



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

MSW PROGRAM BULLETIN
2021-2022

Change a Life. Start with Yours.

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CALENDAR 2021-2022

FALL 2021

Classes Begin August 23
Semester Ends December 10

SPRING 2022

Classes Begin January 5
Spring Break March 14-18
Semester Ends April 29

SUMMER 2022

Classes Begin May 9
Session A ends July 29

This document is available in alternate formats upon request. The publisher has attempted to present information that at the time of preparation for printing most accurately describes the course offerings, faculty listings, policies, procedures, regulations, and requirements of the University. However, it does not establish contractual relationships. The University reserves the right to alter or change any statement contained herein without prior notice.



DEAN'S WELCOME

Welcome to the Florida State University College of Social Work!

And welcome to one of the Nation's most crucial and fastest-growing professions! We are committed to preparing you for the challenges you will face as a social work professional. Three important groups of people will help you achieve this: our faculty and staff, your fellow students, and our community agency field supervisors and clients.

Our professors are skilled practitioners, teachers, and researchers who will help you prepare to become an effective, ethical, and committed social work professional. Our faculty and staff are eager to get to know you as a person and scholar, and strive to be accessible and responsive.

Just as important, you are joining one of the most diverse student cohorts on FSU's campus. This gives you the opportunity to learn from your fellow students, who bring amazing professional experiences and life histories to your student cohort. Building relationships with your student colleagues will be one of the most enriching dimensions of your education here. These friendships are frequently life-long!

As the oldest program in Florida and one of the first programs in the Southeast, we have well-established field placements and a strong alumni base that enable us to provide you with meaningful educational experiences. A crucial part of your education will be working with and learning from your supervisors and clients as you move between the classroom and the community as a social work student.

Our College is conducting important work in many important domains of social work research. I invite you to consider joining these efforts as a way to develop as a graduate student researcher. We are very proud to have you join our extraordinary community of professors, staff, practitioners, and scholars!

James J. Clark, Ph.D.
Dean & Professor

THE COLLEGE, THE UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY

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, 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 or 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 levels.

THE UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY

The Florida State University is a major research and teaching university comprised of 16 colleges, serving a student population of more than 40,000 and the people of Florida. 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.



MSW PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The MSW program, nationally accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), offers a broad professional education based on a systems perspective, which stresses how individuals live in their environment and how the environment affects them.

The goal of the MSW Program at Florida State University is to provide quality preparation for advanced practitioners who will work with diverse client systems and problems. We emphasize empirically-based practice which focuses on preventing problems as well as treating them. Our curriculum is flexible so students can shape their own program to meet individual interests.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The Master of Social Work degree program is flexible and designed to enable students to develop advanced professional competence by providing a curriculum that includes five sequence areas: social work practice; social policy; human behavior and the social environment; social work research; and field education. The curriculum has been developed to emphasize the common elements in all social work practice areas so that persons receiving the professional degree will be able to practice in a variety of community agencies and settings.

At the master's level, students choose one of two advanced concentrations: **Clinical Social Work**, which focuses on

theories, research and practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities; or **Social Leadership**, which focuses on the theory, research and practice of social work in organizations, administrations, policy-making and program evaluation. While the curriculum is structured in this two concentration format, students are welcome to take courses in either concentration or customize their program of study by applying for our joint pathway and certificate programs. The Tallahassee main campus offers students an opportunity to pursue either the Clinical Concentration, Social Leadership Concentration or a joint pathway program, while the online program solely offers the Clinical Concentration.

Note: Students must complete the MSW within seven years of beginning the program.

TRADITIONAL MSW CURRICULUM

The College offers full-time and part-time Master of Social Work programs comprised of sixty-one (61) credit hours of required social work courses and electives. Students bring to their graduate studies a liberal arts perspective and build on this background during the first year of the program which consists of a foundation curriculum that covers the professional body of knowledge required by the social work profession. Courses are divided by sequence areas that include: practice, policy, research, human behavior and a 10 credit hour field internship (approximately 432 field

hours). A variety of elective courses are available and may strengthen preparation in substantive areas of practice. The second year of the curriculum focuses on advanced courses in either the Clinical Social Work concentration or Social Leadership concentration. The curriculum culminates with a final 12 credit hour internship (approximately 512 field hours) along with a 3 credit hour Advanced Seminar course that serves to integrate the curriculum with the field experiences. These internship locations are available in Tallahassee, around the state of Florida, throughout the United States, and in specified international locations where field faculty are employed and the Advanced Seminar is available (either face-to-face or online).

Students are highly encouraged to track their program of study by consulting with our MSW Graduate Advisors who can assist in assuring that students will graduate in the planned time frame. Faculty mentors are also available to discuss career and academic decisions. Students should follow the approved curriculum plan outlined in this bulletin for the concentration selected in order to complete the MSW degree in a timely manner. A listing and description of graduate courses is found at the end of this bulletin.

ADVANCED STANDING MSW PROGRAM

The College also offers an Advanced Standing Master of Social Work program for applicants who have completed a BSW degree from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Students in the Advanced Standing program complete 39 credit hours of required social work courses and electives, choosing either the Clinical Social Work concentration or the Social Leadership concentration. At the completion of all course work, the curriculum concludes with a final internship of 12 credit hours (approximately 512 field hours) and an Advanced Integrative Seminar (3 credits).

ONLINE MSW CURRICULUM

Our program offers a flexible program for students who reside outside the following counties: Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, and Jefferson to complete a graduate degree through part-time, online study. The program is designed for those who cannot set aside full-time jobs and family responsibilities for full-time graduate study, but who are willing to make the commitment to a part-time program. Applicants to these programs must meet the same standards for admission as students in the full-time, main campus program and follow a structured schedule of coursework, enrolling in two courses per semester.

Florida State University's College of Social Work became the first program to offer an online, CSWE accredited Advanced Standing MSW program in the fall of 2002. In Spring 2015, the



College began offering the Traditional MSW Online program as well. For both programs, most of the coursework is asynchronous and uses a web-based format. The Traditional MSW Online program requires that students participate in two face-to-face weekend sessions during their studies.

Additionally, beginning in spring 2022, all students enrolled in SOW5807 Advanced Clinical Practice will be required to participate in a mandatory Zoom session.

PANAMA CITY MSW CURRICULUM

Our Panama City campus offers face-to-face Advanced Standing and Traditional MSW programs for individuals who reside in the following counties: Walton, Holmes, Washington, Bay, Jackson, Calhoun, and Gulf.



MSW PROGRAM CONCENTRATIONS

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK CONCENTRATION

This concentration prepares students for evidence-based clinical social work practice with a variety of clients in numerous community settings. Overall, this curriculum emphasizes professional services to clients experiencing stressful situations which impair, or threaten to impair, psychological and social functioning. Clinical social work students develop knowledge and skills to enable them to assess, diagnose, and treat persons with emotional, intellectual, and/or behavioral disorders. The curriculum includes courses and seminars focusing on theory, research, policy, practice knowledge and skills deemed essential for clinical work with diverse populations of individuals, families, groups, and communities. Course work focuses on at risk and vulnerable populations. Field education provides hands-on opportunities for the application and integration of knowledge and skills.

The Clinical concentration curriculum enables students to meet the following objectives:

1. Assess and/or diagnose and intervene with client psychosocial problems through individual, couple, family, and/or group modalities. Analyze how policies impact clinical practice.
2. Conduct autonomous empirical evaluations of their own practice interventions, incorporating valid and reliable measures.
3. Critically evaluate, synthesize, and articulate empirical and conceptual literature related to an applied clinical context.

SOCIAL LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATION

The goal of the Social Leadership concentration is to prepare students for advanced, evidence-based social work practice in organizational and community settings to:

1. Provide leadership in organizations and communities within the public and private sectors.
2. Synthesize and apply theories and methods of policy analysis to advance social and economic justice.
3. Synthesize and apply theories of change and methods of program evaluation to assess the effectiveness of social programs.
4. Develop, provide, and assess effective administrative policies and practices.
5. Critically evaluate, synthesize, and articulate empirical and conceptual literature related to practice in social policy, program, and administrative contexts.

This concentration equips students to work in policy and/or administrative positions in governmental and non-governmental social agencies serving diverse individuals, groups, and communities. In the first year, our Traditional MSW Social Leadership students complete foundation courses and an internship (which requires direct client contact). They then begin advanced practice courses learning about organizational and community systems, advanced policy analysis, program evaluation, and personnel administration. Advanced electives allow students to focus their studies on a substantive area of interest. In the final semester, a policy/administration-advanced internship is completed along with an Integrative Seminar. Advanced Standing MSW Social Leadership students enter the program with their BSW and begin with advanced courses learning about organizational and community systems, advanced policy analysis, program evaluation, and personnel administration.



