“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead
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Since 1974 the Doctoral Program at Florida State University has built its national reputation by guiding scholars toward excellence. Students can anticipate being challenged to the limits of their capabilities, enjoying excellent teaching and research opportunities, and completing the program prepared for careers as leaders in education and research. Enter with high expectations for yourself and for the College, and plan to work with your faculty and peers in making your vision a reality.

The College of Social Work at the Florida State University is committed to excellence in social work education. Our outstanding faculty members have expertise in a wide variety of substantive and methodological areas, have rigorous expectations of students, and are dedicated to the ethical principles and value base of social work. Faculty research and scholarship serve to build knowledge and advance practice in the social work profession; this is often accomplished in partnership with our doctoral students. Through our involvement in public service, we seek to bridge the gap between the “ivory tower” and the communities, states, and nation in which we live.

Historically, our College has attracted highly qualified students. We recruit and admit students who possess the intelligence, interest, motivation, social skills, creativity, writing abilities, and critical and analytical thinking skills required to manage the very difficult problems facing our society and our profession. Student interactions with our outstanding faculty, together with a challenging and well-designed curriculum, provide a stimulating learning environment. The accomplishments and achievements of the FSU College of Social Work reflect the leadership roles, teaching and scholarly awards, national offices, and external funding of our faculty and alumni. Our Ph.D. graduates are in faculty and administrative positions in respected universities, state governments, the military, and social service agencies. We congratulate you for considering the FSU College of Social Work for your doctoral education and welcome you to our tradition of success.

NICHOLAS F. MAZZA
Nicholas F. Mazza, Ph.D.
Dean and Patricia V. Vance, Professor of Social Work
Director:
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For more information and for program materials, contact us at:

Doctoral Program Office:
Phone: (850) 644-1201
Fax: (850) 644-9750
E-mail: doctoral@csw.fsu.edu
csw.fsu.edu
University Center, Building C, Room 2301
College of Social Work
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2570

Calendar 2014-2015

Fall 2014
Classes Begin August 25
Semester Ends December 12

Spring 2015
Classes Begin January 7
Spring Break March 9-13
Semester Ends May 1

Summer 2015
Classes Begin May 11
Semester A ends August 7

Fall 2015
Classes Begin August 24
Semester Ends December 11
THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK
The College of Social Work’s tradition of excellence started with the introduction of social welfare into FSU’s curriculum in 1926 by Dr. Raymond Bellamy, professor of sociology. Our fully-accredited program was the first in Florida and remains one of the longest standing in the Southeast. U.S. News and World Report ranks the FSU College of Social Work as among the top in the country. The College of Social Work adheres to accreditation standards established by the Council on Social Work Education.

OUR MISSION
It is the mission of the Florida State University College of Social Work to provide quality educational services at the baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral levels that prepare professional social workers to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic needs of diverse populations with particular attention to the empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, or living in poverty. The College of Social Work also has as its purpose to contribute to the knowledge base that supports social work practice and social policy development and to provide leadership through community service at the local, state, national and international level.

THE UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY
The Florida State University is a major research and teaching university comprised of 17 colleges, serving a student population of more than 41,000. The University maintains an intellectual climate of learning and strives for excellence and distinction in all pursuits. In the last few years, the University has reached a high level of distinction, thanks to its dedication to graduate study and research, and to its superior teaching faculty and student bodies.

Nestled in Tallahassee, Florida’s state capital, the University enjoys the extraordinarily rich cultural climate created by the presence of state and local government, a community college and a second major university. Along with the beauty of the “Big Bend” area, Tallahassee is in close proximity to a wealth of Florida’s resources including the Gulf of Mexico, the Apalachicola National Forest and natural recreation areas.

DOCTORAL PROGRAM
The Florida State University College of Social Work Doctoral Program is a full-time doctoral program located on FSU’s main campus in Tallahassee, Florida.
Doctoral Program |

Doctorate of Philosophy in Social Work

PROGRAM MISSION & GOALS
It is the specific mission of the FSU Doctoral Program to develop social work scholars and leaders in research and education who use systematic methods of inquiry and reasoned argument to advance knowledge.

- It is the primary goal of the FSU Doctoral Program to offer courses and opportunities for experiential learning in systematic methods of inquiry that are sequentially integrated and foster independent capabilities in research and scholarship.

- Additionally, it is the goal of the FSU Doctoral Program to offer courses and opportunities for experience learning in adult pedagogy that are sequentially integrated and foster independent capabilities in course conceptualization and instruction.

To achieve these goals, the Doctoral Program will hold students to the academic and professional standards and expectations stipulated by the University, the National Association of Social Workers (e.g. NASW Code of Ethics), and the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE).

