

Introducing

Social Work Core Values

An Experience of Heritage's Program for Rivers Edge High School Expo

Heritage University
@ REHS Expo
2026

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Admissions Counselor - Tri Cities Site

Meet Your Facilitators

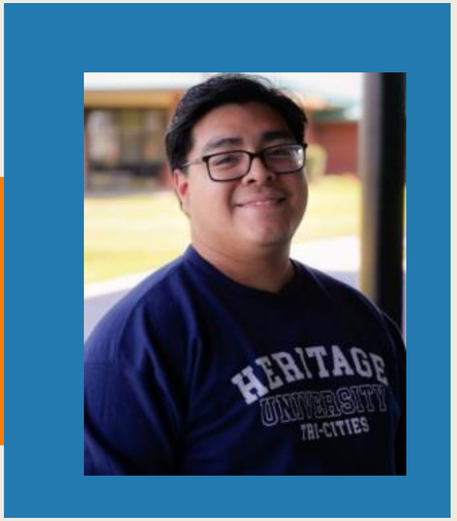
Liz Benitez, MSW

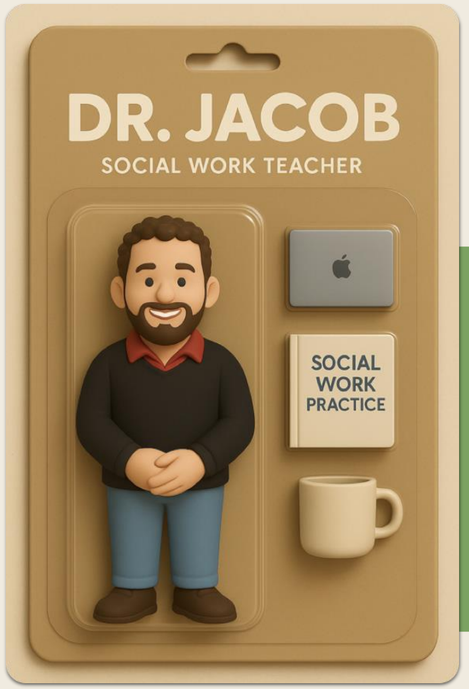
Assistant Professor in the Social Work Department



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Jacob Campbell, Ph.D. LICSW

Associate Professor in the Social Work Department

Heritage University

Session Plan

Agenda

- Information about Heritage University
- What is social work
- Social work values
- How values get applied in practice

Learning Objectives

Identify and reflect on their personal values and compare them to the NASW Code of Ethics.

Describe the six core social work values and related ethical principles outlined in the NASW Code of Ethics.

Engage in collaborative discussion to analyze how social work values inform responses to common school-based problems.

Heritage University

Tri-Cities

Hispanic Serving (HSI) &
Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institution



Introduction to HERITAGE UNVIERSITY

Founded in 1982, on the ancestral lands of the Yakama Nation in Toppenish, WA

Mission: Heritage University empowers a multi-cultural and inclusive student body to overcome the social, cultural, economic and geographic barriers that limit access to higher education. Rooted in the homeland of the Yakama Nation, we embrace transformational student-centered education that cultivates leadership and a commitment to the promotion of a more just society.


NEW LOCATION
Downtown, Kennewick

Facts About Heritage University Tri-Cities

20+ PROGRAM (TOPPENISH)

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Criminal Justice
- Elementary Education
- Psychology
- Social Work

90%
First-Generation

- **Fall of 2026 Application** Open

- ($0 fee)
- High School Transcript
- Personal Statement (Optional not required)
- FAFSA