JOINT PATHWAY PROGRAMS

JOINT MSW/JD PATHWAY

This program is for students interested in combining an MSW with a degree in law. Persons graduating with this pathway go into areas such as family law, child advocacy, domestic violence, public policy, and public defense. Students interested in this joint pathway must be admitted simultaneously and independently to both FSU's College of Social Work and College of Law.

JOINT MSW/MPA PATHWAY

FSU's Reuben O'D. Askew School of Public Administration & Policy and the College of Social Work offer a joint pathway program leading to the degrees of Master of Social Work and Master of Public Administration. This is one of the few joint pathway programs in these fields offered in the U.S. that prepares MSW Social Leadership and MPA students for positions in public, private and nonprofit human service organizations by gaining knowledge in social work and public administration. Students must be admitted to both graduate programs independently.

JOINT MSW/MS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PATHWAY

The MSW/MS is a joint collaboration between the College of Social Work and the School of Criminology & Criminal Justice. The joint pathway will be for graduate students in both programs who wish to expand their understanding of the connection between these two fields of study and gain expertise in work with forensic clients. Students must be admitted to both graduate programs independently.

JOINT MSW/MBA PATHWAY

The MSW/MBA is a joint collaboration between the College of Social Work and the College of Business. The joint graduate pathway is designed for students in both programs who wish to expand their understanding of the connection between these two fields of study and gain expertise working in social services agencies.

CURRICULUM

Specific programs of study for part-time and full-time students can be found on the College's website: csw.fsu.edu.

Please note: all coursework must be completed the semester before beginning SOW5535 and SOW 5369.

TRADITIONAL MSW - SOCIAL LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATION (MAIN CAMPUS ONLY)

CORE CLASSES		
SOW5034	The Social Work Profession	3 Credits
SOW5105	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3 Credits
SOW5308	Social Work Practice	3 Credits
SOW5235	Social Welfare Policy and Services	3 Credits
SOW5324	Social Work Practice with Groups and Communities	3 Credits
SOW5404	Introduction to Social Work Research	3 Credits
SOW5532	Graduate Field Instruction I	10 Credits

UPPER LEVEL CLASSES		
SOW5334	Organizational and Community System Change (Organizational Development)	3 Credits
SOW5238	Advanced Policy Analysis	3 Credits
SOW5377	Personnel Administration in the Social Services (Social Work Administration)	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5369	Integrative Seminar in Advanced Social Work Practice	3 Credits
SOW5535	Graduate Field Instruction II	12 Credits

TRADITIONAL MSW – CLINICAL CONCENTRATION

CORE CLASSES		
SOW5034	The Social Work Profession	3 Credits
SOW5105	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3 Credits
SOW5308	Social Work Practice	3 Credits
SOW5235	Social Welfare Policy and Services	3 Credits
SOW5324	Social Work Practice with Groups and Communities	3 Credits
SOW5404	Introduction to Social Work Research	3 Credits
SOW5532	Graduate Field Instruction I	10 Credits

UPPER LEVEL CLASSES		
SOW5125	Psychopathology in Clinical Practice	3 Credits
SOW5432	Evaluation of Social Work Practice	3 Credits
SOW5807	Clinical Practice	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5369	Integrative Seminar in Advanced Social Work Practice	3 Credits
SOW5535	Graduate Field Instruction II	12 Credits



ADVANCED STANDING MSW - SOCIAL LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATION (MAIN CAMPUS ONLY)

SOW5334	Organizational and Community Systems Change (Organizational Development)	3 Credits
SOW5238	Advanced Policy Analysis	3 Credits
SOW5377	Personnel Administration in the Social Services (Social Work Administration)	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5369	Integrative Seminar in Advanced Social Work Practice	3 Credits
SOW5535	Graduate Field Instruction II	12 Credits

ADVANCED STANDING MSW - CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK CONCENTRATION

SOW5807	Clinical Practice	3 Credits
SOW5125	Psychopathology in Clinical Practice	3 Credits
SOW5432	Evaluation of Social Work Practice	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5XXX	Elective	3 Credits
SOW5369	Integrative Seminar in Advanced Social Work Practice	3 Credits
SOW5535	Graduate Field Instruction II	12 Credits

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

The Master's Program in the College of Social Work seeks to enroll students who are intellectually and emotionally capable of completing graduate education and practicing at the advanced level in the profession of social work. Criteria for admission are established in conformity with standards derived from the National Association of Social Workers and the Council on Social Work Education. Assessment of this potential is made on the basis of academic achievement, social service experience, personal strengths, references, test scores, and indications of the applicant's commitment to the profession. Proper completion of admission requirements ensures consideration, but does not guarantee admission. Full application directions can be found on the College of Social Work website: csw.fsu.edu.

All applicants for graduate admission must submit the following information to the FSU Graduate Admissions Office:

1. One official transcript of ALL undergraduate and graduate work courses. Applicants still in an ongoing degree program must submit a second set of official transcripts with degree posted.
2. GRE scores*^ must be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service to the Florida State University Office of Admissions. The FSU code is 5219 (ETS.org). The requirement of a GRE score may be waived if the applicant meets certain criteria.
*** The requirement of a GRE score may be waived if the applicant meets certain criteria. Please see MSW Admissions web page for more information.**
^ The GRE requirement has been temporarily waived for the MSW program for Spring, Summer and Fall 2022 due to COVID-19 accommodations.

In addition applicants must:

1. Have a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
2. Be in good standing at the institution of higher learning last attended (if applicable).
3. Complete the College of Social Work application.
4. Submit a statement of purpose.
5. Provide the College of Social Work with three references: a combination of employment and academic references.
6. Submit a current resume.
7. Present evidence of a grade point average of at least 3.0 for all hours earned past their first 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours for the baccalaureate degree OR an earned graduate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or a comparable degree from an international institution.
8. Have a liberal arts foundation, demonstrated by a liberal arts degree or 36 hours of course work in the following curriculum areas:
Area I: Mathematics (6 hours)
Area II: English (6 hours)
Area III: History/ Social Sciences (6-12 hours)
Area IV: Humanities/ Fine Arts (5-11 hours)
Area V: Natural Science (7 hours)

All offers of admission are conditional upon the completion of these prerequisites.

9. Evidence of paid social services work or volunteer experience may strengthen one's application.

Meeting these requirements only assures consideration of an application. There is no single factor, by itself, which will either assure or bar admission. Untruthful or misleading responses will disqualify an application and if detected after enrollment, will automatically void an application and admission to the program along with being grounds for dismissal.

EXCEPTION POLICY

Applicants with an upper division GPA below 3.0 must submit a "Petition for Exceptional Consideration" for their application to be evaluated. The outline for this petition is attached to the application. A very limited number of exceptions to the minimum GPA requirements can be made for applicants who demonstrate exceptional qualities or experience. The total application process must be completed before exceptional consideration decisions can be made. Those admitted under the Exception Policy must meet the same performance standards in the program as a student who meets regular admission requirements.

PROVISIONAL POLICY

Students admitted under provisional status are required to attain a 3.0 or better cumulative GPA with no grade below a B-. Students are required to enroll in a minimum of 6 credit hours* of social work courses during their first semester and must meet with an advisor. Upon successful completion of the first semester, the student's provisional status changes to graduate status. Students who do not meet the provision will not be permitted to continue in the MSW program.

**If a campus-based student selects to take more than 6 hours, the provisional requirement applies to all hours enrolled.*

ADVANCED STANDING MSW PROGRAM POLICY

Students who have earned a BSW degree from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program may be eligible for the Advanced Standing MSW program. To be considered they must have met all the general requirements listed above and have satisfactorily completed a minimum of 400 hours of educationally based field education in generalist practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities under appropriate social work supervision. A complete copy of the student's final field evaluation or a recommendation from their BSW field instructor must be submitted.

Note: Students who have completed a course at the BSW level may not repeat that course at the graduate level and have it count for graduate credit.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT POLICY

International students who wish to apply for admission should contact the International Admissions Officer, Office of Graduate Admissions, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2400, for special information and application forms. Only degree-seeking international students are generally recommended for admission. Foreign nationals are required to receive a satisfactory score of '80' or higher on the Internet based TOEFL exam.