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Course Work
- Methods and Theory Courses: Nine (9) courses are required.

- Social Work Research Methods Selective Courses: Three (3) courses are offered.
- Statistics Courses: Three (3) statistics courses are required.
- Cognates: Substantive graduate courses taken outside of social work related to the student’s research interests (e.g. mental health, criminology).

Research Practicum
- The research practicum provides a one on one experiential learning opportunity to conduct research with a faculty member.

Teaching Seminar & Practicum
- The teaching seminar and practicum is an experiential learning opportunity to develop teaching skills with a teaching mentor.

Preliminary Examination
- The preliminary examination tests scholarly competence and knowledge upon completion of coursework (prior to dissertation).

Dissertation
- The prospectus defines the scope of your dissertation research and plans to carry out the study.

- A dissertation consists of original research constituting a significant contribution to knowledge and representative of a substantial scholarly effort.
- The oral defense marks the completion of the dissertation process.
ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

• Official Graduate Records Examination (GRE) taken within the previous five (5) years. (Visit the GRE website www.ets.org/gre for more information, including registration information.)
  
  GRE Minimums:
  • Verbal - 153 / 500
  • Quantitative - 146 / 550
  • Master’s in Social Work with a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 from a graduate school of social work accredited by the Council on Social Work Education
  • “Good standing” status at the last school attended
  • For International Applicants, including those with a graduate degree from a U.S. University evidence of English language proficiency is required as demonstrated by acceptable scores on the TOEFL or the IELTS. Please see the CSW website for minimum score required.

Only applicants whose qualifications fit these minimum requirements and who have complete application files by the deadline will be considered for admission. If you meet or exceed these requirements, we encourage you to complete the application process; however, please keep in mind that meeting these requirements does not guarantee admission, only admission consideration. The admissions process is limited and competitive.

DEADLINES FOR COMPLETE APPLICATIONS:
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1st

**All application materials must be submitted by the deadline.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

An application for admission should be completed online (available at https://admissions.fsu.edu/gradapp/).

The application requirements are:
1. Resume/Curriculum Vitae (CV)
   • Your resume or CV should provide your education; substantive areas of expertise or interest; professional positions, publications and presentations; research experience, grant awards, etc.; teaching experience; professional affiliations, honors, awards, and service.

2. Personal statement
   • Your personal statement should describe your professional goals, what led to your decision to undertake doctoral studies in social work at FSU, and what research interests you would
like to pursue in the doctoral program.

3. Writing sample
   • Your writing may be a professional report, graduate paper or a publication.

4. Letters of Reference (minimum of three)
   • Three academic references or two academic references and one professional reference are required.

5. Official Undergraduate & graduate transcripts
6. Official GRE report
   • For GRE scores: If you selected FSU as an institution (code 5219) to receive your score report that will suffice.

7. Official TOEFL or IELTS scores (for International Students only).

Transcripts, GRE scores, and TOEFL/IELTS scores (if required) should be submitted to University Graduate Admissions at the following address:

Florida State University
Graduate Admissions
PO Box 3062400
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-2400

The College of Social Work’s doctoral faculty review completed application materials. Applications must be received by February 1st for fall admission. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Applicants will receive admissions decisions from the Doctoral Program Director by mail.

For more detailed information about the application process view the “Doctoral Program Admissions Toolkit.” Find this and the application at:

http://csw.fsu.edu/academics/doctoral-program/admissions-information/

TRANSFER CREDITS
Transfer credit decisions are made on a case by case basis and depend on how recently the course work was completed, and on its relevance to the student’s doctoral program in social work. Transfer credits will not be given for courses completed in receipt of another degree. A maximum of 12 graduate credits may be transferred, and these must have been earned at an accredited institution or program and resulted in a grade of “B” or better. The Doctoral Program Director and the Office of Records and Registration will be responsible for determining whether credits can be transferred.
ASSISTANTSHIPS
The College of Social Work Doctoral Program provides funding to all students for the first three calendar years of their education (from the beginning of the fall semester of the first year through the end of the summer semester of the third year). During this time, the College pays for up to twelve (12) credit hours of students’ tuition during the academic year and up to nine (9) credit hours in the summer, and provides an assistantship of $15,000 per year. Continued funding of the stipend at the level offered is determined on an annual basis. The College aids students in obtaining scholarships, fellowships, and dissertation funding. After the third year of funding, by their third year in the program, students may be eligible to teach independently and can be hired to teach courses while they finish their dissertation work.

SELECTED SCHOLARSHIPS
The College of Social Work awards numerous scholarships to incoming and current doctoral students each year. The complete list of the College’s doctoral program funding opportunities online at csw.fsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Doctoral-Program-Financial-Support.pdf.

