

The Master of Social Work (MSW) Program

Social Work Practice Grounded in a Social Justice Ethic

GSU's Master of Social Work program prepares advanced social work professionals to provide services to socially and economically vulnerable children, families and adults. The primary goal of our program is to prepare highly qualified, competent, advanced social work practitioners grounded in a social justice ethic.

Two programs

Full MSW Program: This program consists of 60 credit-hours in the foundation and advanced curriculum for students who have not earned the baccalaureate social work degree.

Advanced Standing Program: This program consists of 32 credit-hours of course work in the advanced curriculum. This option is restricted to prospective students who have already completed a baccalaureate degree in a social work education program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) within seven years from the date of application to GSU's MSW program. The Master of Social Work Program does not offer credit for life experience.

Three Specialized Concentrations

After completion of the Social Work foundation curriculum, or upon admission to the Advanced Standing program, students specialize in one of three concentrations:

The Children and Families Concentration: This concentration prepares graduates for employment in social service agencies serving children, adolescents and families.

The School Social Work Concentration: This concentration prepares graduates for practice in primary and secondary schools. To be admitted to the School Social Work Concentration, students must take and pass the Illinois Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) and successfully complete the School Social Work Content Area exam. Successful completion of the School Social Work Concentration leads to the School Social Worker licensure endorsement.

The Holistic Practice and Wellness Concentration: This concentration prepares graduates to provide empirically-informed best practices that emphasize bio-psychosocial/spiritual and non-pharmacological frameworks integrated with traditional social work methods in primary care settings.

Fully Accredited

The MSW program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

How to Apply

Apply to the Master of Social Work Program at www.govst.edu/chhs/msw/apply. To talk to a representative of the MSW Program, call 708.235.3997.

NOTE: The Master of Social Work Program does not offer college credit for life experience.

FACT

Employment of social workers is projected to grow 19 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations. Employment growth will be driven by increased demand for health care and social services, but will vary by specialty. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014-15 Edition, Social Workers*, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/social-workers.htm> (Visited July 28, 2014). 



MSW Curriculum

Both full-time and part-time options are available for the completion of the MSW degree. The full-time program is offered over a two-year period. The part-time program, offered over three or four years, is designed to be accessible to students who cannot complete their education on a full-time basis.

MSW Liberal Arts Prerequisite Requirements

A liberal arts foundation that includes course work in the following areas:

- Behavioral/Social Sciences (Equivalent of 9 credit hours);
- Science/Mathematical reasoning, which must include human biology and statistics (Equivalent of six credit hours);
- Humanities/Fine Arts (Equivalent of six credit hours).

Full Program Degree Requirements

Foundation Curriculum

SOCW 6100 The Social Work Profession in a Diverse Society (3)

SOCW 6200 Human Behavior in the Social Environment 1 (3)

SOCW 6300 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II (3)

SOCW 6400 Social Welfare Policies and Provisions (3)

SOCW 6500 Social Work Research (3)

SOCW 7200 Social Work Practice I (3)

SOCW 7100 Social Work Practice II (3)

SOCW 7500 Field Practicum I (2)

SOCW 7501 Field Practicum I Integrative Seminar (2)

SOCW 7600 Field Practicum II (2)

SOCW 7601 Field Practicum II Integrative Seminar (2)

SOCW 7050 Foundation Elective (3)

Total: 32 Credit Hours

Children and Families Concentration Curriculum

SOCW 8060 Advanced Elective (3)

SOCW 8100 Contexts and Theories in Practice with Children and Families (3)

SOCW 8200 Practice with Families (3)

SOCW 8300 Practice with Children and Adolescents (3)

SOCW 8400 Practice Evaluation (3)

SOCW 8500 Policy Practice with Children and Families (3)

SOCW 8600 Field Practicum III (3)

SOCW 8601 Field Practicum III Integrative Seminar (2)

SOCW 8700 Field Practicum IV (3)

SOCW 8701 Field Practicum IV Integrative Seminar (2)

Total Concentration Credit Hours: 28

Total Foundation and Concentration: 60 Hours

School Social Work Concentration Curriculum

SPED 6100 Survey of Students with Exceptionalities (3)

SOCW 8100 Contexts and Theories in Practice with Children and Families (3)

SOCW 8300 Practice with Children and Adolescents (3)

SOCW 8400 Practice Evaluation (3)

SOCW 8210 Social Work Practice in Schools (3)

SOCW 8510 Policy for School Social Workers (3)

SOCW 8600 Field Practicum III (3)

SOCW 8601 Field Practicum III Integrative Seminar (2)

SOCW 8700 Field Practicum IV (3)

SOCW 8701 Field Practicum IV

Integrative Seminar (2)

Holistic Practice & Wellness Concentration

SOCW 8060 Advanced Elective (3)

SOCW 8100 Context and Theories in Practice with Children and Families (3)

SOCW 8220 Holistic Practice & Wellness (3)

SOCW 8225 Complementary, Alternative and Indigenous Practice Modalities (3)

SOCW 8400 Practice Evaluation (3)

SOCW 8515 Holistic Policy Practice (3)

SOCW 8600 Field Practicum (3)

SOCW 8601 Field Integrative Seminar (2)

SOCW 8700 Field Practicum (3)

SOCW 8701 Field Integrative Seminar (2)

Total Concentration Credit Hours: 28

**Total Foundation and Concentration:
60 Hours**

MSW Advanced Standing Degree Requirements

SOCW 8000-8003 Transition to Advanced Social Work (4)

Advanced Curriculum (28)

**Total Advanced Standing Credit
Hours: 32**