RETURNING STUDENT POLICY

Students in good standing who leave the FSU College of Social Work before completing requirements for the MSW may reapply and will be given consideration for readmission. Readmission can only be considered if the student will be able to complete all requirements of the MSW degree within seven years from the date of the initial enrollment, as required by Florida State University.

NON-DEGREE SEEKING STUDENT POLICY

The University allows non-degree-seeking students to enroll in select courses IF they have not previously been denied admission into the MSW Program. The primary purpose of this status is for continuing education or for students who are interested in obtaining a clearer understanding of a major. Up to twelve (12) elective credit hours (with a grade of B or better) may be accepted toward the degree if a student is later accepted into the graduate program.

Students on the Tallahassee main campus must apply for non-degree-seeking status via admissions.fsu.edu/nondegreeapp and notify main campus advisor Jennifer Farinella (jfarinella@fsu.edu). Online non-degree students should contact Sydney Smith (scsmith2@fsu.edu).

Non-degree seeking students can **ONLY** register for program approved courses. Courses taken as a non-degree seeking student do not automatically carry graduate credit nor does this status constitute acceptance into the graduate program, even if a student excels in course work. Non-degree seeking students must still apply for the graduate program and meet the standard admissions criteria. Performance in non-degree seeking coursework will be a consideration in the evaluation of applications.

Non-degree seeking students may be eligible for financial aid; however, College of Social Work policy requires a non-degree seeking student to have an active MSW application on file with all supplemental documents submitted. Please consult the FSU Graduate Bulletin for further information regarding non-degree seeking student status.

ADMISSIONS APPEALS PROCESS

Any student who meets the minimum requirements and is denied admission to the College of Social Work has the right to appeal this decision by contacting the Graduate School. Decisions made after this appeal are final. Please refer to the appeals process in the FSU Graduate Bulletin (registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/grad/).

ADMISSION DATES

Please visit the College of Social Work website (csw.fsu.edu) for application deadlines.

When considering applying, please note graduate school necessitates a tremendous commitment of time and energy. Therefore, students need to be fully aware of sacrifices that may need to be made both personally and financially before making such a commitment. It is the student's responsibility to remain flexible regarding class schedules and internships. All students, even those attending part-time, must be prepared to make adjustments to their schedule to successfully complete the degree requirements. MSW advisors are available for consultation.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All MSW applicants can apply to the College of Social Work and Graduate Admissions using the Florida State University's Graduate Online Application admissions.fsu.edu/gradapp/.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

The College of Social Work accepts transfer students into the program. These applicants must meet all the admission requirements of the College described previously. A student who was enrolled as a degree-seeking student in another Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited graduate social work program may transfer up to twenty-nine (29) credits towards the Traditional MSW Program (61 credit hours) or up to seven (7) credits toward the Advanced Standing MSW program (39 credit hours). A student must receive a grade of B or better in courses taken within the past seven years to petition for transfer credit consideration. Courses will be reviewed on a course-by-course basis. Transfer students are expected to provide the following information for each course they wish to transfer:

- A. Course outline or syllabus
- B. Official transcript with course grade(s) posted

REGISTRATION FOR SOCIAL WORK CLASSES

All Social Work courses and their availability are viewable online from the Registrar's website. When classes are full, however, or there are "holds" that prevent students from registering, they are encouraged to contact an MSW Advisor for assistance.

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition per graduate credit hour varies for Florida residents and non-residents. Please visit studentbusiness.fsu.edu/tuition-fees for the most current tuition rates.

****THERE ARE ADDITIONAL FEES FOR ALL ONLINE COURSES.**



CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE CERTIFICATE

This certificate program offers both undergraduate and graduate students an opportunity to focus their curriculum on issues related to child welfare. Course work addresses: prevention of neglect, abuse, exploitation, or delinquency of children; protection of homeless, dependent, or maltreated children; strengthening families to maintain children in their own homes; development of advocacy groups, and analysis of social policies and mental health issues related to this population. Child welfare practitioners provide a continuum of services in both public and private settings.

GERONTOLOGY/AGING STUDIES CERTIFICATE

This certificate offers an opportunity for concentrated education in aging studies by providing an educational credential for students with an interest in aging and old age.

LEAD IN SOCIAL WORK CERTIFICATE

(Leadership in Executive and Administrative Development)

The mission of this leadership certificate is to educate students about leadership theories and practices and provide students with leadership experience. Learning about leadership will give these students the skills that they will need for middle and executive positions in social service organizations. An in-depth curriculum emphasizing leadership, decision-making, client-centered management, team building, negotiating, budget and finance, and the successful management of grants will guide our students in the direction of being able to successfully manage social service agencies.

Please consult your MSW advisor to determine how a certificate impacts your program of studies.

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS MUST COMPLETE A SEPARATE CERTIFICATE APPLICATION. THIS APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN COMPLETION OF THE SECOND CERTIFICATE QUALIFYING COURSE.

Visit csw.fsu.edu for the applications and details.



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

STUDY ABROAD

The CSW offers study abroad programs each summer. In Prague, Czech Republic, students earn 6 credits focused on human rights in a Central European context, with visits to numerous social welfare and criminal justice agencies, and access to the beauty of a UNESCO World Heritage city. Fees include course credit, lodging, and amazing cultural excursions. The program application is available at international.fsu.edu, and students are strongly encouraged to apply as soon as the program application opens in early September in order to avoid being placed on the waitlist. Scholarships are available; see CSW website for application and details.

SOCIAL WORK FIELD PLACEMENTS

International internships are available in the Eastern Caribbean (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago), The United Kingdom (London, England, and Belfast, Northern Ireland) and Canada (Vancouver, B.C.). Students take advanced, full-time placements in a wide range of settings, including HIV/AIDS service organizations, child welfare agencies, criminal justice settings and homelessness service teams. New agency partnerships are constantly in development. Living options range from the comforts of the FSU Study Centre in London, to independent living arrangements in Belfast. Considerable advance planning is required, and interested students should contact International Programs Director, **Dr. Neil Abell** nine months prior to placement. Scholarships are available.

ALTERNATE SPRING BREAK

Each March, students may participate in a week-long service, learning, and cultural exchange experience with local partners and agencies in St. George's, Grenada. This trip includes lodging with easy access to beautiful beaches and the vibrant capital city. Students complete a 3-credit hour course beginning in January. The application opens each Fall before travel and is available on the CSW website.

Note: In the time of COVID-19, the health and safety of students and faculty are our primary concern. Please stay in touch with CSW IP administrators to learn the latest information regarding the status of available International Programs. We are eager to work with MSW students to find pathways to these great opportunities.

LEARN MORE AT: csw.fsu.edu/ip

OR CONTACT:

Dr. Neil Abell, International Programs Director
nabell@fsu.edu

Emily Joyce, Academic Program Specialist
ejoyce2@fsu.edu



FIELD EDUCATION

Field education is an essential component of the program and is designed to provide students with an educationally sound, supervised agency internship offering learning experiences that:

1. Enhance the ability to integrate theory into effective evidence-based social work practice,
2. Broaden students' range of skills for performing high quality social work functions,
3. Strengthen awareness of attitudes, motivations, and judgments identified with the profession of social work.

The Office of Field Education is responsible for assigning internships after collaboration with students and prospective field agency representatives. Internships are planned on an individual basis with information gathered from the field applications. This process offers the opportunity to share interests, location preferences, and other important facts. The College of Social Work cannot guarantee night or weekend field placements. If a student is able to be placed at an internship that has evening and weekend hours, the student will need to make plans to complete at least some of those hours each week during normal daytime hours.

If a student has a criminal record, he or she may be ineligible for certain internships due to agency requirements. Field education agencies are carefully selected to provide experiences in professional practice, a range of educationally appropriate activities, and to make personnel and resources available.

Agencies affiliated with the College of Social Work represent the diversity found in social services. The College offers a wide array of internships in both public and private agencies, and with diverse populations of clients in areas such as child

welfare, health, mental health, family counseling, aging, and corrections. Traditional MSW program students complete a generalist internship while enrolled in academic courses during the first portion of their program. These internships require an average 27 hours per week at the agency (totaling 432 hours for the semester). Students in both the Traditional and Advanced Standing MSW programs complete a final internship (totaling 512 hours) in advanced practice during the last semester of the program. All placements offer excellent experiences for students as well as potential employment opportunities.

A student must have successfully completed SOW5308 and have a 3.0 GPA to begin a first, generalist internship.

