

Christie Mason, Ph.D., LCSW

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EDUCATION

Loyola University Chicago

Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work 5/07

Aurora University

Master of Social Work 6/99

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

B.S., Journalism 12/95

UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

Loyola University Chicago, Interim Director of Simulation 7/25 – present

Responsible for the oversight, development and coordination of simulation experiences for the School of Social Work, including the newly developed SSW simulation lab. Collaborate with the Center for Simulation Education in facilitating bi-weekly committee meetings, designing simulation experiences, identifying and training standardized participants, and evaluating simulation in the SSW. Provide expertise on aligning simulation program goals with curriculum via specific simulation experiences. Oversee graduate assistants and other simulation staff. Attend professional development on simulation.

Loyola University Chicago, Clinical Assistant Professor, 7/12 – 7/21; Clinical Associate Professor 7/21 – present

Teach eight classes per year in the School of Social Work, including Human Behavior in the Social Environment I & II, Individuals and Families I, Clinical Social Work Practice with Children, Clinical Social Work Practice with Adolescents, Principles and Interventions in Clinical Social Work, Arts-Based and Experiential Approaches to Social Work, Interprofessional Practice with At-Risk Youth, Trauma and Neurodevelopment, Assessment of Trauma in Children, and Social Work Internship Instruction. Participate in committee work, including chairing Curriculum Committee and Committee on Student Affairs. Develop curriculum. Facilitate integration between field and classroom learning. Support application for and implementation of grants as requested.

Loyola University Chicago, Assistant Dean for MSW Programs 7/22 – 6/24

Responsible for the oversight of the management, planning and administration of MSW program for all modalities of the MSW programs. Supported outreach efforts with prospective and admitted students. Ensured quality of academic advising. Managed process to promote student wellness with students who are struggling. Collaborated with administrative faculty and staff regarding academic programming needs, student affairs, simulation programming, revisions of school policy, developing and maintaining program reports, and developing documentation for program reaccreditation.

Loyola University Chicago, C-FIRST grant Implementation Specialist 5/20 – 5/22

Worked with team of specialists to develop and implement substance use assessment and intervention curriculum across the Foundation and Advanced social work curriculum.

Loyola University Chicago, Interprofessional Practice with At-Risk Youth Program Manager 9/14 – 5/17

Coordinated implementation of \$1.4 million dollar HRSA grant by overseeing student application process, communicating with students participating in the grant, conducting weekly team meetings for other grant staff, developing field placements, and developing course curriculum related to the grant.

Loyola University Chicago, Adjunct Professor 8/07 – 12/11

Taught one to two classes per semester in the School of Social Work, including Human Behavior in the Social Environment I & II, Individuals and Families I & II, Clinical Social Work Practice with Children, and Methods of Social Research.

Aurora University, Visiting Instructor 8/06 – 5/07

Taught full-time in the research, practice, and human behavior in the social environment sequences of the BSW program at Aurora University. Other responsibilities included student advising and curriculum development.

Aurora University, Adjunct Professor 1/04 – 8/05

Taught MSW classes in the practice sequence, including beginning and advanced practice with individuals and families, and a bridge course to prepare advanced standing students for the transition from undergraduates to second-year master's students.

Field Instructor 9/00 – 5/02, 5/03 – 8/06

Supervised master's level social work interns in community agency settings.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Therapist, Private Practice 8/19 – present

Provide individual and family therapy to clients across the lifespan, with special emphasis on therapy with children and adolescents, attachment in adoption, trauma, young adult clients, and older adult clients. Additional presenting concerns include depression, anxiety, family conflict, divorce, and aggression.

Therapist, Centennial Counseling Center 7/07 – 8/19

Provided individual and family therapy to clients across the lifespan, with special emphasis on therapy with children and adolescents, attachment in adoption, trauma, young adult clients, and older adult clients. Additional presenting concerns included depression, anxiety, family conflict, divorce, and aggression. Additional responsibilities included marketing the practice by contacting community referral sources and providing professional presentations. Also provided post-master's supervision to several recent graduates or LCSWs seeking consultation.

Youth Services Coordinator, Family Counseling Service of Aurora 6/02 – 8/06; **Therapist** 8/06 – 8/07

Supervised and worked within programs geared toward youth and families at a not-for-profit community counseling agency. Provided individual, play, family and group therapy to self-referred and mandated clients in both agency and community-based settings.

Child and Family Therapist, YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago 9/99 – 5/02; **Intern** 8/97 – 5/98

Provided therapy for children who had been sexually abused and their non-offending family members.

Independent Contractor, Friends of the Kane County Child Advocacy Center 6/01 – 7/02

Provided short-term counseling to child and adolescent victims of sexual abuse and their families

PUBLICATIONS

Mason, C. & Hayes, L. (Under review). Leading play groups for school children in a Caribbean school system: Reflections of Sunshine Circles leaders. *Child and Youth Services*.

Mason, C. & Menon, G. (Under review). Innovation in graduate social work education: Improving rigor, affordability and access through intentional curriculum revision. *Advances in Social Work*.

Mason, C. (2026). Practice with children: Assignments for play therapy. In J. Chonody (Ed.) *Teaching activities for social work*. Springer.

Singer, J., Mason, C., & Kelly B. (2026). Adolescent culture. In J. Chonody (Ed.) *Teaching activities for social work*. Springer.

Erickson, R., Pryce, J., Wazonis, A., Mason, C., & Gilkerson, L. (2025). Impact of simulation on social work students' attunement and self-awareness skills. *Studies in Clinical Social Work: Transforming Practice, Education and Research*, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/28376811.2025.2528770>

Ring, M. & Mason, C. (2023). Integrating the principles of the Neurosequential Model © into Theraplay Practice. In R. Hong and R. Coleman (Eds), *Theraplay: Innovations and Integration*. Jessica Kingsley.

