

# IRIS GONZALEZ-THRASH, MSW, LCSW

## *Curriculum Vitae*

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Email : [irisgonz@usc.edu](mailto:irisgonz@usc.edu)  
Title : Senior Lecturer/Full Time  
23 + years teaching  
Bi lingual/Bi cultural  
Stanish : Latinx  
Refuge

### ACADEMIC DEGREES

Licensed Clinical Social Worker LCS 19956, 2000  
Master's Degree: Social Work, 1991  
San Jose State University, San Jose, CA  
  
Bachelor of Arts Degree: Sociology, 1987  
Biola University, La Mirada, CA

### EVIDENCED PRACTICE TRAINED AS CLINICIAN AND SUPERVISOR

EMDR  
TRAUMA INFORMED  
PSYCHOANALYSIS THERAPY  
OBJECT RELATIONS  
CLIENT CENTERED THERAPY  
EMOTION FOCUSED THERAPY  
COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY

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DIALECTICAL BEHAVIORAL THERAPY

SOMATIC THERAPIES

BREATH WORK

MINDFULNESS AND STRESS REDUCTION THERAPY

CPT/TFCBT

INTERPERSONAL AND SOCIAL RHYTHM THERAPY

INTERPERSONAL PARENT-CHILD PSYCHOTHERAPIES

SOLUTION FOCUSED THERAPY

NARRATIVE THERAPY

FAMILY THERAPIES: SATIR, MINUCHIN, BOWEN

EXISTENTIAL THERAPY

BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT THERAPIES

COUPLES THERAPIES

CONSCIOUS UNCOUPLING TREATMENT

LGBTQIA AFFIRMATIVE THERAPY

NEURODIVERSE INTERVENTIONS

SANDTRAY AND PLAY THERAPIES

HOLISTIC APPROACHES

CRISIS INTERVENTIONS

<b>ACADEMIC POSITIONS</b>
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<b>RESPONSIBILITIES, SPECIALITY AND AWARDS</b>
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University of Southern California, Suzanne Dworak Peck School of Social Work-

(University Park and Virtual teaching)

Senior Lecturer (2000-Present)

Lead Faculty:

- SOWK 647 Advanced Practice with Complex Clients
- SOWK 643 Social Work Practice in Integrated Care Settings

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- SOWK 609 Introduction to Social Work Practice with Children, Youth and Families

**SPECIALITY:**

- Advanced clinical practice, training, clinical language, engagement, assessment, diagnosis and interventions.
- LCSW (License) information, preparation and training. (CA and all states)

**AWARDS:**

Jane Addams Award, 2022 (Voted by students)

Field Instructor of the Year, 2010

National award from Orange County Child Abuse Program for developing a new outstanding program utilizing collaborative efforts, 1987.

<b>TEACHING COMPETENCE</b>
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**ADULT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS COURSES:**

- 647 Advanced Practice with Complex Clients
- 643 Social Work Practice in Integrated Care Settings
- 644 Explanatory Theories of Health and Mental Health
- 645 Clinical Practice in Mental Health and Health Settings

**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES' COURSES**

- 609 Introduction to Social Work Practice with Children, Youth and Families
- 610 Social Work Across Settings
- 621 Social Work Practice with Adolescents, Young Adults and their Families
- 677 Mental Health Practice with Children and Adolescents

**FOUNDATION COURSES**

- 523 Foundations of Integrative Social Work Practice I
- 525 Foundations of Integrative Social Work Practice II
- 544 Clinical Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families & Groups
- 511 Critical Decision-Making in ISW Practice

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- 545 Social Work Practice with Families and Groups
- 506 Human Behavior and Social Environments
- 503 Human Behavior and Social Environments I
- 505 Human Behavior and Social Environments II
- 698 A & B Integrated Learning for Advanced Social Work Practice/Advanced Field Education

#### ELECTIVE COURSES

- 612 Assessment and Diagnosis of Mental Disorders
- 692 Loss, Grief and Bereavement

<b>INNOVATION AND SERVICE</b>
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- LCSW Workshops for UPC and VAC students on Licensing Process
- Search committee for MSW Chair
- Mentorship of new faculty
- Mentorship to students
- Lead Instructor
  - 647
  - 643
  - 609
- CYF CURRICULUM COURSE RECORDINGS
  - 613
  - 525
- Adult Mental Health and Wellness Sub Committee member
- Job references and job coaching for students and alumni.
- Letter of recommendations for students and alumni.
- Curriculum development of 506 labs

- 7-hour development of CEU's (continuing education units) on Child Abuse and Reporting meeting the Board of Behavioral Sciences criteria. Developed, researched and recorded 7-hour presentation.
- MAP certified and Instructor.
- Teaching across multiple departments
- Voted on by student in the closing of the Orange County campus to teach course in their last semester
- Brown bag presentation on Diversity to student body
- Organized panel presentation of professional social workers in the field representing the three departments for the student body
- Faculty review panel for incoming MSW applicants
- Annual Dialectical Behavioral Therapy training and coordination with Metropolitan State Hospital
- Teach on the ground and online platform.