Final internships can ONLY begin once ALL course work is satisfactorily completed, which includes the resolution of all "Incomplete" grades, a 3.0 GPA and a completed field application.

AS PER CSWE: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL PREVIOUS WORK OR LIFE EXPERIENCE BE CREDITED OR USED IN PLACE OF A FIELD PLACEMENT.

Students are required to follow the procedures established by the Office of Field Education for all internship arrangements. Failure to meet deadlines and/or to follow policies may delay an internship. Students are responsible for being aware of posted deadlines and meetings. The Office of Field Education reserves the right to terminate any interns who violate policies and practice standards. For further information, field education policies and procedures are available from the College of Social Work's website: csw.fsu.edu.



GRADUATION

APPLICATION

Application for a degree must be made to the Office of the University Registrar by the date stated in the academic calendar in the General Bulletin during the first two weeks of the term of expected graduation. If a student is unable to graduate at the end of the term for which the application was made and the diploma was ordered, he or she must again make application for degree no later than the deadline for the next term of expected graduation.

Students may check application deadlines and commencement dates at registrar.fsu.edu.

GRADUATION AND COMMENCEMENT

University Commencement is held at the end of every semester: fall, spring, and summer. The ceremonies are held at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center. Information about graduation tickets, invitations, and caps and gowns

is distributed by the Graduation section of the Office of Admissions and Records after application for graduation. If a student wishes to participate in graduation ceremonies one term prior to actual graduation, he or she must speak with an MSW Graduate Advisor. Certain restrictions apply.

In the spring semester only, the College of Social Work holds a graduation ceremony for social work students, distinct from the larger University ceremonies. This ceremony is held on the afternoon before University Commencement in order to honor our graduates and award recipients. Students are required to wear a cap and gown, and friends and families are invited to attend a reception that is held immediately after the ceremony.

During both the summer and fall semesters, the College of Social Work hosts a reception and pinning ceremony for graduates and their guests. To learn more about College of Social Work specific graduation celebrations, visit the College of Social Work's "News & Events" on csw.fsu.edu.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK AND THE UNIVERSITY POLICY ON STUDENT CONDUCT

It is the University's policy to expect students to conduct themselves as responsible members of the community. If a student's conduct is a violation of federal, state, or local law, the appropriate authorities may charge the student. In addition, any students whose words or acts demonstrate disrespect for laws; rules or policies; the rights of others; or the health, safety, or welfare of members of the community shall be subject to disciplinary action by the University.

The nature of social work is based on ethical behavior, sound professional judgment, and competence. Therefore, students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the standards of the College, the University, and the National Association of Social Workers. The College of Social Work uses the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics as its guide. To be retained within the program, students must adhere to the practice standards of this Code of Ethics. The code is available by going to the web site of the National Association of Social Workers: socialworkers.org.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

Guided by the principles found at academic_honor.fsu.edu, the Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty throughout the process.

ACADEMIC LOAD

The MSW Program offers significant flexibility in course progression. Online students adhere to a part-time program of two courses per semester. Students on the main Tallahassee campus may progress at a part-time or full-time pace. Please consult the various programs of study on csw.fsu.edu. Additionally, if you are a main campus student wishing to change your pace during your program, contact the main campus advisor. The Director of the MSW Program must approve an overload of credits above 18 hours (to a maximum load of 21 semester hours).

During the summer semester, College of Social Work classes on the main Tallahassee campus are offered during the 8th week Summer F session. All internships and online classes are taught during the full Summer A session.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 to remain in the program. If the GPA falls below 3.0, students will be placed on probation for one semester with the expectation that they improve the GPA. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the University. Students are not eligible to enter a field placement unless they have a 3.0 GPA. Degrees will not be conferred unless all course work is completed and

the cumulative grade point average is at least 3.0. No course with a grade below "C" will be credited toward the graduate degree (effective for students with an initial start date in the MSW program of Fall 2018). Grades in all courses (except those for which grades of "S" or "U" are given) will be included in the computation of the grade point average.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The Master's program has advisors who work with each student on issues related to coordinating a program of studies, graduation requirements, and general University issues. Each student may also select a faculty mentor who can meet and discuss questions about social work careers, transitioning from student to professional, and specifics about areas of specialization in the field. The graduate advisors and faculty mentors are available to students by appointment, telephone or email.

COURSE WAIVERS

The College provides a waiver exam for those with prior knowledge/experience in Human Behavior and the Social Environment and Introduction to Social Work Research. If a student successfully passes any waiver examination he or she must substitute a social work elective in place of the waived course. Waiver exams may be scheduled through graduate advisors.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE CREDIT

Students who have completed a course at the BSW level may not repeat that course, regardless of the instructor, at the graduate level and have it count for graduate credit.

The Social Work Profession (SOW 3203/SOW 5034), if taken as a Social Welfare Minor at FSU, can be substituted with a social work elective class if a B or better was attained. Please consult your MSW advisor to determine how this will affect your program of study.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL

The deadline for students to withdraw from the University without grade liability is the end of the 7th week of the semester. Students should contact their graduate advisor for further information.

1. Student withdraws during first 4 days of classes - no grade or tuition liability.
2. Student withdraws during 2nd to 4th week of classes - no grade liability and 25% adjustment in tuition.
3. Student withdraws during 5th to 7th week of classes - no grade liability and full tuition liability.

DROP/ADD

The deadline for students to drop a course without Dean's permission or grade liability is the end of the 7th week of classes. Courses may be dropped through the 7th week of classes with the exception of mandated college-preparatory courses, freshman composition and courses involved in allegations of academic dishonesty. Students are financially

liable for tuition for all courses that appear on their schedule after the 4th day of classes (the end of the official drop/add period).

SUSPENSION, DISMISSAL, AND REINSTATEMENT

The University reserves the right to exclude, at any time, a student whose conduct is deemed improper or prejudicial to the interest of the University community or whose academic performance is substandard.

A graduate student whose cumulative grade point average for courses taken at The Florida State University falls below 3.0 at the end of term (not counting courses for which “S” or “U” grades may be given) will be considered not in good standing by the University and will be placed on academic probation. If a 3.0 cumulative grade point average is not attained by the end of the next full term of enrollment, the student will not be permitted to register for graduate study – including registering as a non-degree seeking student. Owing to the differential uses of the designation, “academic probation” shall not appear on permanent records of regular graduate students. After one probationary period, however, a student whose average falls within the probationary range (below a 3.0 cumulative graduate GPA) will receive automatic dismissal. Transcripts will reflect the designation “academically dismissed.”

The University reserves the right to terminate enrollment in an academic program and dismiss a student whose academic performance is below the standards of the program, regardless of GPA, or whose conduct is deemed improper or prejudicial to the interest of the University community. Dismissed students will not be permitted to register for graduate study, including registering as a non-degree student.

RETENTION POLICY

Professional responsibility, ethics, and integrity are major parts of the social work profession. Those who violate the academic standards through plagiarism and other forms of cheating will be disciplined according to the procedures noted in the FSU Graduate Bulletin (registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/graduate/).

GRADE APPEALS SYSTEM

The purpose of the grade appeals system is to afford students an opportunity to appeal a final course grade under certain circumstances. Faculty judgment of student academic performance is inherent in the grading process and hence should not be overturned except when the student can show that the grade awarded represents a gross violation of the instructor’s own specified evaluation (grading) statement and therefore was awarded in an arbitrary, capricious, or discriminatory manner. The evaluation (grading) statement utilized during the grade appeals process is the one contained in the instructor’s syllabus at the beginning of the semester. This system does not apply to preliminary or comprehensive exams or to thesis or dissertation defenses; these issues are reviewed by the Student Academic Relations Committee

via the Dean of the Faculties. For further information, please contact Dr. Jennifer Buchanan in the Office of Faculty Development and Advancement at 850-644-6876.

FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ON STUDENT ACADEMIC RELATIONS

The Faculty Senate committee on student academic relations hears appeals from students concerning decisions about their academic work in which they believe to have been arrived at improperly or unprofessionally in departments, schools, or colleges. The committee comprises five faculty members, appointed annually by the faculty Senate steering committee with the advice and consent of the senate for staggered two-year terms, and two students, one undergraduate and one graduate, appointed annually by the University President. The committee elects its chair annually from the faculty representatives and reports its findings and recommendations to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Students wishing to make appeals to the committee on student academic relations should consult the Dean of the Faculties. Appeals to this committee are made after all other available remedies have been exhausted.