SMALL CLASS SIZES

11:1 Student- Faculty Ratio



850
Students in Toppenish



130
Students in Tri-Cities



84%
Work Part-Time



97%
Get Aid to pay for school



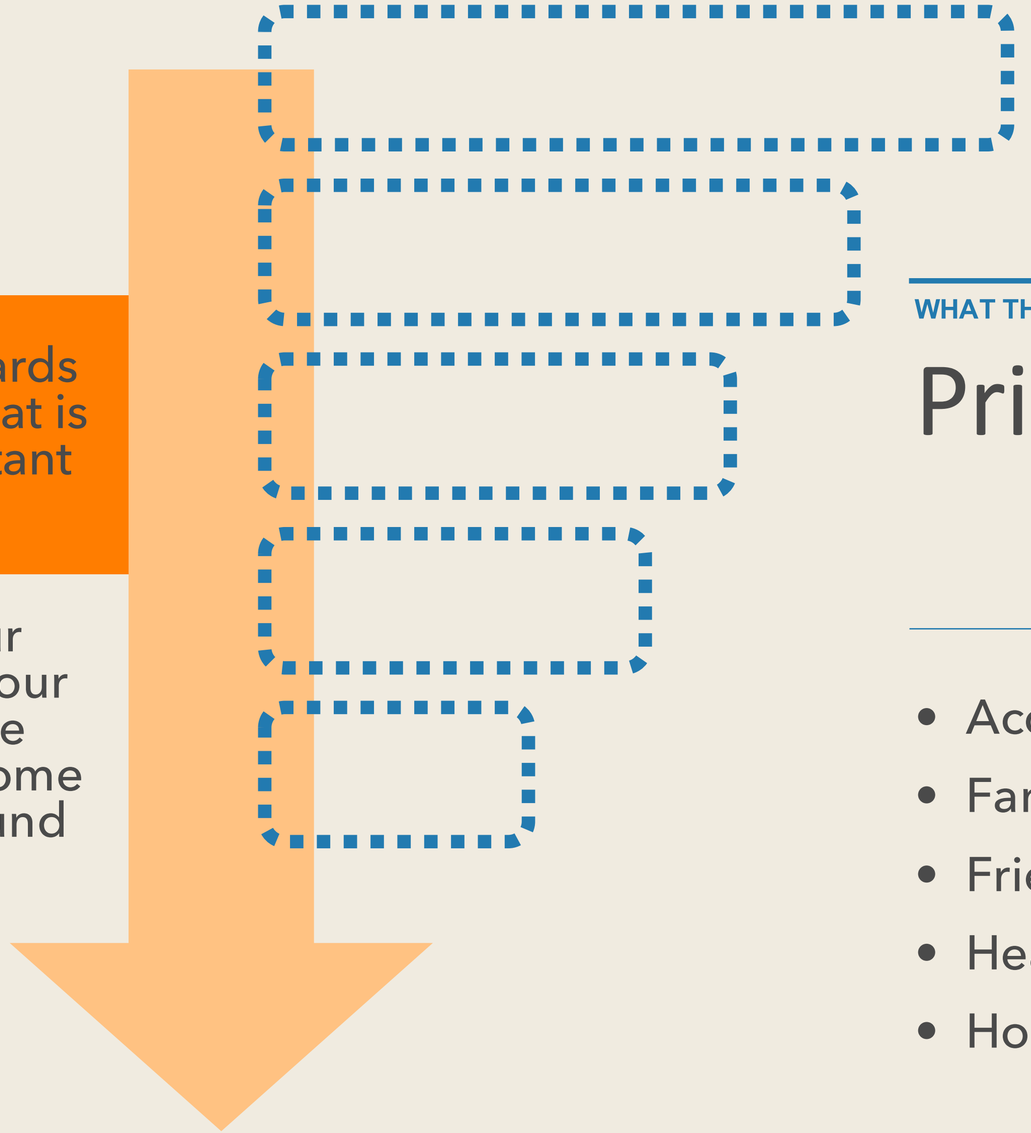
When you hear,

SOCIAL WORK

what do you think?

WHAT THINGS GO FIRST FOR YOU?

Prioritize Your Values



Sort value cards based on what is most important for you

Share your order and your why for the order with some people around you.

- Acceptance
- Family
- Friends
- Health
- Honesty
- Love
- Money
- Respect
- Spirituality
- What you want

NASW Core Values

DIGNITY & WORTH





SERVICE



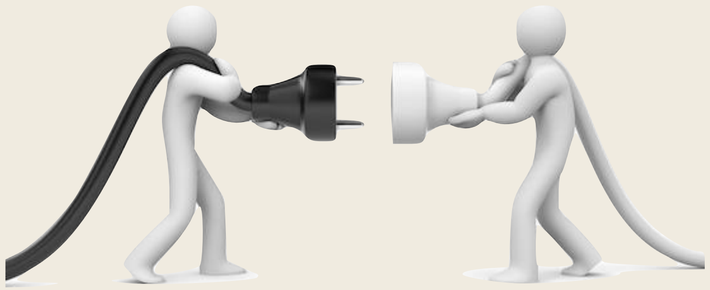
COMPETENCE

INTEGRITY





Social Justice



Relationships

Social Work

Core Values

Competence

Social workers practice within their areas of competence and develop and enhance their professional expertise.

Integrity

Social workers behave in a trustworthy manner.

Service

Social workers' primary goal is to help people in need and to address social problems.

Importance of Human Relationships

Social workers recognize the central importance of human relationships.

Social Justice

Social workers challenge social injustice.

Dignity and Worth of the Person

Social workers respect the inherent dignity and worth of the person.

(National Association of Social Workers, 2021)

Potential Problems in a School

How might social work values be applied to addressing various challenges in a school

- Students are experiencing stress, anxiety, or depression and need emotional support within the school environment
- Some students are often absent or disengaged from classes, and staff are unsure how to re-engage them
- There are concerns that the school's discipline policies affect some groups of students more harshly than others
- The school community faces funding cuts, leading to reduced access to meals, materials, and after-school programs
- Families who feel disconnected from school staff or are uncertain about how to access support for their children

Discuss in Small Groups

- What social work values might guide a response to this situation?
- What could a social worker do in this situation to uphold those values?
- How might students or staff also act on these values?