#### FIELD PLACEMENT LIAISON, INSTRUCTOR AND SUPERVISOR

1995-2016 – Field Instructor in the community providing Field support to USC students in both first- and second-year placements.

2000-2005 – Part time Field Liaison supporting students and agencies and agency development.

2000-2005 – Provided Field Instruction training to Field supervisors

2000-2005 – Part time Field Faculty

#### SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE

**GOAL:** To improve the wellness of individuals and society by utilizing my experience as a clinician, educator and administrator

#### EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS:

- **25 + Years of clinical and administrative experience**
- **23+ years as a professor mentoring and teaching graduate level MSW students**
- **25+ years supervising ACSW's, AMFT's and training for licensure.**
- **15+ years as LCSW consultant, clinical supervisor and program development**
- **15+ years as a private practitioner specializing in generalist practice such as, mood disorders, anxiety disorders, persistent mental illness, bipolar, couples and uncoupling treatment (divorce, separation, infidelity blended families, role disputes), trauma, loss and grief, caretaker burnout, readjustment issues, life transitions, etc.**

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- Expert knowledge, practice and training in cognitive behavioral therapy; emotion focused therapy; cognitive processing therapy; insight orientated therapist (psychoanalysis, self-psychology, object relations, etc.); mindfulness based stress reduction; breath work; psychosocial rehabilitation model; solution focused therapy; somatic therapies; stress inoculation; motivational interviewing; systems therapies (family, experiential, structural, Bowen), and humanistic approaches; gestalt, narrative, client centered and EMDR.
- Skilled Supervisor in clinical diagnosis, treatment interventions and overall staff development and leadership
- EMDR trained.
- 20+ years working with high-risk populations, minors, adults, couples and families (psychosocial issues of domestic violence, child abuse, addiction (alcohol/drugs), mental illness, loss and grief, depression, anxiety and suicide)
- 20+ years working in School, County (Social Service Agency and Children's Mental Health), outpatient, non-profit and for-profit organizations and Higher Education systems
- Experience working with military individuals, re: readjustment issues, family issues and mentoring services.
- 8+ years working with Victim Witness with clients (Children and Adults) impacted by physical, sexual and violent assault
- 9+ years contracting with Social Service Agency providing services to minors of child abuse and parents and perpetrators; domestic violence; parenting issues.

**EXPERIENCE:**

7/00- Present                    **SENIOR LECTURER**

USC School of Social Work (Graduate Program) Irvine, CA

Graduate level instructor in the field of Social Work: Teach across sections of Adult Mental Health and Wellness department and Children, Youth and Families Department as well as Foundation clinical courses. Courses taught: Advanced Mental Health Practice with Individuals; Foundation Year Practice Course I & II; Human Behavior and the Social Environment I & II (Theory course), Explanatory Theories of Health and Mental Health; Introduction to Social Work Practice with Children, Youth, and Families; Social Work Practice with Adolescents, Young Adults and their Families; Social Work Across Settings; Advanced Practice with Complex Social Work cases, DSM course and Field Practicum Seminars. I & II

4/06 – present: **PRIVATE PRACTITIONER**

Mission Viejo and Irvine, CA

Providing therapeutic services to individuals, couples, and families. Specialize in all Mood Disorders, Anxiety Disorders, PTSD and Readjustment Issues, Loss and Grief and Bereavement, Substance Abuse and Addiction, Psychosis and related disorders, Couples issues: marriage, divorce, healthy uncoupling, affairs, communication, etc. Children's disorder and all abuse categories.

Provide clinical supervision (Individual and Group) to license eligible staff and to master's level interns. (MSW'S AND MFTI'S)

EMDR trained.

10/21- Present            **PRIMARY THERAPIST**

Mental Health Collective, Newport Beach, CA

Primary therapist providing neuro-informed, attachment focused and evidenced based treatment for adults living with a mental illness and trauma disorders in an intensive in-patient program.

