Program overview

The Mission of the Community & Social Change Program is to prepare globally aware leaders, researchers, and agents of change who create, inspire, and engage community organizations to foster well-being in diverse community settings.

The program is designed to enhance our students’ abilities to: lead, administer, and inspire within educational and community settings; lead group processes and consultations; develop and evaluate programs; engage in ethical practices; develop collaborative efforts to address social issues; think and act as advocates and agents of change; think and act in ecological, multicultural, and global ways; understand and utilize theory and research; understand power dynamics, systems, and social sources of well-being; and communicate well in oral, written and electronic media formats.
What We Do

We study the values, theories, investigations, and strategies that help communities thrive. We learn how to apply theory and research in diverse communities to improve their well-being and benefit from social justice. For us, social change is about partnering with communities in the struggle for wellness and fairness. We are guided by the principles of prevention and empowerment, and devise programs that pay attention to diversity, ecology, and people’s strengths and resilience. We do this as leaders of organizations, as program evaluators, and as advocates for social change.

“I was accepted into the CSC program after I had been in the not for profit sector for a decade. I was astounded on how much information I gained to project the organization I founded to the next level. It's been 5 years since I graduated and have had tremendous growth, and insight into our expanding methodology.” Virginia (Cohort 1)

Career Opportunities

We prepare leaders, activists, advocates, administrators, consultants, evaluators, managers, organizers, program developers, and researchers to play a variety of roles in a many different types of community settings, including: community organizations; consulting agencies; educational settings; faith-based organizations; global agencies; government organizations; self-help organizations; health organizations; humanitarian agencies; national organizations; neighborhood associations; and, philanthropic organizations.

Program Format

Graduates of the 30-credit program in Community & Social Change receive a Master of Science in Education (M.S.Ed) degree. C&SC courses are scheduled with sufficient flexibility to accommodate working professionals and students who cannot relocate to South Florida. Most core program courses are held over 1 weekend per month during the fall and spring. The Core Curriculum includes courses like: Community Well-being and Change: Theory and Practice; Social Change Praxis; Program Evaluation; and Managing Community Organizations.

Requirements for Admission

Admission to the Master of Science in Education is based on the following:

- Completion of a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution;
- An undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or better. (Applicants with undergraduate GPA’s below 3.0 but with other advanced degree or full-time paid or volunteer experience in non-profit settings may also be eligible for consideration);
- A minimum Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score of 153 verbal, 144 quantitative reasoning, and 40 writing taken within the past five years. International applicants whose native language is not English must also pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language [TOEFL] and in addition to the GRE.
- Three letters of recommendation (2 academic and 1 community);
- An interview (in person or telephone);
- A personal statement

For further information contact:

Dr. Ashmeet K. Oberoi  
Program Director  
a.oberoi@miami.edu; 305-284-5956

Dr. Monica Page  
Graduate Program Coordinator  
mpage@miami.edu; 305-284-8524

---

1 Academic Scholarships are available depending on eligibility and need.