

HD Peer Newsletter

Monica McMillan
mcmil016@cougars.csusm.edu

HD Alumni Kimberly Gerardi

What year did you graduate?

I graduated in December 2004.

Why did you choose Human Development?

I chose Human Development because I enjoyed psychology and wanted to help people, so Human Development seemed to be the perfect major.

What has been your journey since graduation?

After graduating, I shortly after returned to school and received a Masters in Social Work (MSW) from CSULB. After graduating with a Social Work degree, I decided to practice Social Work in a medical setting for over 6 years and I am currently working in an inpatient psychiatric unit.

How has your HD degree helped your professional and academic career?

Human Development is an important component in Social Work, so my previous education was beneficial during my post-graduate education. Having an education in Human Development helps professionally by providing a better understanding of human beings, and provides a different perspective than someone from another field may have.

Why did you choose your current career?

I chose my current career working in a psychiatric setting because I enjoy helping others, am intrigued by the human mind, and wanted to grow clinically. This setting addresses all of those. I enjoy working in a faster pace, which a hospital setting lends itself to.

Study Abroad

Interested in studying abroad in Summer 2015 to experience a new culture as well as to obtain credit for courses! Then contact the Office of Global Education for more information on fees, GPA requirements, and dates.

Office located in Craven Hall 3200 or call (760) 750-4090 to schedule an appointment with an advisor. (Information about Walk-In Hours on Page 2.)
<http://www.csusm.edu/global/index.html>

Upcoming Trips

Obtain field/research experience in **Peru** and fulfill your course requirement for HD 495 or HD 497!

Study Spanish in **Spain** at Universidad de Valladolid and fulfill your course requirement for SPAN 102, 201, or 301!

<http://www.csusm.edu/global/studyabroad/summer.html>

Interview with HD Alumna Kimberly Gerardi continued...

What do you enjoy most about your current profession?

I most enjoy the environment I work in because there is never a dull moment! It is an environment where you are constantly learning something new.

What qualifications and skills are important to be successful in this profession?

In this day in age, a post-graduate degree is not only beneficial, but almost seems necessary if wanting to continue to grow professionally. The skills I feel are most important are practicing empathy and compassion, helping to empower others, and working from ‘where the person is at’.

What advice do you have for graduating seniors?

I am a big believer in education, so maybe considering a graduate degree, and that each person has their own story, each unique to the individual person!



Did you know????

California State University San Marcos has exchange agreements with universities abroad that allow its students to attend those universities for a semester or academic year and earn resident credit toward graduation. CSU San Marcos students **pay only their state university fee** to participate in these exchange programs.

Most exchanges are university-wide and allow students in any major to attend a partner university. However, some agreements are specific to a particular major, such as business administration.

[More about Study Abroad](#)

EVENT THIS WEEK

Thursday, April 16: 13th Annual International Fair 11:00am-2:00pm (Library Plaza)

WALK-IN HOURS

Tiffany Gabbard, Study Abroad Coordinator
 Monday: 10:00-11:00am
 Tuesday: 3:00-4:00pm
 Wednesday: 10:00-11:00am
 Thursday: 3:00-4:00pm

Danielle McMartin, International Student Advisor
 Monday: 1:00-3:00pm
 Tuesday: 11:00-1:00pm
 Wednesday: 2:00-4:00pm

Natalie Prellwitz, International and Study Abroad Advisor
 Tuesday: 8:00am-5:00pm
 Thursday: 8:00am-5:00pm