College of Social Work

Karen M. Sowers, Professor and Dean, Ph.D. Florida State University

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

Social Work Major

Social work is a helping profession which focuses on providing skilled intervention in the prevention and amelioration of individual and societal 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 mission of the undergraduate social work program is to develop generalist social workers who are strategic thinkers, life-long learners, and opinion shapers. It is the purpose of the College to provide an education which enhances individual and career development and fosters involvement on behalf of social and economic justice.

The program prepares students for social work careers in such diverse areas as schools, youth programs, family service agencies, nursing homes, courts, mental health, 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 social and behavioral 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 needs of society. The program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Professors
M. Cetingok, Ph.D. Washington University; C. Faver, Ph.D. University of Michigan; C.A. Glisson, Ph.D. Washington University; R.M. Nooe, DSW Tulane University; W. Nugent, Ph.D. Florida State University; J. Orme, Ph.D. Washington University; K.M. Sowers, Ph.D. Florida State University; J. Wodarski, Washington University

Associate Professors
P.M. Campbell, DSW University of Alabama; T. Combs-Orme, Ph.D. Washington University; D. Dupper, Ph.D. Florida State University; M. Egan, Ph.D. University of Maryland; T. Evans, Ph.D. University of Minnesota; C. Galambos, Ph.D. Catholic University; D.A. Patterson, Ph.D. University of Utah; C. Rocha, Ph.D. Washington University; M. Rogge, Ph.D. Washington University; F.J. Spicuzza, MSSW University of Tennessee; H. Vaughn, Ed.D. Memphis State University

Assistant Professors
B. Bride, Ph.D. University of Georgia; S. Bowie, Ph.D. Barry University; S. Cummings, Ph.D. University of Georgia; C. Davis, University of California (Los Angeles); V. DeCoster, Ph.D. Louisiana State University; C. Dulmus, Ph.D. SUNY-Buffalo; R. Ellis, Ph.D. Florida International University; T. Johnson, MSSW University of Texas (Austin); J. Jones, Ph.D. Clark-Atlanta University; S. MacMaster, Ph.D. Case Western Reserve University; M. Sullivan, Ph.D. University of Georgia; M. Staudt, Ph.D. Washington University; M. Theriot, MSSW University of Texas (Austin); G. Washington, MSSW Clark-Atlanta University

Field Coordinators
P. Betz, MSSW University of Tennessee; D. Bowers-Mitchell, MSSW University of Tennessee; P. Enochs, Ed.D. Tennessee State University; B. Thompson, MSWW University of Tennessee
The undergraduate social work program (BSSW) 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 1992 and 2001. The program was transferred to the College of Social Work in September 1985. The three programs, BSSW, MSSW and Ph.D., in the College represent the full continuum of social work education.

Facilities

The College of Social Work is housed in Henson Hall, located on the corner of Cumberland Avenue and Volunteer Boulevard on the UT campus. This building houses the administrative and faculty offices, along with classrooms for the BSSW, MSSW and Ph.D. programs. Video and computer resources are available to facilitate instruction.

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 campus in Knoxville and in Nashville and Memphis. The Ph.D. Program is offered in Knoxville.

Grading Policy

The satisfactory/no 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 19. Special permission is needed 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 move through Initial and Full Progression. The following factors identify progression criteria for all social work students:

Initial Progression

1. Successful completion of Social Work 200 and 250 with a grade of C or better.
2. Cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above.
3. Successful completion of a minimum of 60 semester hours.
4. Favorable review of the student’s application for entry into the junior level social work courses by the faculty admissions committee. The application requires an essay discussing the student’s interest in and preliminary understanding of the profession.
5. Completion of fifty (50) clock hours in community service at one public/private 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

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.
4. Full progression must be completed prior to enrollment in 400-level social work courses.
5. 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.

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.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Social Work

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<tr>
<th>Freshman</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 101, 102</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics 110 or Math 119</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology 101-102</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology 130</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Political Science 101</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Studies 220, 453, 375, or 382</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology 313; Classics 381; Classics 382; English 302; Geography 372; Geography 373; Geography 375; Geography 379; German 363; History 241-242 or 261-262; History 249; History 444; History 449; Political Science 350; Political Science 351; Religious Studies 332; Religious Studies 386; French 432; Sociology 446; Women’s Studies 360</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6</td>
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1. Educational Interpreting 223 - American Sign Language I (3), and 226 - American Sign Language II (3) will fulfill the foreign language requirement.

The following literature packages may be selected: Classics 253-254; English 201-202; English 221; two courses from English 231, 232, 233; Russian 221-222; Religious Studies 312-313.

One course selected from: Anthropology 313; Classics 381; Classics 382; English 302; Geography 372; Geography 373; Geography 375; German 363; History 320; History 360; History 361; History 374; Philosophy 326; Political Science 350; Political Science 351; Religious Studies 332; Religious Studies 386; French 432; Sociology 446; Women’s Studies 360.

Asian Studies 101-102 or History 255-256 or Medieval Studies 201-202.

Anthropology 312, Geography 363; History 444; History 449; Political Science 315; Religious Studies 351.

*Initial progression is also determined by the number of available field practice slots 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, the grades received in SW 200, 250, evaluation of community service, and writing skills demonstrated in the application essay.