

Laura Cardinal

Clinical Assistant Professor of Social Work Field Education Dept. of Adult Mental Health and Wellness at USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work

Los Angeles, CA, US

Ms. Cardinal is an expert in emergency department, perinatal care, oncology, hospice, and mindfulness-based interventions.

Biography

Ms. Cardinal, a licensed independent social worker, joined the Virtual Academic Center in 2014, teaching in the field education department and serves as a field liaison for the Northwest regional field team.

Her recent professional career has focused on health and medical social work across the lifespan and in multiple medical social work settings, including the emergency department, perinatal care, oncology and hospice. She is also an instructor of various mindfulness-based interventions, such as the use of mindfulness practice during pregnancy and childbirth, parenting and in educational settings. Cardinal's training and experience extends to the areas of alternative high school education, juvenile justice, national service programming and wilderness-based experiential education. Her other areas of interest include the application of contemplative practice in higher education, social work ethics and professionalism.

Cardinal has been active on several committees, with her most recent appointments being a member of the Skagit Valley Hospital Ethics Committee and the Skagit Valley Hospital Regional Care Center Cancer Committee. From 2005 to 2008, she served as a board member of the Community Action Agency's Opportunity Council, and in 2003 she was chosen as a finalist for the Presidential Management Fellowship.

Cardinal graduated from Western Washington University in 1997 with a degree from Fairhaven College, combining anthropology, environmental studies and experiential education. She received her master's in social work in 2003 from the University of Georgia's School of Social Work, with an additional certificate in nonprofit management. She earned a competitive assistantship from the State of Georgia's Department of Juvenile Justice, where she completed her concentration internship as well as her master's thesis on the recidivism rates of female juvenile sex offenders in rural Georgia.

Industry Expertise

Social Services, Research, Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Juvenile Justice, Mindfulness-based Interventions , Oncology, Social Work, Perinatal Care, Hospice Care, Mindfulness During Pregnancy and Childbirth

Education

University of Georgia
MSW Social Work

Western Washington University

BA

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