

SOCIAL WORK (SW)

SW 500 Social Work Ethics and Professional Development (3)

Prerequisite(s): Admission to MSW program.

This course examines the issues of social work professionalism, the process of becoming a social work professional and the exploration of ethical challenges within the profession. The course focuses on acquiring and practicing the skills of ethical decision-making, including values clarification, utilization of codes of ethics and ethical analysis. Topics also include: philosophy and history of the profession, licensure, human rights and social justice.

SW 501 Grant Writing, Fundraising, and Financial Management (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.

This course includes skill building for assessing organizational financial resources, including how to repackage or expand revenue streams. Skill development is emphasized in areas such as grant seeking, proposal writing, service contracting, donor development, direct solicitation of gifts, and planning of fundraising events. This course will also address consumer and third-party fee setting and collection, outsourcing, and income investment.

SW 505 Generalist Practice with Individuals (3)

Prerequisite(s): degree admission to MSW program.

Course provides foundation content in the knowledge and skills for strengths-based generalist social work practice with individuals. Students will begin to acquire generalist social work practice skills and an identity with the social work profession.

SW 506 Generalist Practice with Families and Groups (3)

Prerequisite(s): degree admission to MSW program.

Course provides foundation content in the knowledge and skills for strengths-based generalist social work practice with families and groups. Family assessments and interventions and group practice issues will be examined.

SW 507 Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities (3)

Prerequisite(s): degree admission to MSW program.

Course provides foundation content emphasizing developing generalist knowledge and skills for strengths-based generalist social work practice at the group, organizational, community and societal levels.

SW 510 Social Welfare Policies, Programs, and Analysis (3)

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the MSW program.

The course includes an introduction to U.S. social welfare systems and the role of the social work profession in affecting change in social welfare policies and programs. The course also examines the evaluation/analysis of social programs and program/policy effectiveness. The course includes a review of both historical and current perspectives of the U.S. social welfare system. Student membership in the National Rural Social Work Caucus is required.

SW 512 Cultural Competence for Generalist Practice (3)

Prerequisite(s): degree admission to MSW program.

Students will examine the impact of culture, race and ethnicity on client/worker interactions. The course presents practice theories and interventions for culturally competent advanced generalist practice with different populations. Students will develop essential knowledge, awareness, and skills to support culturally competent social work practice. Concepts related to the promotion of social and economic justice are emphasized. Topics include power, privilege, oppression, rural myths and stereotypes, and community self-concept.

SW 514 Social Work Research and Evidence Based Practice (3)

Prerequisite(s): SW 518, SW 519 or MSW Advanced Standing Status.

This course is designed to enhance student competence in the integrated use of research and information technologies for knowledge building in social work practice. Students extend their skills in their understanding and use of quantitative and qualitative research methods. Students will build upon their knowledge of evidence-based practice, including skills needed to identify, implement, and assess appropriate interventions for practice across client system levels.

SW 516 Crisis Intervention & Trauma Management (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Admission to the MSW program. This course examines social work practice theories and intervention approaches and skills as they apply to practice with survivors of various forms of traumatic life events. Students will be able to apply theory to intervention techniques. Participants will learn the fundamentals of trauma and traumatic stress, and a general understanding of the implications of crisis intervention techniques to modify manage, and cope with trauma.

SW 518 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I (3)

Prerequisite(s): degree admission to MSW program.

This course explores the basic concepts and theories that explain the development of personality and social behavior within a social systems framework. Attention is given to the impact of bio-psycho-social-cultural factors on individuals, small groups, and the family. This course examines behavior within the context of individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and cultures and the core theories that guide social work practice.

SW 519 Human Behavior and the Social Environment II (3)

Prerequisite(s): SW 518.

This course provides students with core knowledge of theory pertaining to broad social units (i.e., the work place, organizations, institutions, ideologies, the world views, etc.). The course utilizes a systems framework and emphasizes the themes of advocacy, empowerment and planned-change in exploring various theoretical orientations to the study of human behavior in organizations, communities and society.

SW 520 Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology (3)

Prerequisite(s): SW 505, SW 506, SW 507 or advanced standing status.

This course will familiarize social work students with the major mental disorders. Mental health issues are ubiquitous across social work practice settings, social workers need to be acquainted with the language, taxonomy, conceptualizations, and developments in the study of clinical assessment and diagnosis. This course provides a focus on a bio-psycho-social-cultural understanding of mental illness from an ecosystems perspective. Students critically examine the DSM-5 TR and the psychopharmacological interventions for psychopathological conditions across the lifespan.