POLICY FOR STUDENT SANCTIONS FOR ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL REASONS

The primary objective of the College of Social Work is to prepare students for social work practice. The College is responsible for the educational preparation of students for this role and for the evaluation of students’ achievement of our academic standards. Moreover, as a professional school, we are responsible for ensuring that students meet standards of behavior that are congruent with expectations of the social work profession, as outlined in the NASW Code of Ethics (socialworkers.org/About/Ethics) and in standards for Licensed Clinical Social Workers in the state of Florida. Such professional schools have the ability to set consequences for behavior that go beyond those for other departments on campus. Our students are also expected to comply with the FSU Academic Honor Policy and the FSU Student Conduct Code.



ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

A student is expected to:

1. Maintain required grades for his or her academic program.
2. Correct any deficiencies related to academic probation within one semester.
3. Meet the generally accepted standards of social work conduct, ethics, personal integrity, and emotional stability required for practice. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: appropriate and respectful behavior with peers, faculty, clients, and staff.
4. Consistently demonstrate effective interpersonal skills necessary for forming social work helping relationships.
5. Consistently demonstrate respect and responsibility in matters of punctuality and presentation of self.
6. Fully meet the standards set by the College of Social Work, FSU's Academic Honor Policy and Student Code of Conduct, NASW Code of Ethics (socialworkers.org/About/Ethics), and the policies of the field education agency.
7. Consistently demonstrate abilities at an expected level in the areas of verbal and written communication skills.

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK ELECTRONIC POLICY

It is the policy of the College of Social Work that technology applied to or used for a course and/or official College business cannot be used for any other purposes than those that directly relate to the curriculum and/or official College business.

Technology includes but is not limited to electronic mail services (including electronic mailing lists), the Internet, software, and course web site programs.

Furthermore, this policy applies to the use of all computer equipment owned by the College of Social Work.

Activities that are expressly prohibited under this policy include:

1. Giving or selling e-mail addresses and/or other personal information regarding students, instructors, staff, or faculty to any outside person or organization;
2. Using e-mail lists for students, instructors, staff, or faculty for commercial and/or solicitation purposes;
3. Enabling anyone who is not registered for a particular course to access the system without permission and consent from the instructor for the course;
4. Enabling anyone who is not authorized to use the University or College database to access the system without permission and consent from the supervisor;
5. Utilizing the College's electronic system for activities or purposes which do not pertain to course content and/or official school business, illegal activities, or for other activities not authorized by the College of Social Work; and,
6. Installing (or allowing to be installed) "pirated", i.e. copied unlawfully, software on any College computer or distributing software purchased with College (including grant) resources to persons for non-College-related purposes.

Any person found in violation of this policy will be sanctioned by the College of Social Work according to the appropriate University policies.





RESOURCES & SERVICES

ADULT LEARNING EVALUATION CENTER

[education.fsu.edu/centers-institutes/
adult-learning-evaluation-center-alec](http://education.fsu.edu/centers-institutes/adult-learning-evaluation-center-alec)

(850) 644-3611

The Adult Learning Evaluation Center (A.L.E.C.) is a not-for-profit assessment center under the administration of the Department of Educational Psychology and Learning Systems of Florida State University. The Center provides low cost psycho-educational evaluations for college students and other adults who may be experiencing scholastic difficulties due to a possible learning disability or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. The clinic staff consists of faculty members, licensed psychologists, a clinical director, and graduate students in the specialties of school and counseling psychology. In addition to evaluation services, the center provides educational workshops, individual client coaching, ongoing research, and training. Workshop topics include study skills enhancement and anxiety reduction. The Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00-5:00, and is located in Room 214 of the Stone Building.

CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP AND SOCIAL CHANGE

thecenter.fsu.edu

(850) 644-3342

FSU's Center for Leadership and Social Change offers numerous volunteer experiences. The Center also offers SERVSCRIPT, a mechanism to add to a student's official

transcript the actual number of community service hours worked. Social work internships can be recorded in the hours documented on SERVSCRIPT.

FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY/ FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

A full-time student at FAMU or FSU may enroll for course credit at the other institution with prior approval. (See the FSU General Bulletin.) Social work majors who have had at least six credit hours of social work and nine credit hours in a given term at FSU may take advantage of this opportunity. However, FSU students may not enroll in courses at FAMU during a semester in which those same courses are offered at FSU.

FSU CAREER CENTER

career.fsu.edu

(850) 644-6431

The Career Center, located in the Dunlap Success Center, helps students in all phases of career development. The Center's Curricular-Career Information Service unit helps explore skills, interests, and values and select appropriate academic programs and occupations to reach career goals. The Career Experience Opportunities Program helps students explore career choices through various pre-professional internships and cooperative education work experiences. Students nearing the end of their academic programs may find help in the Career Placement Services unit that administers the on-campus recruitment program. The Career

Center also has developed a state-of-the-art online Career Portfolio that enables students to document skills throughout their academic career.

FSU READING/WRITING CENTER

wr.english.fsu.edu/reading-writing-center

(850) 644-6495

Located in Room 222-C Williams Building. Students can receive individual tutoring, feedback on papers, and special assistance with writing skills by contacting the center.

OFFICE OF ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES (OAS)

dsst.fsu.edu/oas

(850) 644-9566

The Office of Accessibility Services (OAS), located in the Student Services Building, Room 108, serves as an advocate for students with disabilities. The staff monitors academic, social, and environmental conditions affecting students with disabilities and seeks to influence administrative decisions affecting them. Students may obtain information on the University's implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may receive information and guidance from the staff of this office. This office often assists in coordinating academic accommodations for disabled students.

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES

counseling.fsu.edu

(850) 644-2003

On-campus counseling services are available to students and their families, primarily through the University Counseling Center in the Student Life Center. Services that are covered through student activity fees include crisis counseling and short-term treatment for personal, social, and psychological problems. The Counseling Center sponsors a peer program called RENEW (Realizing Everyone's Need for Emotional Wellness) that provides presentations and resources on stress & time management, study skills, healthy relationships, and conflict resolution.

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

uhs.fsu.edu

(850) 644-6230

Florida State University's fully accredited primary care facility, provides medical care and outreach programs through a team of dedicated professionals. As a student-focused, student-friendly center, its mission is to advance the quality of life for university students, improving academic performance and increasing retention.



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

lib.fsu.edu

(850) 644-2706

There are three major libraries on campus: Strozier Library, Dirac Library, and the Law Library. More than a million volumes are available on open shelves, for easy browsing. Every month, 9,000 new journals and periodicals are added to the collection. A sophisticated library data search computer system and inter-library loan are also available. Additional resources include computers, reading rooms, calculators, and copying machines.

VICTIM ADVOCATE PROGRAM

dsst.fsu.edu/vap

(850) 644-7161

The Victim Advocate Program provides advocacy to victims of crime. An advocate is on call twenty-four hours a day to respond to FSU students who are victimized, or any other person who is victimized on our campus. Services offered include emotional support, instructor notification, referrals, and educational programming for our campus community.



SOCIAL WORK ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICES

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) has nearly 150,000 members worldwide. As members, students receive all of the benefits and privileges of regular membership at a reduced cost. Members receive the national journal; newsletters; group rate health, disability, and malpractice insurance coverage; discounts on NASW specialty journals; and other valuable information.

Florida NASW Chapter - naswfl.org

931 Dellwood Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 224-2400 / (800) 352-6279

The local Big Bend Unit Florida Chapter meets in Tallahassee on a regular basis; it is an excellent opportunity for students to network and to learn more about their profession.

National Headquarters - socialworkers.org

750 1st Street NE, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20002-4241
(800) 638-8799.

SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL WORK AND RESEARCH

sswr.org

Students are invited to join the Society for Social Work Research, an independent professional social work organization dedicated to promoting, conducting, and disseminating high quality research by and for social workers to improve practice. Member benefits include subscription to the bimonthly journal, discounts on various journals, SSWR Newsletter, and a reduced registration fee for the annual SSWR Conference.

CSW AMBASSADORS

The College of Social Work Ambassadors are a group of students who serve as the official student face of the college. Ambassadors assist with events, marketing efforts, outreach, development, donor relations and student engagement. Ambassadors are provided with unique professional development and involvement opportunities.

CSW INTERPROFESSIONAL FELLOWS

The College of Social Work Interprofessional Fellows Program offers educational opportunities to MSW students interested in promoting the profession of social work through interaction and collaboration with other professional communities. Fellows seek to improve service delivery by breaking down barriers and bridging gaps to enhance interprofessional collaboration.

PHI ALPHA

Phi Alpha, the social work honorary society is open to undergraduate and graduate students who make up the top 35 percent of social work students in your rank (Bachelors or Masters).

STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

SASW is open to all undergraduate and graduate social work students. Early in the fall semester each year the SASW elects members to serve on its leadership panel and faculty committees.

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

FINANCIAL AID

The College of Social Work makes every effort to assist students in obtaining financial aid. A limited number of scholarships, grants, and graduate student assistantships are available. Applicants also are expected to apply to the FSU Office of Financial Aid for University-administered aid. Various forms of financial aid are available to qualified graduate students through the College of Social Work and the FSU Office of Financial Aid. Resources are limited and not all requests for financial aid can be met. You are encouraged to carefully evaluate your capabilities for meeting living expenses and educational costs and to arrange your own financing through such resources as savings, part-time employment, agency and foundation stipends, and loans.

Students must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours to receive federal financial aid. Please note, MSW graduate advisors are not able to advise regarding financial aid. Students are responsible for knowing requirements of their aid package.

FSU Office of Financial Aid

Tallahassee, FL 32306-2394
(850) 644-0539

financialaid.fsu.edu

All long-term loans are low-interest loans with repayment deferred until a student graduates, withdraws, or changes his/her status as a full-time student. Short-term loans are available for emergencies only and must be repaid within 90 days.

Federally Insured Loan Program

This is an arrangement by which students can obtain a loan through a bank or credit union, and the Federal Government will provide the guarantee of the loan. The government will pay interest to the lender while the student is enrolled and for nine months following termination of studies. Loan repayment will begin nine months after a student terminates school. Applications take a minimum of six weeks to process after approval by the lending institution.

College Work Study Program

The FSU Financial Aid Office administers this program, sponsored by the Federal Government. Students must be enrolled on a full-time basis (a minimum of 12 hours) and be in good academic standing. Students accepted to this program are assigned to work part-time as student assistants. New students should apply by March 1. Whenever possible, Social Work students will be assigned to the College of Social Work.

Graduate School Fellowships & Grants

A limited number of University fellowships are awarded each year. Please visit gradschool.fsu.edu/funding-awards to view submission details and application deadlines.

College of Social Work Financial Programs

The College of Social Work offers student financial support through stipends, fellowships, grant work, and graduate student assistantships that are awarded on the basis of merit and the early application to the graduate program.

Graduate assistants may be offered two semesters of matriculation waiver (students are responsible for University fees) and a paid stipend for approximately 10 hours per week of work within the College. Recipients of stipends from the University (both fellowships and assistantships) must be full-time students and registered for at least 9 semester hours. Students in their internships are not eligible for assistantships. Applications for assistantships are available from the College of Social Work or from the College's website: csw.fsu.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS WITHIN COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

The application period for most CSW scholarships is in the early spring. Awards are presented once a year, in the fall. Information and updated applications are available each December on the College of Social Work website.

- Barbara White Social Work Scholarship
- Bill & Nolia Brandt Scholarship
- C. Aaron McNeece Field Education Scholars Award
- Cheryl Roland Endowed Scholarship
- Citrus Health Network Scholarship For Graduate Students
- Coyle & Mabel Moore Scholarship
- Mark DeGraff & Lula Hamilton DeGraff Scholarship
- Guy & Delores Spearman Scholarship
- Gomory Family Scholarship
- Grace Ann Graduate Scholarship
- Herndon Scholars/ Helios Education Foundation Scholarship
- Jane Addams Fund
- Joanna F. Gorman Scholarship
- John and Meg Paschal International Scholarship
- John P. & Jane W. Wakeman Memorial Scholarship For Arts In Social Work
- Joyce Harper Laidlaw Scholarship In Child Welfare
- Karen Oehme Endowed Scholarship Institute for Family Violence Studies
- Lamar F. Everett Scholarship
- MacDill-Wold Unconquered Scholarship
- Margaret H. Jacks Scholarship In Aging
- Mary DiNitto Endowed Scholarship
- MSW Class of 1975 Scholarship
- Patricia V. Vance Scholarship
- Richard M. King Scholarship In Social Work & Business Administration
- Robert P. Hurrle International Scholarship
- Spearman Social Work And Veteran Support Scholarship



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MSW COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The FSU College of Social Work regards many courses as clinical/direct-practice courses that may apply towards licensure. As different boards of licensure set these criteria, the College cannot guarantee acceptance of all of these courses.

SOW 5034: The Social Work Profession - 3 credits

This course surveys the philosophy, history, and services of social welfare and the purpose, objectives, values, ethics, methods, and practice settings of the profession of social work. Attention is given to the role that social work and social welfare policies play in promoting social and economic justice for oppressed groups. This course includes a required 30 hours of volunteer work (can be credited for service learning).

SOW 5105: Human Behavior and the Social Environment (HBSE) - 3 credits

This course focuses on reciprocal relationships between human behavior and social environments. Content includes empirically based theories and knowledge that focus on the interactions between and among systems of all sizes, including individuals, groups, societies, and economic systems. Theories and knowledge of biological, psychological, sociological, cultural, and spiritual development across the life span are critiqued, especially as they relate to populations-at-risk. In addition, theories and knowledge about the range of social systems (individual, family, group, organizational, and community) in which people live are examined, including the ways social systems promote or deter people in maintaining or achieving health and well-being.

SOW 5109: Women's Issues & Social Work - 3 credits

This course is designed to acquaint students with individual and social factors that affect women throughout the lifespan using an interdisciplinary approach. Particular attention will be given to the intersection of race, age, social class, sexual orientation, and other systems of inequality that impact on women's lives. The role of the social work profession in changing society's view of women, as well as the role of practitioners in enabling or empowering women will also be examined.

SOW 5116: Trauma Informed Social Work - 3 credits

This course is designed to develop students' understanding and skills in working with clients who have been personally or systematically impacted by crises, disaster, or other trauma-causing events. This course will introduce students to the theoretical foundations and practice models associated with trauma-informed social work.

SOW 5125: Psychopathology in Clinical Practice - 3 credits

The course provides an overview of mental health assessment and diagnostic tools, including the Diagnostic Statistical Manual diagnostic categories, and touches on treatment strategies and techniques. Building on the knowledge base acquired in the foundation course SOW 5105, this course examines the relationship between the biological, psychological, social, environmental, and cultural influences and emotional and mental health from ecological context. Particular attention is given to variations in the assessment process and access to treatment for populations at social and economic risk. In addition, students

examine the political and social implications of mental health and their relations to social work values and ethics. (*Prerequisite: SOW 5105 or BSW equivalent*)

SOW5128: Cognitive-Behavioral Social Work Practice - 3 credits

This course provides in-depth coverage of the cognitive-behavioral model of social work practice. The empirical bases of the theory and model will be examined, along with applications to direct social work practice. Through participation in this course, students will learn how to move from an assessment to intervention using the CBT model. (*Prerequisite: SOW5308 or equivalent*)

SOW 5153: Human Sexuality - 3 credits

This course surveys issues and attitudes associated with human sexuality. It is primarily intended for social workers and other helping professionals who currently work with clients or plan to in the future. Using a biopsychosocial perspective, emphasis is placed on the social, cultural, familial and individual differences in sexual and reproductive attitudes, values, and behavior. Students are introduced to common sex-related issues and to the particular concerns of various sexually oppressed groups. Information will also be provided about childhood sexual abuse and adult victimization and their relationship to intimacy issues clients typically present in direct practice.

SOW 5235: Social Welfare Policy and Services - 3 credits

The course provides an initial opportunity to investigate the relationships among individual and collective social welfare and public policy in American society from a social work perspective, with emphasis placed on understanding these relationships in terms of social and economic justice. Particular attention is paid to acquisition of skills necessary to engage in policy advocacy and formulation consistent with social work values and ethics, fostering an appreciation for the roles played by social workers in the development of the American welfare state, and reviewing the history of the social work profession.

SOW 5238: Advanced Policy Analysis - 3 credits

This course introduces students to the procedures and processes of social policy analysis and evaluation. Attention is given to policy originating within all levels and branches of government, as well as within organizational settings. The course examines how issues are brought to the attention of decision-makers and the methods used in policy formulation. Students will learn skills central to policy work, including problem-definition, development and examination of policy alternatives, planning for implementation, and evaluation. The course prepares individuals to participate in the creation and assessment of social welfare policies that impact populations-at-risk. (*Prerequisite: SOW 5235 or equivalent*)

SOW 5248: Homelessness in America: People, Program and Policies - 3 credits

This course covers poverty in the United States with particular emphasis on homelessness. It will include content related to values and ethics in programs and policies as well as cultural diversity among people in poverty. Particular attention will be given to those who suffer from poverty and other societal oppression, such as those who are also people of color, women, gays, lesbians, HIV positive, or disabled.

