

SOCIAL WORK MAJOR (M.S.W.)

Program of Study

The Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) prepares social work practitioners for advanced practice with individuals, families and groups in the areas of behavioral health practice and forensic social work. Graduates will be prepared to practice in a variety of behavioral health, substance abuse, or forensic settings.

The M.S.W. program is designed to help students achieve their maximum potential through a carefully structured curriculum of foundation and advanced courses. Students without an accredited undergraduate degree in social work are admitted to the regular 60 semester hour program that may be completed in four semesters.

Advanced standing is available to applicants who have graduated from an undergraduate accredited social work program within the past five years. Applicants for advanced standing must have earned a minimum 2.5 grade point average on the last 120 credits that appear on their bachelor's degree transcript, as well as a 3.0 on all social work courses.

Prerequisites for Admissions

Students seeking admission to the M.S.W. program must demonstrate that they:

- Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
- Have completed a broad liberal arts background with a minimum of 24 credit hours including at least one course in sociology, psychology, English, political science or history, statistics, and human biology. A course in introductory statistics is required. These undergraduate requirements may be taken at any accredited college or university, including community colleges. All prerequisites for admission must be completed prior to admission, except statistics and human biology, which must be completed by the end of the first semester in the program. All offers of admission are conditional upon the successful completion of the undergraduate coursework.
- Have earned a minimum of a 2.75 grade point average on the last 120 graded credits that appear on their bachelor's degree transcript, with no more than two C's in social work courses
- Meet the requirements for advanced standing if the applicant seeks admission to the Advanced Standing Program. Applicants for advanced standing must have graduated from an undergraduate social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education within the last five years. See additional requirements below.
- Have submitted transcripts of any completed graduate courses.
- Submit three letters of recommendation. The three professional letters of recommendation are usually from persons such as professors, employers, supervisors, professional colleagues and community associates. Only one reference may be from a Seton Hall University Social Work program faculty member. Applicants who have been employed in a social service agency should request a recommendation from a recent employer or supervisor. Student applicants should provide a recommendation from a faculty advisor or instructor.

- Submit a 3-5 page Personal Statement that includes the following: your reasons for applying to the Seton Hall University's Social Work Program; your personal values, philosophy, knowledge of social issues, and the professional and community experiences that have influenced your decision to enter the Social Work profession; your skills, strengths and weaknesses; and your plans for a career in social work. See next page for suggested Personal Statement Guidelines.

Provisional Admission

Provisional admission may be granted to applicants to the M.S.W. program who have a GPA below 2.75 on the last 120 graded credits that appear on their bachelor's degree transcript and have an otherwise strong application. Provisionally admitted applicants must complete one semester of graduate courses (at least two courses) with a GPA of 3.0.

Transfer Applicants

Under certain circumstances, students may receive a maximum of 30 semester hours for work completed not more than five years prior to first registration from a CSWE- accredited graduate school of social work and for which a grade of at least a B was received. No course, including any transfer course, may be counted toward a degree if it was completed more than seven full calendar years prior to the date of graduation.

Students must complete a minimum of 30 credits in the Seton Hall University Social Work program, to be eligible for the M.S.W.

Students currently or previously enrolled in another accredited master's level social work degree program who are seeking admission as a transfer students are required to submit the following additional materials directly to the Social Work Program Director via mail or email:

- A brief written statement describing the reasons why they are requesting a transfer.
- A copy of practicum/field work evaluation(s), if applicable.
- One of the three recommendations must be from a faculty member or field supervisor affiliated with the program.

Any student registered in the program who wants to take a course at another university and transfer credit toward the Seton Hall University Social Work M.S.W. (i.e., a summer course) must receive approval from the Social Work Program Director.

Advanced Standing

Applicants for advanced standing must submit the following material in addition to the usual application requirements:

- Transcripts documenting eligibility for advanced standing.
- Recommendation for advanced standing from the Social Work Department chair/director of the school in which they completed their Bachelor of Social Work.
- A detailed evaluation of their field instruction experience and performance by the agency supervisor or an evaluation of their field performance from the field department.

