

School of Social Work

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Degree Program Offered

- BSW, major in Social Work

Minor Offered

- Social Work

The Bachelor of Social Work with a major in Social Work, which is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, prepares students to engage in entry-level social work practice, to apply for state social work licensure, and to pursue graduate social work studies. Social Work students must maintain high scholastic standards. They must also develop the capacity to work with people from all walks of life and be sensitive toward all people and the many problems they face.

Admission Process

The Social Work **degree** requires 54 hours in Social Work and 18 hours in supportive Social Sciences. The Social Work curriculum is based on and interwoven with the liberal arts/general education core foundation consisting of 57 semester credit hours. The Social Work major does not require a minor. Students progress through the major in three phases, without regard to disability. A social worker must be emotionally and mentally stable, must have strong communication skills, must have solid interpersonal relationship-building skills, and must conform to professional ethics. Faculty evaluate whether students meet these criteria and may advise a student at any point to continue in the BSW major or consider another major.

Phase I. (Pre-Social Work Major). Any student may declare a pre-social work major and may enroll in SOWK 1350, 2375, as well as SOWK elective courses. Social work pre-majors should complete most of their general education core/liberal arts courses before applying to Phase II of the Social Work major. They must complete at least 45 credit hours, including the following: BIO 1320, 1421; COMM 1310; ENG 1310 and 1320; HIST 1310, 1320; MATH 1315 or 1319; PHIL 1305 or 1320; SOWK 1350 and 2375; and US 1100, if required. Applicants must have a minimum 2.50 overall GPA and a minimum 2.75 GPA in SOWK and supportive courses to apply for Phase II. Students interested in Social Work must contact the College of **Applied Arts** Academic Advising Center for advisement.

Phase II: (Social Work Major). Students submit a formal application for admission to Phase II. An admission committee screens applicants, considering academic record and suitability for social work practice, and informs applicants in writing of their decision to admit, conditionally admit, or deny admission. When students are admitted to Phase II, their formal academic major is converted from Pre-Social Work to Social Work.

Admission into Phase II does not guarantee permission to remain in the degree program. Social Work faculty will continuously assess a student's progress. To be retained, the student must maintain the required minimum GPA of 2.50. Students must also earn a minimum grade of "C" in each social work course and each supportive social science course. To remain in Phase II, students must also adhere to the *NASW Code of Ethics* and demonstrate emotional or mental stability, adequate communication skills, interpersonal relationship skills, and high levels of self awareness.

Phase III: (Field Placement) Students who have completed all required courses for the BSW, excluding SOWK 4645 and 4650 (Field Placement), and who have met all the requirements noted above may apply for field placement. Students apply for field placement with the School's Field Office.

The School prefers that students take SOWK 4645 and 4650 during the same semester, which requires that the student limit his/her enrollment that semester to field placement, totaling 12 hours. Under exceptional circumstances, students may request permission to take SOWK 4645 and 4650 over two semesters (6 hours each semester).

Liability Insurance

Students who participate in field placement must purchase liability insurance, or prove that they are insured. Students may obtain information on liability insurance from the School of Social Work office.

Bachelor of Social Work Major in Social Work

Minimum required: 129 semester hours

General Requirements:

1. BIO 1320, 1421; COMM 1310; ENG 1310 and 1320; HIST 1310, 1320; MATH 1315 or 1319; PHIL 1305 or 1320; and SOWK 1350 and 2375 are required prior to application for Social Work major.
2. SOWK 2375 requires an additional 50 hours volunteering.

Freshman Year	Hours	Sophomore Year	Hours
COMM 1310.....	3	BIO 1320, 1421	7
ENG 1310, 1320	6	ENG Literature	3
US 1100	1	HP 3302.....	3
HIST 1310, 1320.....	6	Modern Language 1410.....	4
MATH 1315 or 1319.....	3	PFW one course.....	1
PHIL 1305 or 1320	3	POSI 2310, 2320	6
PFW one course	1	SOWK 2375	3
PSY 1300.....	3	ECO 2301	3
SOWK 1350.....	3	ART, DAN, MU, or TH 2313.....	3
SOCI 1310	3	SOWK elective.....	3
Total	32	Total	36
Junior Year	Hours	Senior Year	Hours
Modern Language 1420, 2310.....	7	Modern Language 2320.....	3
SOWK 3305, 3340, 3350, 3420, 3425, 4355.....	20	SOWK elective	3
ENG 3303 or 3304	3	SOWK 4305, 4356, 4425.....	10
PSY 4322.....	3	SOWK 4645, 4650	12
Total	33	Total	28

Minor in Social Work

A minor in Social Work requires 18 semester hours, including SOWK 1350, 2375, 4355, and 9 semester hours of SOWK electives from 2320, 3312, 3339, 4310, 4315, 4318, and 4320. The Social Work minor makes students aware of our society's problems, conditions, and value systems, while enhancing their growth in their chosen major fields. The minor does not prepare students for professional social work practice nor for state social work licensure.

Courses in Social Work (SOWK)

SOWK 1350 is a prerequisite to all other social work courses except SOWK 2375, 3339, 4315, 4318, 4320, and 4355.

1350 Introduction to Social Work. (3-0) This introductory survey course includes the nature, function, and various types of social work practice, acquainting the student with the history, scope, and values of the profession.