SOW 5281: Ethics in Social Work Practice - 3 credits

This course provides students with a framework of knowledge and skills to prepare them for effective and ethical decision-making that are congruent with codes of ethics and standards of practice in the social work profession. The principles of ethical decision-making and various value systems will be explored as students approach various ethical issues. Ethical decision-making is a complex process, particularly as it involves consideration of personal identities of self and others particularly in the areas of spirituality, race/ethnicity, gender, culture, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic class. Ethical decision-making must be congruent with standards and principles of the social work profession. *(Panama City Campus Only)*

SOW 5282: Legislative Advocacy - 3 Credits

This course exposes graduate students to the skills necessary to become effective human service advocates dealing with unmet needs, resolving social problems, or working to ameliorate unjust or inequitable conditions in society. As more decisions about social welfare programs have shifted from the federal to the state and local community levels, it is increasingly important for social workers to develop lobbying and advocacy skills to ensure social and economic justice. Such skills can help bring about much-needed policy changes for clients, promote and protect social work ethics and values, and positively affect human service funding during the budget appropriation process.

SOW 5308: Social Work Practice - 3 credits

The course provides students with an understanding of the social work profession's history, mission, values, ethics, and roles. Content on generalist social work practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities is covered, and attention is given to working with ethnic minorities, women, gays and lesbians, and disabled people. *An intensive weekend in Tallahassee is required for online students enrolled in this class.*

SOW 5324: Social Work Practice with Groups and Communities - 3 credits

This course focuses on the development of the generalist group practice skills of engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation with social work clients, community groups, and organizations. This class covers practice skills that contribute to group effectiveness, including composition, structure, dynamics, goal setting, and evaluation. Students will learn to respond to contexts that shape practice by recognizing social, political, economic, and environmental influences and applying them to social work practice. Content also includes examining the empirical base of a range of theories and models of group facilitation with clients, community groups, and organizations. *An intensive weekend in Tallahassee is required for online students enrolled in this class.*

SOW 5334: Organizational and Community Systems Change (Organizational Development) - 3 credits

The course provides students with an advanced understanding of the models for planned change in organizational and community systems. In accordance with systems theory, organizations and communities are understood as interdependent, complex, open systems influenced by other micro, mezzo, and macro systems in the larger environment.

SOW 5369: Integrative Seminar in Advanced Social Work Practice - 3 credits

This course integrates theoretical models and concepts with practice gained in internships. The course utilizes an ecosystems perspective, focusing on the dynamic interaction between the individual, family, communities, organizations and other social systems. A major focus is on the social worker's role in responding effectively to the challenges of working with these systems, and exploring their own personal views of such issues as ethics, gender, ethnic minorities, gays, lesbians, and disabled people. *(Co-requisite: SOW 5535)*

SOW 5376: Budgeting and Finance in Social Services - 3 credits

This course emphasizes the political and technical skills of budgeting and financial management, source development via grant writing and fundraising, government contracting, fiscal reporting, and payroll management.

SOW 5377: Personnel Administration in the Social Services (Social Work Administration) - 3 credits

This course develops students' skills in personnel management in human service organizations to ensure effective service delivery to clients. Attention is given to staff management approaches, staff supervision, employee recruitment and retention, motivation, job design, staff development and issues of diversity.

SOW 5404: Introduction to Social Work Research - 3 credits

This course introduces students to qualitative and quantitative research methods in order to provide an understanding of a scientific, analytic, and ethical approach to building knowledge for practice. Students' mastery of course content prepares them to develop, use, and effectively communicate empirically based knowledge. Research knowledge is used by students to provide high-quality services; to initiate change; to improve practice, policy, and social service delivery; and to evaluate their own practice from an evidence-based perspective.

SOW 5432: Evaluation of Social Work Practice - 3 credits

Major emphasis is given to the use of single systems designs in client assessment and evaluation. Students consider the philosophical and ethical aspects of an evaluative approach to treatment and examine the policy implications of professional participation (or lack thereof) in evaluation processes. Topics will include the operational 'diagnosis' of client problems; measurement and monitoring of symptoms, goals, and interventions; and analysis, interpretation, and reporting of case material for accountable social work practice. Issues of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and disability will be explored through application of course content to appropriate case examples. *(Prerequisite: SOW 5404 or BSW equivalent)*

SOW 5435: Social Program Evaluation - 3 credits

This course presents the historical and contemporary importance of social program evaluation and research methods. This course focuses on applied qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods that are useful to managers, public administrators, and policy analysts. Particular emphasis is placed on evidence-based procedures/methods that will be useful for social work administrators for designing and carrying out an evaluation of social programs and policies. How programs and policies can further the cause of social and economic justice for oppressed and disadvantaged groups is also explored. *(Prerequisite: SOW 5404 or BSW equivalent)*

SOW 5455: Grant Writing and Grant Management - 3 credits

While funding agencies may have their own guidelines, there are some commonalities among grant proposals. This course will cover the basics of proposals: purpose statements, background and justification, aims or objectives, personnel, time line, methods, budget, evaluation, and how to effectively manage grants once they are funded. Particularly in the public and not-for-profit sector, grants may be necessary to expand the type or number of resources available to clients; therefore, grant writing is related to social work objectives that stress access to and availability of resources. The needs of disenfranchised groups or communities will be discussed in this course, along with the particulars of proposals that may be most effective in meeting such needs.

SOW 5532: Graduate Field Instruction I - 5-10 credits

This course is required for first year graduate students and taken concurrently with course work. Students are provided with a supervised generalist social work practice experience in a variety of settings. *(Prerequisite: SOW 5308 or BSW equivalent)*

SOW 5535: Graduate Field Instruction II - 6-12 credits This course is required for advanced graduate students and taken concurrently with Integrative Seminar in Advanced Social Work Practice. All coursework must be completed.

SOW 5603: Social Work in Health Settings - 3 credits

This course focuses on social work practice in health settings from a "person-in-environment" perspective, preparing students with an understanding of the roles that social workers play in health settings; the structure of health care delivery systems; organizational and professional ethics and standards; challenges we face in health care policy; patient issues and how to help to address these issues. Specific knowledge and skills in a health care setting are addressed, including: biopsychosocial assessments; chart documentation; treatment planning; and discharge planning.

SOW 5611: Family Counseling in Social Work - 3 credits

This course introduces students to various theoretical models of family counseling and presents assessment and intervention strategies and techniques.

SOW 5614: Family Violence Across the Life Span - 3 credits

This course, looking at violence across the life span, provides an ecological perspective emphasizing the interconnections between individuals experiencing violence and their social environments. Emphasis is placed upon broad coverage of all-important aspects of child abuse, incest, intimate partner violence, rape and elder abuse. This course is appropriate for students who wish to gain

skill in detecting and responding to incest situations for clients, sexual assault survivors, and victims of intimate partner violence or elder abuse.

SOW 5646: Gerontological Social Work - 3 credits

This course introduces students to the field of social gerontology and gerontological social work. The class provides an overview of a variety of topics such as the demography of aging and the physical, cognitive, and psychosocial aspects of aging. The course also covers health care and social policies that impact older persons and caregivers, along with the aging network of services. How forms of oppression such as ageism, sexism, racism, ablebodyism, beautyism, and homophobia impact our work with older people are discussed, along with how to promote dignity, self-determination, and social and economic justice for older persons. The role of both informal and formal support networks is stressed as students learn to comprehensively assess older clients and devise intervention and evaluation plans.

SOW 5648: Physical Aspects of Aging - 3 credits

This course covers age and health demographics, along with attitudes toward aging and health. Basic cellular or molecular theories of aging will be presented, along with how the human body's organ systems typically change over time. Pathologies associated with aging, and psychosocial responses to normal and pathological changes, will be discussed. Such responses will be viewed within a sociocultural context. Support services and resources for older individuals and their caregivers will be addressed. *(Online Only)*

SOW 5655: Social Work with Children & Adolescents - 3 credits

Students in this course increase knowledge and understanding essential for effective therapeutic interventions in the psychological and behavioral disorders of children, and develop special skills in selected intervention techniques and modalities in working with children in a variety of professional roles.