Progression Requirements

Students in the M.S.W. program may graduate with no more than six credits (typically two courses) in which they earn a C (three credits for advanced standing students). Students in the 60 credit M.S.W. program are allowed to repeat two courses one time during their program to improve their grade. Students who have begun the concentration

curriculum may not repeat a foundation course. Advanced standing students may repeat one course one time. Students who fail field courses must meet the Academic Standing Committee to discuss progression in the program. Students who have exceeded their allowable C credits and who have utilized their allowable course repeat option will be dismissed from the program regardless of their GPA. Students who receive any grade below a C and have utilized their allowable course repeat option will be dismissed from the program regardless of their GPA. Upon appeal, the Program Director may modify these constraints in exceptional circumstances.

In addition, students in the M.S.W. program must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0. If the GPA falls below 3.0, the student is placed on academic probation according to University policy.

Additional policies are found in the M.S.W. Graduate Student Handbook.

Life Experience Statement

No credit will be given for work or life experience.

Pending Legal Action and Conviction Statement

Persons who indicate on the application that they have pending legal action or convictions will be asked to supply documentation on the nature of the offense and the disposition. All students upon admission into field education are required to have background checks prior to client content.

Individuals admitted to the program who are facing pending legal action or convictions may have restrictions placed on the area of study and field placements they may pursue. In addition, some field placement agencies require a criminal background check.

Applicants are also advised that the Professional Standards Committee in their state of residence may refuse to issue a license or certificate of registration to any person who has been convicted of any crime in this or any other state. Applicants may be denied admission, or if enrolled, terminated, from the program if they have not been truthful or provided inaccurate information in the application.

Course of Study

The expected course of study for the regular full-time program requires two years of coursework and field education.

Students in the regular part-time program are expected to complete their course work and field education in four years. The expected course of study for full-time advanced standing students is one year of coursework and field education or two years for part-time advanced standing students. Admission occurs in the Fall semester for both full and part-time students and in the Spring semester for part-time students.

Incoming advanced standing students will be required to take a three-credit intensive course on the philosophical and ethical foundations of social work practice at the beginning of regular classes.

A grade point average of 3.0 is required for graduation.

To remain in good academic standing, graduate students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 for all graduate courses. Students in the regular program must complete two different field placements.

Eligible students who wish to enroll as non-degree graduate students (not formally admitted to a graduate degree program) are required to apply for non-matriculated status (this option is available on the standard graduate application) and may schedule up to three approved Foundation Level courses. These students may have official transcripts sent to the Admissions Office from the baccalaureate granting institution and all institutions attended for graduate study and register for classes with the Registrar's Office.

Regular Full-Time Curriculum

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
Foundation Year		
SOWK 6201	Social Problems and Programs	3
SOWK 6511	Behavior and Environments	3
SOWK 6611	Theory and Practice I	3
SOWK 6901	Theory and Practice II	3
SOWK 6811	Field I and Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
SOWK 6301	Social Policy Analysis	3
SOWK 6512	Theories of Behavior	3
SOWK 6812	Field II - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 6910	Research Method in Social Work	3
SOWK 6912	Theory and Practice III	3
Hours		15
Second Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Behavioral Health		
SOWK 7511	Mental Hlth - Psychopathology	3
SOWK 7512	Substance Abuse Theory	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
SOWK 7911	Substance Abuse Practice	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7513	Cultural Competence	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7912	Prevention Theory	3
SOWK 7913	Behavior Intervention for CHC	3
Hours		15
Third Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Forensic		
SOWK 7511	Mental Hlth - Psychopathology	3
SOWK 7611	Theory Pract Forensic Soc Wrk	3
SOWK 7612	Forensic Social Work	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7513	Cultural Competence	3
SOWK 7714	Forensic Social Work - Family	3
SOWK 7715	Forensic Soc Wrk - Civil Court	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		15
Total Hours		90

