

Program of Studies

Courses that make up the CSW doctoral program of studies are grouped into four types—core methods and theory courses, social work research methods selective courses, statistics courses, and cognates.

- Core methods and theory courses are required courses provided within the college. These courses are offered once per year. Examples include SOW 6492 Foundation Research Methods and SOW 6755 Theories and Models for Social Work Research.
- The college offers three social work research methods selective courses (i.e., survey research methods, **Social Work Research Using Secondary Data, and Intervention Research**). **At least one selective is offered in the spring semester each year. Students are required to take one selective course, generally during the spring semester of their second year in the program.**
- **Students are required to take a minimum of three statistics courses. Two are required (EDF 5400 Basic Descriptive and Inferential Statistics Applications and SOW 6418 Introduction to Linear Modeling for Applied Social Research) and the third can be selected from a list of courses in other departments with the approval of the doctoral program director, or your Educational Advisor or Major Professor. See the “Statistics Courses” in the “Course Description” section for more information.**
- A cognate is a substantive graduate course taken outside of Social Work that is related to the student’s research interests (e.g., mental health, research methodology). Students must complete three cognates. See the “Cognate” subsection in “Course Description” for more information.

Students are also required to take a two-semester applied research practicum and a one semester teaching seminar and practicum.

The following provides a guide to the typical program of studies at the college.

Year 1 – Fall Semester

SOW 6490 Introduction to Scholarly Writing (3 credit hours)

SOW 6492 Foundation Research Methods (3 credit hours)

EDF 5400 Basic Descriptive and Inferential Statistics Applications (4 credit hours)

Year 1 – Spring Semester

SOW 6418 Introduction to Linear Modeling for Applied Social Research (4 credit hours)

SOW 6755 Theories and Models for Social Work Research (3 credit hours)

SOW 6495 Systematic Reviews in Social Work Research (3 credit hours)

SOW 6496 – Qualitative Research Methods (3 credit hours)

Year 1 – Summer Semester

SOW 6945 Practicum in Applied Research - Seminar (3 credit hours)

Stats 3 See “Suggested List” for options (3 credit hours) **OR** Cognate (3 credit hours)

Cognate (3 credit hours)

Year 2 – Fall Semester

SOW 6358 Measurement in Social Work Research 1 (2 credit hours)

SOW 6945 Practicum in Applied Research – Individual (3 credit hours)

Stats 3 AND/OR Cognate (up to 7 credit hours)

Year 2 – Spring Semester

SOW 6359 Measurement in Social Work Research 2 (2 credit hours)

SOW 6494 Advanced Research Methods (3 credit hours)

SOW 6775 Professional Issues in Social Work (3 credit hours)

Social Work Research Methodology Selective (3 credit hours)

Year 2 – Summer Semester

Stats 3 OR Cognate (3 credit hours), if necessary

SOW 6960r Preliminary Examination Preparation (variable credit hours)

Year 3 – Fall Semester

SOW 6930 Teaching Seminar & Practicum (3 credit hours)

SOW 6960r Preliminary Examination Preparation (variable credit hours)

SOW 8964r Preliminary Examination (if applicable)

Year 3 – Spring & Summer Semesters

SOW 6960r Preliminary Examination Preparation (variable credit hours) (if necessary)

SOW 6980r Dissertation Preparation (includes Prospectus development & defense; must total 24 credit hours)

SOW 8964r Preliminary Examination (if applicable)

Year 4 –Fall, Spring & Summer Semesters

SOW6980r Dissertation Preparation (must total 24 credit hours)

SOW8985 Dissertation Defense (must occur at least six months after achieving candidacy)