2320 Love and Relationships. (3-0) This elective course explores the nature of attraction, friendship, love, and human sexuality, enabling students to enhance their own personal and professional relationships.

2375 Social Services in the Community. (3-0) This undergraduate course introduces the organizations and policies involved in social services delivery. Students participate in 50 hours of work as supervised observers and volunteers in selected social service agencies.

3305 Seminar in Human Behavior and Social Environment I. (3-0) This undergraduate course provides an overview of human functioning in the environment by studying eco-systems and developmental frameworks. It builds knowledge and values for practice with task groups, organizations, and communities. Prerequisites: Official Social Work major; BIO 1320, 1421; and ECO 2301 or instructor consent.

3312 Alcoholism and Chemical Dependence. (3-0) This elective course focuses on commonly used and abused drugs as well as the dynamics and treatment of addiction and alcohol abuse. It emphasizes direct social work interventions aimed at addiction prevention and treatment.

3339 Selected Topics in Social Work. (3-0) Students study relevant social work topics in depth. Topics, such as social work in prisons or in mental health facilities, are selected according to students' needs and professional trends. Repeatable for credit with different emphases.

3340 Social Work Research. (3-0) This undergraduate course builds foundation scientific research skills in critical thinking, knowledge of program and practice evaluation, and a philosophy of generalist social work practice. Prerequisites: HP 3302 or PSY 3301 or SOCI 3307; official Social Work major.

3350 Connecting Policy and Practice. (3-0) This course describes contemporary American Social Welfare and illustrates social work professional practice within policy guidelines. It focuses on practice with involuntary clients in a variety of agency contexts. Prerequisite or co-requisite: SOWK 3420; official Social Work major.

(WI) **3420 Social Work Practice I.** (3-1) This undergraduate course studies generalist theory and application of social work practice with individuals, families, and groups, including introductory data collection, assessment, intervention planning, and evaluation. Prerequisites: Official Social Work major.

(WI) **3425 Social Work Practice II.** (3-1) This undergraduate course emphasizes generalist social work practice with task groups, organizations, and communities, examining data collection, assessment, intervention, planning, implementation, and evaluation. Students develop and implement a community-based project. Prerequisites: SOWK 3420; official Social Work major.

(WI) **4305 Seminar in Human Behavior and Social Environment II.** (3-0) This undergraduate course integrates knowledge from social sciences and SOWK 3305, focusing on individuals, families, and small groups functioning in environments. It uses a biopsychosocial perspective, expanding on eco-systems, developmental, and values frameworks. Prerequisites: Official Social Work major; BIO 1320, 1421; PSY 4322; and SOWK 3305.

4310 Diversity and Social Justice in Social Work. (3-0) This undergraduate elective course focuses on knowledge and skills necessary for effective, ethical, and just practice, exploring interpersonal and institutional dynamics of racism, sexism, heterosexism, homophobia, classism and other forms of oppression and their effects on providing social services to diverse populations. Prerequisites: SOWK 1350. (MC)

4315 Child Welfare. (3-0) This undergraduate elective course analyzes child welfare services available to abused and neglected children in their own homes, in substitute care, and through the community, emphasizing social work intervention with children and their families.

4318 Social Work and Health Care. (3-0) This undergraduate elective course provides a generalist view of social work practice in mental health and public health, considering the social problems that affect health care, and ethical and effective intervention strategies and service delivery systems.

4320 Social Work with Older Adults. (3-0) This undergraduate elective gives a comprehensive introduction to contemporary social problems, values, and issues affecting older adults, and effective and ethical intervention strategies and service delivery systems.

4355 Policy Practice. (3-0) This course is an overview of social policy and legislation and the processes of influencing public policy. It links policy with a broad range of social work service areas. Prerequisites: SOWK 1350 and 2375 or instructor consent.

4356 Professionalism in Social Work. (3-0) This course builds skills in self-presentation, in taking responsibility for personal and professional growth, in learning professional behaviors in organizations, and in presenting court testimony. Prerequisite: SOWK 3425 **official Social Work major.**

4360 Directed Study in Social Work. (3-0) This one-semester undergraduate course highlights individualized reading, independent study and projects, and guided instruction. It is offered to superior students by the professor's invitation and with the consent of the BSW Coordinator. This course may not be repeated for credit. **Prerequisite: official Social Work major.**

(WI) **4425 Social Work Practice III.** (3-1) This undergraduate course emphasizes interpersonal and communication skills necessary for effective, ethical generalist social work practice. Students translate theory into helping behaviors through practice and feedback to develop competent skills for beginning field placement. Prerequisites: SOWK 3340, 3420, 3425; official Social Work major.

4645 Beginning Field Practice in Social Work. (1-20) Undergraduate students engage in generalist social work in agencies, supervised by licensed social workers and the field coordinator. Students work a minimum of 270 clock hours, attend seminars, and complete assignments. Prerequisites: Completion of all Phase II course requirements, and application to field coordinator.

4650 Advanced Field Practice in Social Work. (1-20) This undergraduate course extends SOWK 4645. Students, supervised by licensed social workers and the field coordinator, apply advanced generalist techniques for a minimum of 270 clock hours, attending seminars, and completing assignments. Prerequisites: Completion of all Phase II course requirements, and application to field coordinator.