The following highlights a few of these scholarships:

- **The Dianne F. Harrison Scholarship Best Dissertation Prospectus** is awarded annually to a doctoral candidate at the College of Social Work for authoring the “Best Dissertation Prospectus.”

- **The Walter W. Hudson Doctoral Scholarship** honors Dr. Walter Hudson, a former faculty member who was named the first recipient of the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of Social Work and Research in 1999.

- **The Robert P. Hurrle Doctoral Scholarship** is awarded annually to an incoming full-time doctoral student. Priority is given to students who are interested in the special needs of the aged or those in the U.S. military. Recipients are selected by the doctoral program director.

FINANCIAL PACKAGES:
- In-State Students (first 3 years): $28,000 /per year
- Out-of-State Students (first year only): $48,000
- International Students (first 3 years): $48,000 /per year
FSU GRADUATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS
The Florida State University Graduate School offers several scholarships and fellowships with generous support for doctoral students. Many social work doctoral students have been awarded these scholarships. To view all the funding opportunities for graduation students at Florida State, visit gradschool.fsu.edu/Funding-Awards.

EXTERNAL FUNDING
Doctoral students can apply for funding (e.g., grants, fellowships, scholarships, research awards) outside of FSU to support their coursework and their dissertation studies. Students typically work with their major professors to pursue these opportunities with the support of the College’s Institute for Social Work Research staff. Examples of these funding sources can be found on the College’s Financial Assistance web page csw.fsu.edu/academics/financial-assistance/.

College of Social Work Financial Assistance:
csw.fsu.edu/academics/financial-assistance/
For more information on faculty, visit the College’s online directory (csw.fsu.edu/about-csw/directory/) to access individual faculty member profiles.

**Neil Abell, Professor, Director of International Programs**
Research areas: HIV/AIDS stigma; mindfulness
nabell@fsu.edu / (850) 644-9753

**Amy Ai, Professor**
Research areas: integrated medicine; aging/gerontology
aai@fsu.edu / (850) 644-3577

**Shamra Boel-Studt, Assistant Professor**
Research area: residential treatment; youth trauma & victimization; child welfare
lschelbe@fsu.edu / (850) 645-5935

**Tomi Gomory, Associate Professor**
Research areas: mental health research and practice
tgomory@fsu.edu / (850) 644-2328

**Jeffrey Lacasse, Assistant Professor**
Research area: mental health
jlacasse@fsu.edu / (850) 644-9595

**Nick Mazza, Dean, Patricia V. Vance Professor of Social Work**
Research area: arts in social work
nfmazza@fsu.edu / (850) 644-4752

**Jean Munn, Associate Professor**
Research area: well-being of frail elderly
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**La Tonya Noel, Associate Professor**
Research area: health disparities
lnoel@fsu.edu / (850) 645-1571

**Eyitayo Onifade, Assistant Professor**
Research areas: juvenile justice, community participatory research
eonifade@fsu.edu / (850) 645-9559

**Philip Osteen, Assistant Professor**
Research area: suicide/suicide prevention; LGBTQ; measurement development
posteen@fsu.edu / (850) 644-3497

**Melissa Radey, Associate Professor**
Research areas: poverty and single mothers
mradey@fsu.edu / (850) 644-9226
Karen Randolph, Professor,
Doctoral Program Director
Research areas: child welfare, community-based research
krandolph@fsu.edu / (850) 644-9745

Lisa Schelbe, Assistant Professor
Research area: child welfare
lschelbe@fsu.edu / (850) 645-5935

Tom Smith, Professor
Research area: financial literacy
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Bruce Thyer, Professor
Research areas: evidence-based practice: clinical social work
bthyer@fsu.edu / (850) 645-4792

Stephen Tripodi, Associate Professor
Research areas: prisoners and prisoner recidivism
stripodi@fsu.edu / (850) 645-1572

Dina Wilke, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Associate Professor
Research areas: intimate partner violence; high-risk drinking
dwilke@fsu.edu / (850) 644-4751
Resources

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK RESOURCES

- College of Social Work website: csw.fsu.edu
- College of Social Work Doctoral Program: csw.fsu.edu/academics/doctoral-program/ph-d-overview/
- College of Social Work Financial Assistance: csw.fsu.edu/academics/financial-assistance/

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- FSU Graduate Admissions: admissions.fsu.edu/gradapp/
- FSU Fellowships & Scholarships: gradschool.fsu.edu/Funding-Awards/Graduate-School-Fellowships-and-Grants
- FSU Financial Aid Office: financialaid.fsu.edu/
- Loan Forgiveness Programs: www.socialworkers.org/loanforgiveness/default.asp