SOCIAL WORK (BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK, B.S.W.)

Overview

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) prepares students for beginning generalist social work practice. Students will have multiple applied learning opportunities, including a semester long practicum, to prepare them to work in the field across a variety of social service settings. Students will be challenged to create a generalist skill set which includes, one-on-one, group, and community work, critical thinking, self-awareness, and communication. These skills are framed by the profession's core values of service, social justice, dignity and worth of all individuals, importance of relationships, integrity, and competence. The program offers a variety of electives for expanding a student's knowledge in specific practice areas.

Missouri Western's Social Work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Admission

The social work program operates under a selective admissions policy. Students are considered "pre-majors" until they meet the minimum requirements to be accepted as a social work major. Admission to the social work program involves the completion of an application packet. Minimum requirements for admission into the social work major include:

- Completion of the general studies math requirement (MAT 111 Introductory Statistics or MAT 111E Introductory Statistics preferred)
- Completion of SOC 230 Social Problems, PSC 101 American National Government, and ECO 101 Current Issues in the Economy
- Completion of BIO 101 Principles of Biology or equivalent
- Completion of ENG 108 College Writing and Research or ETC 200 Introduction to Technical Communication, SWK 250 Introduction to Social Work, SOC 110 Introduction to Sociology and PSY 101 General Psychology with a minimum grade of C in each course
- Must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.50
- Must have earned a C or better in all completed SWK prefix classes required for the major
- Must agree to and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with accepted professional social work practices and the current NASW Code of Ethics (see Social Work Student Handbook)
- Cannot have exhibited behavior (past or present) that will infringe on their present or future ability to adequately fulfill professional social work responsibilities.

Students typically complete the social work admissions process during the fall semester of the junior year when enrolled in SWK 330 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I/SWK 350 Social Work Practice I. Students must be accepted into the Social Work Program prior to beginning SWK 360 Social Work Practice II unless a student has spoken to the social faculty advisor and plans to submit his/her application concurrently with taking SWK 360 Social Work Practice II. Admission decisions are based on a student's academic performance, professional, personal and academic conduct, references, and responses to application and interview questions.

The Social Work Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, creed, ethnic or national origin, disability, political affiliation, or sexual orientation.

In accordance with Council of Social Work Education standards, MWSU does not grant academic credit, course waivers, or field practicum credit for previous life or work experiences.

Once admitted to the social work program, social work majors are expected to maintain professional and academic standards of conduct. The social work program at Missouri Western reserves the right to place a student on probationary status or remove a student from the major because of violations of these standards (see Social Work Student Handbook).

Requirements

Students who choose this bachelor degree program will have no more than 6 years from admission or subsequent declaration to meet the requirements listed below. If certification, accreditation or statutory requirements change and additional requirements become effective during this time, the new requirements take precedence.

Note: Students pre-admitted into the bachelor degree program (pre-major) have three years to meet admission requirements before moving to the overall 6 year time-frame allowed to complete the program requirements.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
General Studies		**42**
Students must complete General Studies courses (https://catalog.missouriwestern.edu/undergraduate/university-information/academic-standards-regulations/baccalaureate-degree/#bachelor-general-studies) [1]		
Major Requirements		**66**
SOC 230	Social Problems	3
SWK 250	Introduction to Social Work	4
SWK 320	Philosophy and Policy in Social Services I	3
SWK 330	Human Behavior and the Social Environment I	3
SWK 350	Social Work Practice I	4
SWK 360	Social Work Practice II	3
SWK 415	Social Work Practice III	4
SWK 420	Philosophy and Policy in Social Services II	3
SWK 430	Human Behavior and the Social Environment II	3
SWK 480	Practicum in Social Work	10
SWK 485	Social Work Practicum Seminar	2
Applied Learning Research Requirement		**9**
GBA 210	Business Statistics I	
or MAT 111	Introductory Statistics	
or MAT 111E	Introductory Statistics	
or PSY 300	Introductory Psychological Statistics	
CRJ 325	Understanding Research in Criminal Justice	
or SOC 460	Methods of Social Research	
SWK 470	Program Evaluation	

Diversity Requirement		**6**
SOC 400	Racial and Ethnic Relations	
Select three credit hours from the following:		
EDU 308	Multicultural Education	
EXS 222	Human Sexuality	
HIS 306	American Women's History	
HIS 308	African American History	
HIS 311	Race, Science, and Medicine in American History	
PSY 222	Psychology of Gender	
REL 150	Religions of the World	
SOC 325	World of Islam: People, Cultures & Societies	
SOC 330	The Family	
SOC 360	Sociology of Health, Illness and Medicine	
SOC 430	Criminology	
Restricted Electives		**9**
Select nine credit hours from the following:		
LAT 335	Interpersonal Conflict Resolution	
SWK 260	Introduction to Aging Studies	
SWK 270	Selected Topics in Social Work	
SWK 280	Mental Health and Social Work	
SWK 345	Substance Use and Disorders	
SWK 365	Death And Dying	
SWK 410	Family and Child Welfare	
SWK 425	Bridge to Practicum	
SWK 450	Independent Research/Project	
SWK 465	Advanced Research Project	

[1] Courses in general studies may also be required within the major. While the course(s) may satisfy both requirements, the credit hours will count only one time in the overall hours earned.

NOTE: Students are expected to meet the professional and academic standards of conduct.

Program Graduation Requirements

1. Earn a grade of C or higher in all SWK prefix coursework in the major.
2. Earn an overall GPA of at least 2.5 and a major GPA of at least 2.0.

University Graduation Requirements

1. Earn a minimum of 120 credit hours (100 level and higher, maximum of 6 continuing education credit hours applicable).
2. Earn a minimum of 30 credit hours in upper-division courses. Lower-division transfer courses accepted as meeting upper-division departmental course requirements cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.
3. Earn 30 of the last 45 credit hours at MWSU in institutional coursework (exclusive of credit by examination).
4. Participate in required departmental and campus wide assessments.
5. Fulfill the Missouri Constitution requirement.
6. Successfully pass the Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement exam.