SOCIAL WORK (SWK)

313 Rachel Cooper, (309) 438-3631
SocialWork.IllinoisState.edu

School Director: Diane Zosky

Programs Offered

M.S.W. in Social Work with sequences in Child and Family Practice, School Social Work, and Gerontology Practice. Collaboration with Department of Sociology and Anthropology for a certificate in the Social Aspects of Aging and the Women’s and Gender Studies Program for a graduate certificate.

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

A 60-hour, two-year program for fulltime students, students may also choose part-time programs and should consult with the advisor. New students who have undergraduate degrees in fields other than social work or from non-accredited schools of social work complete the full program. Students with undergraduate social work degrees from programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education may be given advanced standing and complete the 30-hour advanced curriculum.

NOTE: Academic credit for life experience and/or previous work experience is not given, in whole or in part, in lieu of any social work course.

Program Requirements

A student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in all required courses to retain degree candidate status and earn a grade of C or better in each course to be eligible for School of Social Work practica. Enrollment in the practicum courses requires degree candidate status and must be planned in advance with the Director of Field Education. In addition, all requirements for the M.S.W. degree must be completed within six calendar years beginning with the date the student first registers as a degree candidate.

Child and Family Practice Sequence:

Required courses include:

− 30 hours of required courses in the foundation curriculum: SWK 402, 406, 412, 413, 414, 418, 419, 422, 444, and 498A01 or waiver of these courses due to advanced standing upon program admission

− 24 hours: SWK 445, 448, 450, 454, 456, 457, 491, 492, 498A03, and 498A04

− 6 hours of elective courses approved by the departmental advisor

School of Social Work Sequence:

Required courses include:

− 30 hours of required courses in the foundation curriculum: SWK 402, 406, 412, 413, 414, 418, 419, 422, 444, and 498A01 or waiver of these courses due to advanced standing upon program admission

− SED 411

− 24 hours: SWK 445, 448, 450, 454, 461, 463, 491, 492, 498A03, and 498A04

− 3 hours of elective courses approved by the departmental advisor

Gerontology Practice Sequence:

Required courses:

− 30 hours of required courses in the foundation curriculum: SWK 402, 406, 412, 413, 414, 418, 419, 422, 444, and 498A01 or waiver of these courses due to advanced standing upon program admission

− 27 hours: SWK 445, 448, 450, 456, 457, 479, 491, 492, 498A03, 498A04, SOC/SWK 411

− 3 hours of elective courses approved by the departmental advisor

Elective courses: 3-6 hours from SWK 323, 324, 400, 411, 455, 458, 462, 479, 480, 481, and 482, 486, or substitute graduate coursework in another department, approved by the Director of MSW Student Services in the School of Social Work.

The School reserves the right to enforce professional standards of practice as specified in the Illinois Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act and the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics. These standards may be taken into consideration in program retention decisions. Students have the right to appeal these decisions.

Graduate Certificate in Social Aspects of Aging

A multidisciplinary program designed to offer a limited number of academically and professionally oriented graduate experiences in aging. The graduate certificate is located within the Department of Sociology and Anthropology in cooperation with the Departments of Family and Consumer Sciences, Psychology, Health Sciences, the School of Social Work, and Communication Sciences and Disorders. Please consult the Graduate Catalog and the program coordinator in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology for details.

Social Work Courses

323 CHILD WELFARE SERVICES
3 sem. hrs.
Services for dependent, neglected, abused, and handicapped children and their families. Recommended before SWK 398A10 if student wishes placement in a child and family service agency. SWK 222 is recommended.

324 TOPICS IN CHILD WELFARE
3 sem. hrs.
Analysis of current child welfare topics and the role of the profession of social work. Prerequisite: SWK 323, majors only or consent of the instructor.

330 TOPICS IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL WELFARE
1-3 sem. hrs.
Analysis of current social welfare topics and the role of the profession of social work. Multiple enrollments allowed for a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor.

400 INDEPENDENT STUDY
1-3 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses.

402 HUMAN BEHAVIOR I
3 sem. hrs.
Integrates theories of human development and social systems with their implications for practice. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
406 SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND SERVICES
3 sem. hrs.
Social welfare laws and policies undergirding the U.S. system of benefits and services. Analytic frameworks for evaluating social welfare policy, programs, and issues. Formerly SWK 430. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

411 SEMINAR IN GERONTOLOGY
3 sem. hrs.
Advanced treatment of gerontological topic or issue explored by integrating classroom learning with intergenerational service-learning experiences. Multiple enrollments allowed. Also offered as SOC 411. Prerequisites: Graduate standing; 6 hours of other electives with focus on aging or consent of the instructor.

412 FOUNDATION RESEARCH
3 sem. hrs.
Research methods essential to effective and accountable practice. Theoretical and practical issues affecting ethical, evidence-based decisions. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

413 FOUNDATION PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY
3 sem. hrs.
Laboratory course teaches fundamental social work for practice with diverse clients. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

414 FOUNDATION SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE I: INDIVIDUALS
3 sem. hrs.
The professional context; ethics and legal mandates; practice theories and models for working with diverse clients. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

418 FOUNDATION SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE II: FAMILIES AND GROUPS
3 sem. hrs.
Theoretical foundations and practice methodologies to effect change in families and groups. Prerequisites: SWK 413, 414.

419 FOUNDATION SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE III: ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITIES
3 sem. hrs.
Theoretical foundation and practice methodologies for culturally competent practice with organizations and communities. Not for credit if had SWK 417. Prerequisites: SWK 413, 414.

