



College of Social Work

Karen Sowers, Dean
Rodney Ellis, Acting Associate Dean, Nashville
Geraldine Faria, Associate Dean, Knoxville
Theora Evans, Acting Associate Dean, Memphis
Paul M. Campbell, Director, Office of Social Work Research and Public Service
Charles Glisson, Director, Children's Mental Health Services Research Center

<http://www.csw.utk.edu/>

Professors

Cetingok, M., PhD Washington (St. Louis)
 Glisson, C., PhD Washington (St. Louis)
 Nooe, R., DSW Tulane
 Nugent, W., PhD Florida State
 Orme, J., PhD Washington (St. Louis)
 Sowers, K., PhD Florida State
 Wodarski, J., PhD Washington (St. Louis)

Associate Professors

Bowie, S., PhD Barry
 Combs-Orme, T., PhD Washington (St. Louis)
 Cummings, S., PhD Georgia
 Dulmus, C., PhD State University of New York (Buffalo)
 Dupper, D., PhD Florida State
 Egan, M., PhD Maryland
 Ellis, R., PhD Florida International
 Evans, T., PhD Minnesota
 Faria, G., PhD Denver
 Patterson, D., PhD Utah
 Rocha, C., PhD Washington (St. Louis)
 Rogge, M., PhD Washington (St. Louis)
 Spicuzza, F., MSSW Tennessee
 Staudt, M., PhD Washington (St. Louis)
 Vaughn, H., EdD Memphis

Assistant Professors

Bolen, R., PhD Texas (Arlington)
 Brown, E., PhD Smith
 Cho, S., PhD Southern California
 Davis, C., PhD UCLA
 Hall, C., PhD Smith
 Johnson, T., PhD Texas (Austin)
 Jones, J., PhD Clark
 MacMaster, S., PhD Case Western Reserve
 Neely-Barnes, S., PhD Washington (Seattle)
 Strand, E., PhD Tennessee

Sullivan, M., PhD Georgia
 Theriot, M., PhD Texas (Austin)
 Washington, G., PhD Clark

Research Faculty

Campbell, P., DSW Alabama
 Green, P., PhD Tennessee
 Hemmelgam, A., PhD Tennessee

Field Coordinators

Betz, P., MSSW (Knoxville) Tennessee
 Enochs, P., EdD (Nashville) Tennessee State
 Jackson, R., MSSW (Knoxville) Tennessee
 Thompson, B., MSSW (Memphis) Tennessee

MAJOR

Social Work MSSW, PhD

DEGREES

The College of Social Work began as the Nashville School of Social Work, founded in 1942 under the auspices of Vanderbilt University, Scarritt College, and George Peabody College. It joined the University of Tennessee in 1951. By 1974 the three branches, located in Nashville, Memphis and Knoxville, offered the two-year master's program. The doctoral program was inaugurated in 1983. In 1985 the Bachelor of Science in Social Work program was added, and the School achieved college status.

The University of Tennessee College of Social Work is the only graduate professional social work education program in Tennessee and offers the full continuum of social work education degrees at the baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels.

Social work is a helping profession which focuses on providing skilled intervention in the prevention and amelioration of individual and societal problems. It is the purpose of the college to provide an education which fosters growth in both individual and career development.

Graduate Programs

The two-year program (thesis or non-thesis option) leading to the Master of Science in Social Work is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and is offered on all three campuses. The foundation curriculum of the PhD program is available only in Knoxville. The college also offers a post-master's certificate program in management and community practice. The Tennessee state school social work licensure program is available to currently enrolled MSSW students. Application materials are available from the College of Social Work, Henson Hall, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-3333, or at <http://csw.utk.edu>. Please specify MSSW, PhD, or certificate program on the request.

Financial Aid

Students may apply directly to the university's Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships for assistance such as the National Direct Student Loan or the Work-Study Program.

Information regarding scholarships administered by the college is made available after admission. Financial aid is available to qualified students in the form of fellowships, scholarships, and teaching and research assistantships. Graduate assistantships and other forms of assistance are awarded on the basis of merit and interest to applicants who are accepted into the PhD program.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK

Social Work Major

The Master of Science in Social Work program prepares social workers to provide professional leadership in clinical social work practice and social work management and community practice. These objectives are met through a curriculum requiring of all students a professional foundation and a concentration in either clinical social work practice or social welfare management and community practice. The MSSW program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

ADMISSION

Admission to the master's program is based on the following

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with appropriate preparation in the social sciences. At least three-fourths of the applicant's undergraduate work should be in the social sciences, humanities, physical sciences, and other arts and sciences subjects. Applicants must have a course in human biology and demonstrate a liberal arts perspective through coursework in at least four of the following five areas: economics or mathematics; government, political science or history; sociology or anthropology; psychology; philosophy, literature, or the arts. Applicants with other academic backgrounds may request consultation to discuss ways that they can meet the requirements.
- A grade point of 2.7 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Applicants falling below this average may be considered for probationary admission on the basis of supplemental evidence of the ability to perform at a satisfactory level. The university requires a minimum GPA of 2.7 for admission to graduate study.

