

The U.S. and Canadian Societies for Spirituality & Social Work Present: *Spirituality, Cultural Diversity, and Social Work*

When & Where: Thursday, April 21st, 2022 from 12:30pm-2:00pm EDT via Zoom

 [Click Here to Register!](#)

Topic: Spirituality, Diversity and Culturally Responsive Social Work Practice

Dr. Diana Franco serves as Clinical Assistant Professor at Loyola University Chicago, School of Social Work. Dr. Franco has been a clinical social worker for over 20 years. She graduated with a Master's in Social Work from Columbia University in 2000 and with a DSW from New York University's Silver School of Social Work in 2018. Dr. Franco provided school-based social work services for 18 years with the NYC Department of Education and believes that there is a correlation between academic success and social-emotional well-being. Dr. Franco's area of research focuses on addressing the academic and social-emotional needs of immigrant and undocumented youth. Dr. Franco's work delves into the relationship between trauma and the migration process, social justice, and human rights.



Dr. Maribel Lopez is a faculty member of Loyola University Chicago for the school of Social Work and the Online Bilingual Social Work Master's program. Dr. Lopez earned an Ed. D, from National Louis University in Chicago. Doctoral studies; Latinas in Higher Education; in collaboration, designed a performance to show the findings of the research in a theatrical format. She received her master's degree in Social Work at University of Illinois at Chicago. Concentration in Children and Families, bachelor's in social work for Governors State and a Women's Ministries certification from Seminario Biblico in Illinois. She has over 20 years' experience working with children, families, individuals, couples, and youth counseling. Dr. Lopez co-founded Latina Child Care Providers In Action, LCCPIA in 1998; a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster economic development in the Latina community.



Topic: Spiritual and Cultural Attunement in Social Work Practice

Dr. Heather M. Boynton has worked in mental health for 30+ years as a Child and Family Therapist, Mental Health Consultant, and Manager in Adult Services. Her research and teaching interests include spirituality, trauma, grief and loss, posttraumatic growth, child and family mental health, integrative and holistic practices, and interprofessional collaboration and education. She is an Assistant Professor at the University of Calgary, Faculty at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, and a Member of the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute.



Emma De Vynck is a MSW thesis student and research assistant at the University of Calgary pursuing research on the lived experiences of spiritual distress for women of evangelical Christian backgrounds. She hopes to add to the conversation on spirituality in social work and allied professions. Her work experience is in mental health, and she hopes to continue applying spiritually-informed learning to her professional endeavours.

