

Credentialing Statement

Department of Mental Health Law and Policy

The Department of Mental Health Law and Policy is committed to establishing and maintaining the highest standards of academic excellence for its undergraduate and graduate courses. To achieve this goal the Department carefully reviews and credentials all instructors of record of our academic courses. We follow the USF and SACS requirements for credentialing and also recognize that the Department consists of an interdisciplinary faculty whose formal training, expertise, and professional experiences converge within the study and design of behavioral health interventions and delivery mechanisms across the various systems in which individuals diagnosed with mental health and addictive disorder are served. Given the breadth and ever changing dynamics of the behavioral health care field, it is imperative to recruit faculty from a broad array of disciplines, backgrounds, and professional experiences. Thus to be credentialed to teach courses in the Department of Mental Health Law and Policy, instructors must have degrees in disciplines that are relevance to behavioral health care systems design, delivery, and program evaluation. These disciplines include, but not limited to, Anthropology, Counseling, Economics, Education, Educational Measurement, Ethics, Health Care Administration, Human Development, Law, Medicine, Neuroscience, Nursing, Psychology, Psychiatry, Public Health, Public Administration, Research & Statistics, Social Work, and Sociology. Instructional personnel teaching undergraduate courses should typically hold an earned doctorate or master's degree with a minimum of 18 hours in the discipline taught. Instructors with law degrees (JD, LL.M) are qualified to be credentialed. In some cases faculty may be credentialed based on their professional licensure or certification, research accomplishments, specialized training, experience with a local, state, or federal agency, or other competencies relevant to the course(s) being taught.