Mason, C. (2022). Engagement. In B. Cross-Denny (Ed.) *Integrated Social Work Practice*, Cognella.

Mason, C., Kelly, B.L. & McConchie, V. (2020). Applying principles of neuroscience to trauma treatment: Introducing graduate students to the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 40(4), 352-371. <https://www.doi.org/10.1080/08841233.2020.1788692>

Mason, C. (2019). Helping clients move beyond trauma: The Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics. *The New Social Worker*, 26(1), 20-21.

Mason, C. (2018, Summer). The Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics. *NASW Children, Adolescents and Young Adults Section Connection*. 2-4.

Hong, R. and Mason, C. (2016). Becoming a neurobiologically-informed play therapist. *International Journal of Play Therapy*, 25(1), 35-44.

Mason, C. (2008) Review of Teens who hurt: Clinical interventions to break the cycle of violence. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 25(5), 447-450.

Mason, C. (2006) Two truths (editorial). *Praxis*, 6, 3-4.

Mason, C. (2005) Building on our foundations (editorial). *Praxis*, 5, 3-4.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Neurosequential Model: A clinical approach to trauma in schools. Michael S. Kelly Summer Institute, Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work. 7/25

Neuroscience for legal professionals: Understanding how to interact effectively with clients that have experienced trauma. Loyola University Chicago Law School. 9/24, 2/25, 9/25

Trauma-informed practice: Using principles of neurodevelopment to guide intervention. Chicago Youth Centers, 8/16; Presence Behavioral Health, 5/17, 3/18; Kane County CASA, 9/17; Loyola University Chicago field instructor training, 12/17; Catholic Charities, 7/18; Outreach Community Services, 9/20; Catholic Charities, 4/21; Niles West High School Institute, 3/25; Sexton Institute Seminar, 3/25; Illinois State Deans Association Conference, 5/25; Ascencion Healthcare, 5/25.

Working with young people who have trauma histories, 2/20, Chicago Friends of the Children.

Trauma-informed healthcare: Foundational science and interventions, 10/19, Loyola University Medical Center & School of Nursing Distinguished Speaker Series, Maywood, IL. Co-presentation with Pat Rush, M.D.

Teaching the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics to new clinicians, 6/18, NMT Symposium, Banff, Alberta, Canada.

Principles and strategies for fostering community in online classes, 4/18, Social Work Distance Education conference, San Antonio, TX.

Introduction to play therapy. Loyola Community and Family Services, 9/16, 10/17, 9/18; Waubensee Community College, 5/17

Ethics in a digital era. CUSD 39 social workers, 9/17

Incorporating play therapy into school-based social work services. CUSD 308 social workers, 5/12; CUSD 205 social workers, 3/18.

Social work values and organizational culture: Navigating the fit. Loyola University School of Social Work field instructors' training, 2/16

Assessment and treatment planning. Rincon Family Services staff, 10/15

Working with adolescents. Salvation Army substance abuse treatment program staff, 5/15

Integrating theory into supervision of social work interns. Loyola University School of Social Work annual field instructors' training, 8/14

Incorporating evidence-based practice in student internship sites. Loyola University School of Social Work field instructor training.

What's new in DSM-5? Loyola University School of Social Work Continuing Education event. 7/13, 9/13, also online; CUSD 39, 2/14; Illinois Association for School Social Work, 10/14; CUSD 99, 1/15

Strengthening the supervisory relationship. Loyola University School of Social Work annual field instructors' training. 8/13

Integrating classroom learning with field work. Loyola University School of Social Work annual field instructors' training. 8/12

Ethical decision-making. CUSD 308 social workers. CUSD 101 social workers. CUSD 39 social workers. Two CEU events sponsored by Provena Mercy Hospital continuing education. 9/07, 11/07, 11/10, 5/11, 11/11, 10/15

S E R V I C E

Theraplay – Board member, 7/21– 6/24

Illinois Association for Play Therapy – Vice President, 8/15 – 8/19

CSWE Trauma Task Force – Committee Member, 10/16 – 7/17

LUC Committees

Foundation Curriculum Committee – Member, 2012 – 2025; Chair, 2021-2022; Co-chair, 2024-2025

Curriculum Committee – Member, 2013 – 2016, 2017-2018, Chair, 2019 – 2020; Co-chair, 2020-2021, 2024-2025

Field Education Committee – Member, 2012 – 2013, 2017 – 2020; Chair, 2013 – 2016

Committee on Student Affairs – Chair, 2016 – 2017; Member 2013 – 2016; Chair 2018-2020

Strategic Planning Committee – Member (elected), 2017 – 2018

Loyola Community and Family Services – Member, 2015 – 2020

Search Committee – Member (elected), 2014 – 2015

Learning Portfolio Taskforce – Member, May 2019 – November, 2019

C E R T I F I C A T I O N S

Registered Play Therapist - Supervisor, 8/19 - present

Master Online Teacher, 5/19

Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics, Levels I and II, 1/16 - present

Core Concepts in Child and Adolescent Trauma – learning collaborative, 9/14-5/15

Loyola University Online Teaching, 9/13-12/13

A W A R D S

Florence Vigilante Award for Scholarly Excellence

Recognition of best article in Volume 40 (2020) of *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, for outstanding scholarship and creativity

Going the Extra Mile

2016-2017 recipient of teaching award from the Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work Student Organization

Jimmy and Dorothy Fuerst Award

2005 recipient for the paper, "Adolescent Violence and Juvenile Justice: Are We Moving Forward or Backward?"

The paper analyzed the implementation of a Balanced and Restorative Justice model with violent adolescent offenders.

President's Medallion

2006-2007 School of Social Work recipient of the President's Medallion from Loyola University