4/17 – Present            **LCSW CONSULTANT**

Crisis Response Program, Whittier, CA

Program development, quality assurance and program start-up.

Provide clinical supervision to three Regional Center contract agency: Crisis agency, Trauma based agency, Long term outpatient treatment agency

8/14- Present            **CORPORATE CONSULTANT AND CLINICAL SUPERVISOR**

Vitas Healthcare, Irvine, CA

Provide leadership training and support to upper management team. Consultant to General Manager on executive functioning of team. Provide Inservice and training.

Provide clinical supervision (Individual and Group) to license eligible staff. Clinical consultations and preparation for LCSW examination.

6/06-Present            **CLINICAL SUPERVISOR**

Mental Health Association, Orange, CA

Provide clinical supervision (Individual and Group) to license eligible staff and to master's level interns. Provide clinical consultation, training on evidence based practices interventions and diagnostic evaluation and day to day operations.

7/00-6/31/06: **CLINICAL FIELD FACULTY**

USC School of Social Work (Graduate Program) Irvine, CA

Responsible for coordinating field placements in both the first year and second year graduate level masters' students. Additional responsibilities include advisement, liaison, and facilitating linkages between the academic faculty, the field instructors and the agencies, teaching graduate level courses, coordination of various workshops, seminars and meetings.

4/05-3/07 **LICENSURE PREP INSTRUCTOR**

Psycho-Legal and Associates, Huntington Beach, CA

Provide intensive weekend training for preparation for licensure examination by the Board of Behavioral Sciences.

5/00-7/04 **PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

Latino Psychological and Social Services, Laguna Beach, CA

Strategic development of child mental health outpatient clinic starts up. Marketing and outreach to local community and school districts. Implementation and oversight of overall operations including hiring, training, referral development and management of daily operation. Responsible for all administrative duties and program requirements including County of Orange and state medi-cal regulations compliance.

Provided clinical supervision to licensed and masters level clinicians.

1993-1998 **CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER**

Health Care Agency/Children and Youth Services

(AKA: Orange County Mental Health Department) San Clemente, CA

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Worked in a multidisciplinary team with Psychiatrist, Psychologist and Social Worker, to assess individuals with emotional and or social problems and make recommendations for treatment. Therapeutic duties included: Individual, collateral, group and family counseling to school aged children and their parents. Services rendered under AB3632/882 services for special education students with emotional and or social problems. Multi-axil diagnosis of DSM-IVR standards. Specializing in Children's disorder's mood disorders, and anxiety disorders. Additional services included: maintaining county and state chart requirements, supervision of MSW interns and collaborative work with the school district and school staff.

1996-1997      **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND DRUG/ALCOHOL GROUP  
FACILITATOR**

South Coast Counseling Center, Laguna Niguel, CA

Facilitated perpetrators group for Domestic violence offense and Drug and Alcohol programs (PC100) through County Probation. Identified clients' issues related to drug and alcohol abuse that impaired their daily functions. Provided interventions, referrals and psycho-educational information. Completed random drug testing and reports to the Courts. Coordinated community resources and participation in AA and NA meetings.

1991-1993      **PROGRAM COORDINATOR AND CLINICAL DIRECTOR**  
**HEALTHY START PROGRAM** (L.E.A.R.N Local efforts to address and reduce neglect)

Children's Bureau of Southern California., Huntington Beach, CA

Developed and implemented new federal grants program. Interviewed and hired staff of six. Collaborated with County of Orange Social Service Agency and two separate elementary schools to provide counseling services for families at risk of abuse and or neglect. (In-home and outpatient services). Trained staff in the above area in addition to parenting classes and how to implement support groups in the community. Presented program throughout the state of California through speaking engagements. Received National award from Orange County Child Abuse Program for developing a new outstanding program utilizing collaborative efforts.

19989-1991      **FAMILY RESPONSE WORKER**

Children's Bureau of Southern California, Los Angeles, Ca

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Provided in-home counseling to families identified as high risk of abuse or with an open case with Social Services. Services included individual, group and family counseling, specializing in parenting education, resource developing, domestic violence issues, drug and alcohol problems and discipline issues thematic. In addition, provided services to the Foster care program; completing home studies, counseling services and collaborating with County Social Services.

1987-1989                    **CASE MANAGER**-El Nido Services, Los Angeles

1987-1987                    **DRUG AND ALCOHOL INTERVENTIONIST**-Care Unit Hospital, Los Angeles