College of Social Work


Professors:
- Catherine Fawer, Ph.D. University of Michigan
- Gordon W. Fryer (Emeritus), Ed.D. Columbia University
- Chavita A. Gates, Ph.D. Washington University
- Ben P. Granger (Dean Emeritus), Ph.D. Bournes University
- Roger M. Hone, DSW Tulane University

Associate Professors:
- Thomas Courtright, DSW Tulane University
- Judith I. Fain, Ph.D. University of Tennessee
- Jeannette Jennings, Ph.D. University of Michigan
- William Nagler, Ph.D. Florida State University
- John Orme, Ph.D. Washington State; Frank J. Krokowski, MSW University of Tennessee

Assistant Professors:
- Paul M. Campbell, DSW University of Alabama
- Cynthia Rocha, Ph.D. Washington University
- William Nugent, Ph.D. University of Washington
- Mary Rogge, MSW, Washington University

Instructor:
- Mary Rogge, MSW, Washington University

Field Coordinator:
- Phyllis Betz, MSW, University of Tennessee

Social work is a helping profession which focuses on providing skilled intervention in the prevention and amelioration of individual and social problems. It is a challenging and rewarding career involving the application of knowledge, skills, and professional values to assist individuals, families, groups, and communities in reaching their potential. The primary objective of the undergraduate social work program is to prepare students for beginning social work practice. It is the purpose of the College to provide an education which fosters growth in both individual and career development.

The program prepares students for social work careers in such diverse areas as schools, youth programs, family service agencies, nursing homes, courts, mental health centers, and welfare agencies. The degree provides graduates a competitive advantage in many jobs, the possibility of up to one year's standing in some master's degree programs in social work, and the potential to be licensed in a number of states throughout the nation.

The social work curriculum builds on a strong liberal arts base. The humanities and the societal and institutional sciences are emphasized to help students understand human diversity and the transactions between people and their environment. The curriculum combines classroom experience and agency-based field placements. Courses provide a knowledge base in social work practice theory, human behavior, social welfare policy, and research. Educationally directed field placements, which consist of over 600 clock hours of supervised field instruction in agency settings throughout greater Knoxville, provide extensive and challenging opportunities for students to apply the lessons of the classroom to the problems of society. The program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

The undergraduate social work program (BSW) started in 1982 in the College of Liberal Arts. It was granted initial accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education in January 1983, and reaffirmation was given in 1988. The program was transferred to the College of Social Work in September 1985. The three programs, BSW, MSSW and Ph.D., in the College represent the full continuum of social work education.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

The College of Social Work offers a fully accredited two year graduate professional degree at the master's level (MSSW). The College also offers a graduate program leading to a Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work (Ph.D.). Information concerning graduate programs is given in the College of Social Work Bulletin and also in the Graduate Catalog. Masters Degree Programs are offered on the campuses in Knoxville and in Nashville and Memphis. The Ph.D. Program is offered in Knoxville.

GRADING POLICY

The satisfactory/credit option is not permitted in the major. The minimum acceptable grade for all social work courses is a C. Courses, other than field, in which a D or F is achieved may be repeated once. Field courses must be completed with a C or better, and may not be repeated.

A student receiving an incomplete (I) in any social work course must remove the incomplete before enrollment in subsequent field practice.

COURSE LOAD

The maximum credit hours per semester allowed for any student is 18. Special permission must be obtained for any over load.

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students admitted to the University may request a faculty advisor from the College of Social Work. Students in the College must...

*Initial and full progression is also determined by the number of supervised field practice days in social service agencies and classroom space. If the number of students who fulfill the above criteria exceeds the number of students that can be accommodated, students will be selected on the basis of cumulative GPA for courses completed. In a case of students having similar grade point averages at the cut-off point, the grades in the sophomore-level social work classes will be used.
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4. Favorable approval by the BSW faculty prior to entry into senior level classes. This process will include a review of the student’s performance in junior field practice.

Completion of fifty (50) clock hours in community service at one public/charitable social service agency. The community service is to take place after enrollment in a higher education institution and in the twenty-four month period prior to application for initial progression.

Full progression is based on the recognition that social work has an intensive field component in which students demonstrate aptitude and ability to work with other people. While review is ongoing, full progression provides an additional opportunity to review the students’ potential for entry-level practice.

FULL PROGRESSION*

1. Successful completion of junior level social work courses with a grade of C or better.

2. Cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above.

3. Successful completion of a minimum of 90 semester hours.

Full progression must be completed prior to enrollment in 400-level social work courses.

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The application requires an essay discussing the student’s interest in and preliminary understanding of the profession.

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