SOW 5656: Child Welfare Practice - 3 credits

This course provides a framework of values, knowledge and skills necessary to practice with vulnerable children and their families. The major focus is on social work in public child welfare and children's mental health agencies. The course utilizes an ecosystem's perspective for understanding and assessing the special needs of at risk children and families. Specific attention will focus on assessing families and children using the state of Florida's risk and safety assessment protocols as well as other family assessment instruments. *(Strongly encouraged to take SOW 5659 prior to SOW 5656).*

SOW 5659: Child Maltreatment and Child Welfare - 3 credits

This course provides students with knowledge and skills related to the theory, research, and implications of child and adolescent maltreatment for child development and psychopathology. Course content is presented within the context of child welfare practice and social work with children and adolescents in public agencies and programs. Particular attention will be given to common psychological disorders that result from maltreatment and accompanying treatment issues. Issues related to individuals, families, groups, and communities are covered and attention is given to working with ethnic minorities, women, gays and lesbians, and persons with disabilities.

SOW 5666: Theory and Practice of Social Work in Criminal Justice Settings - 3 credits

This course focuses on criminological theories and the development of both evidence-based and generalist social work practice skills pertinent to working in criminal justice settings and with individuals in the criminal justice system. The course will focus on theory and practice for social workers working in corrections, prisoner reentry programs, and juvenile justice settings. Moreover, the course will cover the philosophy and practice of restorative justice and victim-offend mediation programs, which strive to meet the needs of both offenders and victims alike. Attention is given to practice without discrimination and with respect, knowledge and skills related to clients' age, class, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation. Ways in which working with individuals in the criminal justice system can promote social economic justice are discussed.

SOW 5712: Substance Use and Misuse (formerly Chemical Dependency Problems and Programs) - 3 credits

This course includes discussions, readings, lectures, and audiovisual materials on all the major drugs, including alcohol, opiates, stimulants, sedatives, hallucinogens, inhalants, and nicotine. We cover the etiology and epidemiology of drug abuse, physiological and behavioral consequences of drug abuse, treatment approaches, and major policies and programs. Special attention is directed toward drug use in special populations, such as women, racial and ethnic minorities, gays and lesbians, persons with other disabilities, and the elderly. We also spend a considerable amount of time discussing social work with involuntary clients, since most persons receiving treatment for chemical dependency probably fall into this category. A systems perspective will be used in order to relate drug-using behavior to family, community, and social systems.

SOW 5745: Seminar on Loss & Bereavement - 3 credits

This course is for students who wish to increase their knowledge and understanding of issues around loss, bereavement, dying, and death, and how we can live life to the fullest while addressing these challenges both personally and with our clients. The primary focus is on six topics: 1) theories of loss and grief; 2) personal feelings, fears, and expectations of the inevitable; 3) death and dying rituals from a cross-cultural perspective; 4) responses to loss and bereavement throughout the life cycle; 5) understanding different bereavement situation, such as suicide, SIDS, etc. 6) assessment and intervention strategies with individuals, families, and groups.

SOW 5785: International Social Work and Social Welfare - 3 credits

This course prepares students for international social work practice abroad and/or for transnational work with immigrants, refugees, international migrants, etc. It presents an introduction to international perspectives in the field of social work and to varied examples of social work practice in the United States, Western and Central Europe, and the Caribbean nations - three very diverse regions of the world in which social issues present contrasting challenges to the profession. In providing an overview of the social work profession internationally, it examines the impact of global interdependence on social work practice and policy as current challenges are faced in the developed and developing world. Within the framework of the social work

international code of ethics, students will learn to critically analyze varied practice approaches utilized in dealing with international social welfare issues.

SOW 5807 Clinical Practice - 3 credits

This advanced practice course emphasizes development of clinical skills. Students will refine their clinical skills, building on the research-based non-specific (common factors) components of therapeutic work (i.e. therapeutic alliance, empathy, goal consensus/collaboration, positive regard/affirmation, and genuineness) and specific factors (validated treatments). The course provides in-depth coverage of three empirically-based models; Solution Focused, Motivational Interviewing, and Interpersonal Therapy. Learning applications of techniques informed by these models provides opportunities to enhance professional use of self. The course examines similarities and differences among models and allows students to discern appropriate use of techniques, client populations, settings, and problem interactions. Students will develop competency in the ethical and strength-based use of these models. (*Prerequisite: SOW 5308 or BSW equivalent*)

SOW 5908: Directed Individual Study - varying credit hours

Directed Individual Study (DIS) provides an opportunity for a student to explore in depth an area of particular interest. A maximum of three DIS credit hours can apply to an MSW degree and can be utilized as an elective course. Please consult with your MSW graduate advisor to learn more.

SOW 5938r: Selected Topics - 3 credits

The selected topic courses are offered on a variety of issues and may be repeated to a maximum of 9 semester hours.

SOW 5971r: Thesis 1-6 credits

S/U grade only. Consent of instructor required. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 semester hours.

SOW 8976r: Master's Thesis Defense

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK MSW PROGRAM COURSES

NUMBER	TITLE	TYPICALLY OFFERED MAIN CAMPUS	TYPICALLY OFFERED ONLINE	CLINICAL
SOW5034	The Social Work Profession	Fall	Fa/Sp/Su	Yes
SOW5105	Human Behavior and the Social Environment (HBSE)	Fall	Spring	Yes
SOW5109	Women's Issues and Social Work	Spring	n/a	Check w/FL Board
SOW5116	Trauma Informed Social Work	Fa/Su	Fa/Sp/Su	Check w/FL Board
SOW5125	Psychopathology in Clinical Practice	Fa/Sp/Su	Sp/Fa	Yes
SOW5128	Cognitive-Behavioral Social Work Practice	Fa/Sp/Su	n/a	Check w/FL Board
SOW5153	Human Sexuality	Fa/Su	n/a	Yes
SOW5235	Social Welfare Policy and Services	Fall	Fall	No
SOW5238	Advanced Policy Analysis	Spring	n/a	No
SOW5248	Homelessness in America: People, Program, & Policies	Spring	n/a	No
SOW5282	Legislative Advocacy	Spring	n/a	No
SOW5308	Social Work Practice	Fall	Fa/Sp/Su	Yes
SOW5324	Social Work Practice with Groups and Communities	Spring	Fa/Sp/Su	Yes
SOW5334	Organizational and Community Systems Change (Organizational Development)	Spring	n/a	No
SOW5369	Integrative Seminar in Advanced Social Work Practice	Fa/Sp/Su	Fa/Sp/Su	Yes
SOW5376	Budgeting and Finance in the Social Services	Summer	Spring	No
SOW5377	Personnel Administration in the Social Services (Social Work Administration)	Fall	Summer	No
SOW5404	Introduction to Social Work Research	Spring	Summer	Yes
SOW5432	Evaluation of Social Work Practice	Fa/Sp/Su	Summer	Yes
SOW5435	Social Program Evaluation	Fall	Fall	No
SOW5455	Grant Writing and Grant Management	Spring	Summer	No
SOW5532	Graduate Field Instruction I	Fa/Sp/Su	Fa/Sp/Su	No
SOW5535	Graduate Field Instruction II	Fa/Sp/Su	Fa/Sp/Su	No
SOW5603	Social Work in Health Settings	Fa/Su	Varies	Yes
SOW5611	Family Counseling in Social Work	Sp/Su	Varies	Yes
SOW5614	Family Violence Across the Life Span	Fa/Sp/Su	Varies	Yes
SOW5646	Gerontological Social Work	Fall	Fall	Yes
SOW5648	Physical Aspects of Aging	n/a	Summer	Yes
SOW5655	Social Work with Children and Adolescents	Fall	n/a	Yes
SOW5656	Child Welfare Practice	Fa/Sp/Su	Summer	Yes
SOW5659	Child Maltreatment and Child Welfare	Fa/Sp/Su	Fa/Sp/Su	Yes
SOW5666	Theory and Practice of Social Work in Criminal Justice Settings	Sp/Su	n/a	Yes
SOW5712	Substance Use & Misuse	Fa/Su	Varies	Yes
SOW5745	Seminar on Loss & Bereavement	Fa/Sp	n/a	Yes
SOW5785	International Social Work and Social Welfare	Spring	Varies	Yes

Consult specific MSW programs of study for detailed course tracks and required course information. Please note that this information may change based on funding/enrollment limitations. **Please note that these courses have generally been accepted as clinical courses by the Florida Board of Licensure. This information may change at any time. Any required course in the SL track may be taken as an elective in the Clinical track and vice versa. Main campus/Tallahassee students are not able to take online courses.



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2021-2022**