SW 521 Social Work Practices in Rural and Non-Urban Areas (3)

Prerequisite(s): SW 505 and SW 506 or advanced standing status.

This course introduces students to social work in the rural context. Presents current trends in rural social work practice and considers the most effective ways to serve rural communities. Issues related to social work practice, rural communities, rural behavior, and social welfare policy are presented. A generalist model of practice, systems and person-in-environment theories help students develop a more sophisticated understanding of general problems and concerns found in rural communities.

SW 524 Advanced Generalist Methods with Individuals and Families (3)

Prerequisite(s): SW 505, SW 506, and SW 507 or advanced standing status.

This course develops the advanced generalist practice competencies needed for intervention with individuals and families from diverse backgrounds are developed. Evidence-based theories and practice intervention strategies are applied.

SW 525 Advanced Generalist Methods with Groups and Organizations (3)

Prerequisite(s): SW 505, SW 506, SW 507 or advanced standing status.

This course develops the advanced generalist practice competencies needed for administrative and supervisory intervention with organizations and communities. Evidence-based theories and practice intervention strategies are applied, includes the development of skills in social work leadership and administration.

SW 528 Advanced Practice in Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Admitted MSW student or with instructor permission. Examines the prevalence and etiology of substance-related and addictive disorders and the impact on individuals, families, and society. Includes the incorporation of knowledge and skills regarding public policy and evidence-based practices for treatment and prevention.

SW 529 Management, Supervision, and Consultation in Social Work (3)

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the MSW program and SW 510.

This is an advanced practice course incorporating a review of organizational theories, infusion of professional social work ethics, and a social justice framework for developing the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for effective leadership of human service organizations. The course material corresponds with content obtained in social work courses related to Social Policy and Advanced Practice with Communities and Organizations.

SW 531 Aging, Society and the Life Course (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Admission to the MSW program. The course provides an in-depth understanding of aging issues at individual and societal levels for effective social work practice with older adults and their families. This course prepares students to conduct social work interventions with older adults and their families in rural and non-urban communities.

SW 534 Health, Health Care and Disabilities (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Admission to the MSW Program or with Instructor Permission. This course provides knowledge about the contemporary organization of health care including the examination of state and federal health and disability policies and programs and modes of integrated health care. It includes analysis of the ethics and politics of inequality in the U.S. health and healthcare systems.

SW 537 Advanced Practice with Children and Adolescents (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Admission to the MSW program. This course focuses on clinical social work practice with children and adolescents. Students will learn specific skills for effectively assessing and treating children and adolescents. The course examines the complexities of the interactions between children and their environment.

SW 540 Death, Loss and Disaster Response in Social Work Practice (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.

Admission to the MSW program. The course offers an overview of the social impact of violence, major types of violent events, and natural disasters. Students will acquire skills in community mobilization, collaborative recovery and response practices, and grief support. Special attention will be paid to evidence based crisis and trauma responses.

SW 546 Advanced Practice in Forensic Social Work (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing.

Admission to the MSW program. This course explores the role of social work in legal processes within the criminal justice system, child welfare system, mental health system, juvenile justice system, domestic/family violence, etc. It includes the application of knowledge and skills in forensic interviewing, risk assessment, expert testimony, mediation, and victim advocacy.

SW 555 Policy Advocacy in Social Work Practice (3)

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the MSW program or pre-approval from instructor.

This course includes a review of the impact of the social work profession in current and historical collective social movements. This course teaches the knowledge, values, and skills to engage in the planned change process with a focus on social policy. Students will further their knowledge and skills in community and advocacy practice.

SW 560 Special Topics (1)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and instructor permission.

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Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 562 Special Topics (1)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 565 Independent Study (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 566 Independent Study (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 567 Independent Study (3)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 570 Field Practicum I (9)

Prerequisite(s): SW 505 and SW 506.

Advanced field instruction in a social welfare setting under the direct supervision of a professional social worker. Focuses on the development of advanced applied skills, knowledge, and values for direct social work practice. Four hundred fifty (450) hours of agency experience and two (2) bi-weekly integrative seminar are required for the semester.

SW 571 Field Practicum II (9)

Prerequisite(s): SW 521, SW 524, and SW 525.

Corequisite(s): Admission to MSW program and in good standing. Prerequisites or Advanced field instruction in a social welfare setting under the direct supervision of a professional social worker. Focuses on the development of advanced applied skills, knowledge, and values for direct social work practice. Four hundred fifty (450) hours of agency experience and two (2) bi-weekly integrative seminar are required for the semester.