

James H. Swan

Rank: Professor

Department: Applied Gerontology

College: Public Affairs and Community Service

Joined UNT: September, 2004



Education

Ph.D.: 1981 Northwestern University Sociology

M.A.: 1973 Wichita State University Sociology

B.A.: 1969 Wichita State University Sociology & History

Scholarships

University Scholarship, Northwestern University, 1973-77

State of Kansas Scholarship, 1965-1966

Specializations

Health services research, aging services, long-term care, formal organization, public health, evaluation

Research Interests

Long-term care, public policy, organization and delivery of health care, ethnicity/racial diversity regarding health and healthcare, physical activity & aging, public opinion re health issues

Courses

Federal, State, and Local Programs in Aging; Social Policy & Aging; Program Evaluation; Applied Data Analysis; Long-Term Care Systems; Minority Aging; Research Methods

Contact Information

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Background

Dr. Swan's earned his BA in sociology and history was undertaken at Wichita State University (WSU). After serving in the Peace Corps, he earned a masters in sociology at WSU. His sociology doctoral training was at Northwestern University, with a dissertation on 'Racism in Labor Markets.' In 1997, he became adjunct assistant professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of California San Francisco, where he conducted research for the ensuing twelve years, being promoted to adjunct associate professor, and participating in developing what became the Institute for Health and Aging.

In 1989, Dr. Swan moved to the Health Administration Program at California State University Long Beach; and in 1992 he became Public Health faculty at WSU, where he rose to full professor. There he participated in developing both undergraduate programs and the masters of public health.

He came to the Department of Applied Gerontology in 2004 to teach in its new doctoral program.

Dr. Swan has a track record in aging and health services research, focused on nursing homes, public and private organizational policy in health services; issues in caregiving for the chronically ill; lifestyle issues of Baby Boomers; and public opinion regarding health care reform. Since 1981, he has surveyed state Medicaid offices about long-term care payment policy, amassing a yearly state data base for the period 1978-2003, currently collecting data on 2004-2007. He frequently publishes in peer-reviewed journals and regularly presents at professional conferences, particularly the American Public Health Association (APHA). He is active in the Gerontological Health Section of APHA, and is a governing councilor of APHA. He is a member of the Gerontological Society of America, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is also a member and governing councilor of the Texas Public Health Association.