

## School of Social Work

### Faculty Position Announcement—OPEN RANK

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Social Work is seeking applications for **two** full-time, tenured or tenure-track positions at the **Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor** rank, beginning fall 2023.

The successful candidate will possess a record of research and scholarship, teaching, service, community engagement, and administration commensurate with the rank sought. Our faculty members are expected to actively engage in research and scholarship and seek external funding. Faculty in the School of Social Work engage in broad collaborations with health, science, technology, engineering, and arts units across the university, which have resulted in ongoing educational initiatives, grant-funded research, and community-engagement projects. As such, the successful candidate will have a track record of interprofessional collaborations.

Applicants' research should be at the intersection of social work and public health/population health, and blend micro and macro issues. Expertise in some of the areas salient in the School of Social Work's growing research portfolio is welcome, including health and behavioral health in Hispanic/Latino/Latinx communities; gerontological social work; sustainability; human mobility; U.S.-Mexico border issues; and global issues. Faculty members are encouraged to engage in basic, applied and/or translational research that addresses critical community and state needs.

Service to the School, University, community, and professional organizations locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally is an integral part of the faculty member's responsibilities. The successful applicant will teach in our BSW, MSSW, and dual-degree programs; contribute to the development of our doctoral program and teach doctoral courses; work with our Office for International Social Work and our Human Mobility Institute; and possess some experience in administrative areas relevant to our programs or be interested in developing expertise in these areas (e.g., academic affairs, graduate education, distance learning, etc.). We are seeking well-rounded academics who can make an impact in all areas: teaching, research and scholarship, service, administration, and community engagement. Candidates for Associate and Full Professor must have tenure at a comparable institution of higher education or be eligible to meet the institutional requirements for tenure to be considered for the same rank at UTRGV.

UTRGV is a distributed university with campuses across the Rio Grande Valley, and faculty are expected to teach in various locations either in person or using remote technologies. The School of Social Work has students in Edinburg, Brownsville, and Laredo, and is exploring offering classes in Rio Grande City.

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**Preference will be given to applicants with:** mixed methods, qualitative, and quantitative skills; a Master's in Social Work from a CSWE-accredited program and 2+ years of practice experience; social work licensure or license-eligibility in Texas; experience working with Hispanic/Latino/Latinx communities; teaching expertise in advanced clinical or macro practice; experience with online teaching and distance education programs; bilingual (English and Spanish); knowledge of the cultural, social and economic characteristics of the U.S./Mexico border region; and international experience. An earned doctorate in social work or a related field is required.

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) is a Hispanic-Serving Institution located on the U.S.-Mexico border. Our **B3 Institute** collaborates with units across UTRGV to achieve the university's goal of being the first **bilingual, bicultural, and biliterate** University in the United States. UTRGV faculty will be expected to demonstrate a strong commitment to scholarly work, student success, and to advancing the university, school, and program missions, and to be committed to UTRGV's strategic plan, vision, mission, values and core priorities (<https://www.utrgv.edu/strategic-plan/introduction/index.htm>).

**EEO Statement.** UTRGV is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that strives to hire without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, or veteran status. UTRGV takes affirmative action to hire and advance women, minorities, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities.

**Diversity Statement.** UTRGV is a Hispanic-serving Institution dedicated to student success and building a diverse faculty committed to working in a multicultural environment. UTRGV has an NSF ADVANCE grant to increase the representation of women in STEM fields and to promote a positive, family friendly workplace for all faculty. We strongly encourage applications from women and minorities.

### **Interested Applicants can reach out to:**

Luis R. Torres-Hostos, PhD  
Founding Dean & Professor  
[Luis.TorresHostos@utrgv.edu](mailto:Luis.TorresHostos@utrgv.edu)  
(956) 665-7369

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED  
THROUGH THIS LINK ON THE UTRGV HR PORTAL:**

<https://careers.utrgv.edu/postings/36780>

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### **About the School of Social Work**

The School of Social Work was established in 2018 as an independent School and is under the leadership of Founding Dean Dr. Luis R. Torres. The Department of Social Work has existed since the 1970s, most recently as part of the College of Health Professions. The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) School of Social Work (SSW) is the only institution to offer programs leading to both the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree and the Master of Science in Social Work (MSSW) degree south of San Antonio. Both programs are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Our current accreditation extends through February 2023, and our reaffirmation process is under way.

The BSW Program prepares students for generalist social work practice. Building on the generalist foundation, the MSSW program focuses on two concentrations: Direct Practice with Latino Individuals, Families, and Groups; and Community Practice and Administration. The MSSW Program goals are to prepare graduates to practice with diverse, vulnerable, and at-risk populations to promote human well-being and social and economic justice, especially in the Texas-Mexico border region; to prepare graduates for leadership in developing and implementing policies and services for at-risk populations with an emphasis on the Texas-Mexico border region; and to develop the knowledge base of the social work profession, particularly as it relates to addressing the needs of at-risk populations with an emphasis on the Texas-Mexico border region. The BSW program is in-person, and alternative modalities are being explored. We offer all MSSW programs in two modalities, traditional on-campus, and online. A PhD in Social Work is under development, as are a dual MSSW-MPH program. Other dual degree programs and MSSW modalities have been approved by faculty and will be developed over the next few years.

The School of Social Work is committed to preparing generalist and advanced professional social workers to meet the needs of a binational and multicultural community, and to increasingly make an impact on the national stage. The Rio Grande Valley is a natural laboratory for the demographic shifts being seen around the country. The educational emphasis is on social work practice with Hispanic/Latino/Latinx individuals and communities, and with other diverse communities, considering multicultural competence, ethical practice, knowledge building, and social services that promote social and economic justice.

### **About The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley**

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) was created by the Texas Legislature in 2013 as the first major public university of the 21st century in Texas.

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UTRGV has campuses and off-campus research and teaching sites throughout the Rio Grande Valley including in Boca Chica Beach, Brownsville (formerly The University of Texas at Brownsville campus), Edinburg (formerly The University of Texas-Pan American campus), Harlingen, McAllen, Port Isabel, Rio Grande City, and South Padre Island, and in Laredo, TX, in partnership with The University of Texas Education and Research Center at Laredo (<https://www.utsystem.edu/offices/education-research-center-laredo>). The University's mission is "to transform the Rio Grande Valley, the Americas, and the world through an innovative and accessible educational environment that promotes student success, research, creative works, health and well-being, community engagement, sustainable development, and commercialization of university discoveries."

The School of Social Work is one of several units at UTRGV that focus on training health providers; expanding access to care across the Rio Grande Valley and beyond; and reducing health inequities. These include:

- College of Health Professions, which includes the School of Rehabilitation Services and Counseling; the Departments of Health and Biomedical Sciences, Health and Human Performance, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Physician Assistant Studies, and Occupational Therapy; and the Border Health Office, focused on improving the health of our South Texas Community. See <https://www.utrgv.edu/coha/>.
- School of Medicine (which includes 18 Departments and Institutes. See <https://www.utrgv.edu/school-of-medicine/index.htm>.
- School of Nursing, which includes bachelor's and master's programs in Nursing with various specializations, a post-master's certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. See <https://www.utrgv.edu/nursing/>.
- School of Podiatric Medicine, which is the first Podiatric school in Texas. See <https://www.utrgv.edu/school-of-podiatric-medicine/>.
- School of Social Work (<https://www.utrgv.edu/socialwork/>).