- Personal qualifications acceptable for entrance into the professional practice of social work.
- All applicants must submit up-to-date scores from the Graduate Record Examination (general).

Preference is given to applicants with a GPA of 3.0 or above in their undergraduate work with substantial preparation in the social sciences.

Advanced Standing

The University of Tennessee College of Social Work has an advanced standing program. Admission to advanced standing requires a BSW from an accredited program; an overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher; and personal qualifications acceptable for entrance into the professional practice of social work. Students admitted into advanced standing are required to complete a minimum of 36 hours of study in either of the college's concentrations—clinical social work practice or social work management and community practice. These students will follow the curriculum plan and meet all requirements of the concentration during three semesters of study in the program.

Application for admission to the advanced standing program is through the regular admission process.

Extended Study

Planned part-time programs are available in all three locations of the college. Admission requirements are the same as for full-time study. Coursework can be completed over a three- or four-year period.

Transfer Credits

Coursework equivalent to the first year of the master's program, completed in another accredited graduate social work program, is usually accepted toward degree requirements. Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate Council and the College of Social Work. Transfer courses must be approved as equivalent to required and/or elective courses taken for graduate credit and passed with a grade of B or better. An S (Satisfactory/No Credit system) for the field practicum is also accepted. In addition, transfer courses must be part of an otherwise satisfactory graduate program (B average) and be approved by the dean. This coursework must be completed within the six-year period prior to the receipt of the degree.

A maximum of six hours from work earned in disciplines other than social work may be transferred as elective credits. The student's academic committee must approve the request and the transfer credit must meet Graduate Council requirements.

Proficiency Examination

Students in the master's program may earn a maximum of nine hours by proficiency examination, with the exception of field practice courses. Students interested in proficiency examinations are referred to the Graduate Catalog statement describing the procedure for applying for examination.

REQUIREMENTS

- The program requires successful completion of a minimum total of 60 semester hours including completion of the foundation curriculum (30 hours) and 30 hours in one of the two concentrations (clinical social work practice or social welfare management and community practice).

- Students may select a thesis or non-thesis option. Students pursuing the thesis option receive six credit hours for successful completion.
- Students must successfully complete a comprehensive exam or thesis defense.
- Students must have an overall GPA of 3.0 or better on all graded courses and satisfactory performance in field.

Professional Foundation Curriculum

All students must complete 30 hours in the foundation curriculum consisting of 24 hours in foundation classroom courses and 6 hours in field practice. The foundation is the initial phase of the master's program. It contributes to the process of professional identification and presents a comprehensive, broad base of theory, knowledge and skills from which to practice. The foundation classroom courses include Foundations of Social Work Practice I, II and III; Human Behavior in the Social Environment I and II; Social Welfare Policy and Services; Social Work Research; and Social Work and Oppression. Students also complete a two-semester field placement, Field Practice (six hours). Upon successful completion of the foundation curriculum, all students must complete a minimum of 30 hours in the concentration curriculum including field practice (12 hours). Students select a concentration in clinical social work practice or social welfare management and community practice.

Field Practice

Field instruction is a critical component of the student's first- and second-year programs. Through cooperation with a wide range of social agencies and human service programs throughout Tennessee, the college is able to provide field placements in a variety of social work practice areas. The faculty works closely with the placement agencies and the field instructors to ensure that students have quality field practice experiences that meet the objectives of the core curriculum and the concentration.

The college uses a concurrent class and field plan. Students are in field two days per week during the first year and three days per week during the second year.

First-year agency placements are selected to provide practice experiences related to the foundation curriculum content. Within the placement, each student's experiences are planned and designed according to educational objectives.

Second-year placements are selected according to the student's area of concentration, individual career interests, and educational needs. The student actively participates with the field practice coordinator and the educational committee in selection of the second-year placement. The second-year field placement experience focuses on the integration of social work knowledge and values and emphasizes the acquisition and development of practice skills.

Students are responsible for meeting the requirements of their placement agencies in terms of office hours and workload coverage. This responsibility takes precedence over scheduled university breaks and may result in variations in holidays and office hours for the student.

Students receiving a grade of NC in field practice may not repeat the field practice.

Clinical Social Work Practice Concentration

The clinical social work practice concentration focuses on students developing expertise in clinical social work practice with client systems including individuals and small groups, particularly with clients from high-risk and vulnerable groups. The concentration emphasizes theoretical and empirical knowledge and practice skills in differential assessment, clinical interventions and practice evaluation. The concentration also emphasizes knowledge and skills directed toward (1) amelioration of complex psychosocial, interpersonal problems; (2) ethically sound and culturally sensitive practice; and (3) influencing the development of services and programs that are responsive to the needs of vulnerable, high-risk clients and groups.

