brain development and memory, and the exploration of various types of trauma including war trauma, domestic violence, childhood sexual and physical abuse, natural disasters, immigration trauma and organizational trauma. Students will consider issues that affect those treating the survivors of trauma, such as vicarious trauma, and will explore approaches to self-care. This course usually fills up with SP2 students and will be open to undergraduates in the psa minor as space allows.