422 FOUNDATION PRACTICUM SEMINAR
2 sem. hrs.
Integrates foundation coursework and generalist social work practice in an approved agency setting. Formerly SWK 488. Prerequisites: SWK 402, 406, and 412; graduate standing; concurrent registration in SWK 498A01.

444 PROMOTING SOCIAL JUSTICE WITH DIVERSE POPULATIONS
3 sem. hrs.
Examines the impact of discrimination and oppression on development and delivery of social work services to diverse populations. Formerly SWK 460 CULTURAL COMPETENCE. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements; and graduate standing.

445 PRACTICE EVALUATION I
2 sem. hrs.
Agency-based case and program evaluation. Development of a research proposal that will be implemented in SWK 448. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

448 PRACTICE EVALUATION II
2 sem. hrs.
Acquaints students with evaluation research through the experience of doing it. Implementation of the research proposal developed in SWK 445. Prerequisites: SWK 445; satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements; graduate standing; concurrent registration in SWK 492 and 498A04.

450 PSYCHOPATHOLOGY
3 sem. hrs.
Classification and etiology of mental disorders across the life cycle. Critical review of assessment methods, treatment, and referral options. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

454 PRACTICE WITH CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS
3 sem. hrs.
Theory and treatment with children and adolescents, with particular attention to their family, school, and community contexts. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

455 AGENCY ADMINISTRATION AND PROGRAM PLANNING
3 sem. hrs.
Organizational, leadership, and human relations theory and skills needed for effective social service delivery in human service agencies. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

456 CHILD AND FAMILY POLICY
3 sem. hrs.
Examines federal and state social welfare policies affecting children and families, especially policy related to poverty and child maltreatment. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

457 FAMILY CENTERED PRACTICE
3 sem. hrs.
Major approaches to working with families emphasizing vulnerable families involved with the child welfare system and other large service systems. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

461 SCHOOL POLICY
3 sem. hrs.
Laws, policies, and litigation affecting schools and their implementation through administrative rules. Emphasizes student freedoms, school violence, finance reform, and students with disabilities. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

462 PRACTICE WITH GROUPS
3 sem. hrs.
Major theories, models, principles, issues, and intervention techniques of contemporary practice with groups. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

463 SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN SCHOOLS
3 sem. hrs.
Theory and practice skills for working in public schools as a host setting for social workers. Materials charge optional. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.
464 SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH MILITARY VETERANS AND FAMILIES
3 sem. hrs.
Course will examine social work practice with military veterans and families within military systems and culture. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

465 ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE
3 sem. hrs.
Theoretical foundations and practice methodologies for advanced practice in interdisciplinary primary health care settings. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

479 PRACTICE WITH OLDER ADULTS
3 sem. hrs.
Examines later adult development, the aging process, and current strategies for meeting the needs of older adults. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

480 FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION
3 sem. hrs.
Theory and research underlying practice with foster and adoptive children and families. Strategies for helping children heal from loss and trauma. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements; and graduate standing.

481 PRACTICE WITH FAMILY VIOLENCE
3 sem. hrs.
Examines violence within families, including spouse/partner, child, and elder abuse, types of violence, explanatory theories, prevention, intervention, and treatment issues. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

482 SUPERVISION
3 sem. hrs.
Theories, models, and techniques of supervision for promoting effective, agency-based practice. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all MSW foundation requirements and graduate standing.

486 PRACTICE WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS
3 sem. hrs.
Substance abuse research and policy, and the implications and options for prevention and treatment. Etiology, assessment, social consequences, and interventions. Formerly PRACTICE WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

491 ADVANCED PRACTICUM SEMINAR I
1 sem. hr.
Integrates advanced coursework with advanced practice in an approved agency. Formerly SWK 490. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all M.S.W. foundation requirements, graduate standing and concurrent registration in SWK 445 and 498A03.

492 ADVANCED PRACTICUM SEMINAR II
1 sem. hr.
Integrates advanced coursework with advanced practice in an approved agency. Formerly SWK 490. Prerequisites: Satisfaction of all M.S.W. foundation requirements, graduate standing, concurrent registration in SWK 498A04 and 448, and completion of all advanced requirements except those taken concurrently.

498 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
1-11 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Supervised practice experience in approved agencies for foundation and advanced practica. (See offerings below.) Note: No more than 4 hours of 498A01, or 6 hours of 498A03 and 498A04 combined may count toward degree program. Prerequisite: Consent of program director.

498A01 FOUNDATION PRACTICUM
4 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Supervised practice experience in approved agencies for foundation practicum. Offered for CR/NC only. Note: No more than 4 hours of 498A01, or 6 hours of 498A03 and 498A04 combined may count toward degree program. Prerequisite: Consent of the program director.

498A03 ADVANCED PRACTICUM I
3 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Supervised practice experience in approved agencies for foundation practicum. Offered CR/NC only. Note: No more than 4 hours of 498A01, or 6 hours of 498A03 and 498A04 combined may count toward degree program. Prerequisite: Consent of the program director.

498A04 ADVANCED PRACTICUM II
3 sem. hrs.
Refer to General Courses. Supervised practice experience in approved agencies for foundation practicum. Offered CR/NC only. Note: No more than 4 hours of 498A01, or 6 hours of 498A03 and 498A04 combined may count toward degree program. Prerequisite: Consent of the program director.