Required courses are

- 521 Clinical Social Work Practice with Individuals (three hours)
- 525 Clinical Social Work Practice with Groups (three hours)
- 526 Evaluating Clinical Practice (three hours)
- 582-583 Field Practice (12 hours)
- Minimum of three (total of nine hours) advanced course electives as follows:
 - one or more from a pool of advanced clinical practice courses; one or more from a pool of advanced general courses

Social Welfare Management and Community Practice Concentration

The social welfare management and community practice concentration focuses on students' developing skills directed toward the management and analysis of complex service delivery needs within organizations and communities, knowledge and skills in the development of service intervention strategies to address such and related needs, and the organizational and management skills that enable practitioners to work in a variety of challenging and turbulent environments. The concentration emphasizes theory and skills related to leadership and administration and permits flexibility in tailoring a program to fit the student's individual interests, capabilities, and career goals.

Required courses are

- 541 Leadership and Management in Human Services (three hours)
- 543 Financial Management and Resource Development (three hours)
- 547 Evaluation Research (three hours)
- 582-583 Field Practice (12 hours)

Minimum of three (total of nine hours) advanced course electives as follows:

one course in advanced policy (three hours); two courses from a pool of advanced general courses (six hours),

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Social Work Major

The College of Social Work offers the Doctor of Philosophy with a major in social work.

The focus of social work education at the doctoral level is to foster the development of an attitude of scientific inquiry, knowledge of the scientific method, ability to extend the knowledge base of social work practice, and effective participation in leadership roles in social work education, research, and practice.

The emphasis of the doctoral program is upon

- The analysis of direct intervention and social administration and of the interrelationships among each of them and their social policy, organizational, and community contexts.
- Research-based knowledge to inform and guide social work practice, social policy, and social welfare program development.

The program consists of foundation courses, elective courses, and dissertation research. The courses are available only in Knoxville. Students and their committees can develop a plan for completing their research in Nashville and Memphis based on the availability of dissertation resources.

Students have the opportunity to work in the Children's Mental Health Services Research Center as part of their training. The center focuses on services to children who have experienced mental health problems associated with abuse, neglect, violence and a variety of psychosocial problems.

ADMISSION

The PhD program is designed for students who have completed a master's degree in an accredited school of social work and have post-master's social work/social welfare experience. Applicants who do not meet these requirements, but believe they have equivalent credentials should contact the Chair of PhD program for further information regarding admissions criteria.

Applications may be downloaded at www.csw.utk.edu/phd.

REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 66 hours beyond the master's degree including

- completion of 27 hours of required coursework
- completion of 15 credits of advanced electives, at least 12 of which are taken outside the department, and nine of those 12 related to the dissertation
- completion of at least 24 credit hours of dissertation research
- successful completion of qualifying and comprehensive examinations
- completion and defense of the dissertation

The curriculum of the PhD program consists of foundation coursework, electives, and dissertation research. The foundation curriculum consists of 27 hours of coursework in the history and philosophy of social work, issues in direct service and administration and planning, areas of practice, and research methodology and statistics. Upon this foundation, students and their academic committees develop a plan of study consisting of coursework in Social Work and other departments of the university.

Typically, the 24 hours of foundation curriculum are completed and elective coursework begun during the first year of study, Social Work 670 and the elective requirement are completed and dissertation research begun in the second year of study, and dissertation research is continued in the third year of study. While it is generally expected that the coursework will be completed on a full-time basis, dissertation research can be completed on a planned part-time basis.

Specific courses required are 601, 602, 612, 613, 640, 650, 670, and Statistics 531 and 532 or any two graduate level statistics courses approved by the doctoral program chair.

Examinations

All doctoral students are required to pass a qualifying examination and a comprehensive examination. The qualifying examination covers the foundation curriculum. The comprehensive examination is administered by members of the comprehensive exam committee and is designed for the student to demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the major and cognate areas and the dissertation topic. In case of failure of either examination, the student may request a retake. The result of the second examination is final.

Gerontology Minor

Graduate students in the College of Social Work, at the Knoxville location, may pursue a specialized minor in gerontology. This interdepartmental/interdisciplinary minor gives the student an opportunity for combining the knowledge about aging in American society with his/her major concentration. Please refer to the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences for specific requirements.

Graduate Certificate in Management and Community Practice

The College of Social Work offers a 15-credit hour graduate certificate designed for social workers desiring supervisory, management, administration and community practice training and education to enhance career advancement or career redirection. A master's degree in social work or a closely related field is required for admission.

Course requirements are 541, 543, 547, and two courses selected from 550, 551, 552, 555.