Regular Part-Time Curriculum

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
Foundation Year		
SOWK 6201	Social Problems and Programs	3
SOWK 6511	Behavior and Environments	3
Hours		6
Second Semester		
SOWK 6301	Social Policy Analysis	3
SOWK 6512	Theories of Behavior	3
Hours		6
Second Year		
First Semester		
Foundation Year		
SOWK 6611	Theory and Practice I	3
SOWK 6811	Field I and Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 6901	Theory and Practice II	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
SOWK 6812	Field II - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 6910	Research Method in Social Work	3
SOWK 6912	Theory and Practice III	3
Hours		9
Third Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year		
SOWK 7511	Mental Hlth - Psychopathology	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
Hours		6
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7513	Cultural Competence	3
Hours		6
Fourth Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Behavioral Health		
SOWK 7512	Substance Abuse Theory	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7911	Substance Abuse Practice	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7912	Prevention Theory	3
SOWK 7913	Behavior Intervention for CHC	3
Hours		9
Fifth Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Forensic		
SOWK 7611	Theory Pract Forensic Soc Wrk	3
SOWK 7612	Forensic Social Work	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
SOWK 7714	Forensic Social Work - Family	3
SOWK 7715	Forensic Soc Wrk - Civil Court	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		9
Total Hours		78

Advanced Standing Full-Time Curriculum

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Summer		
SOWK 7000	Advanced Standing Seminar	3
Hours		3
First Semester		
Behavioral Health		
SOWK 7511	Mental Hlth - Psychopathology	3
SOWK 7512	Substance Abuse Theory	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
SOWK 7911	Substance Abuse Practice	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7513	Cultural Competence	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7912	Prevention Theory	3
SOWK 7913	Behavior Intervention for CHC	3
Hours		15
Second Year		
First Semester		
Forensic		
SOWK 7715	Forensic Soc Wrk - Civil Court	3
SOWK 7611	Theory Pract Forensic Soc Wrk	3
SOWK 7612	Forensic Social Work	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7513	Cultural Competence	3
SOWK 7714	Forensic Social Work - Family	3
SOWK 7715	Forensic Soc Wrk - Civil Court	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		15
Total Hours		63

Advanced Standing Part-Time Curriculum

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
First Semester		
SOWK 7511	Mental Hlth - Psychopathology	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
Hours		6
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7513	Cultural Competence	3
Hours		6
Summer		
SOWK 7000	Advanced Standing Seminar	3
Hours		3
Second Year		
First Semester		
Behavioral Health		
SOWK 7512	Substance Abuse Theory	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7911	Substance Abuse Practice	3
Hours		9

Second Semester		
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7912	Prevention Theory	3
SOWK 7913	Behavior Intervention for CHC	3
Hours		9
Third Year		
First Semester		
Forensic		
SOWK 7611	Theory Pract Forensic Soc Wrk	3
SOWK 7612	Forensic Social Work	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
SOWK 7714	Forensic Social Work - Family	3
SOWK 7715	Forensic Soc Wrk - Civil Court	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		9
Total Hours		51

Spring Admission Curriculum – Part-time to Full-time

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Second Semester		
Foundation Year		
SOWK 6201	Social Problems and Programs	3
SOWK 6512	Theories of Behavior	3
Hours		6
Second Year		
First Semester		
Foundation Year		
SOWK 6301	Social Policy Analysis	3
SOWK 6511	Behavior and Environments	3
SOWK 6611	Theory and Practice I	3
SOWK 6811	Field I and Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 6901	Theory and Practice II	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
SOWK 6812	Field II - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 6912	Theory and Practice III	3
SOWK 6910	Research Method in Social Work	3
SOWK 7513	Cultural Competence	3
Hours		12
Third Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Behavioral Health		
SOWK 7511	Mental Hlth - Psychopathology	3
SOWK 7512	Substance Abuse Theory	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
SOWK 7911	Substance Abuse Practice	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7912	Prevention Theory	3
SOWK 7913	Behavior Intervention for CHC	3
Hours		12

Fourth Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Forensic		
SOWK 7715	Forensic Soc Wrk - Civil Court	3
SOWK 7611	Theory Pract Forensic Soc Wrk	3
SOWK 7612	Forensic Social Work	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7714	Forensic Social Work - Family	3
SOWK 7715	Forensic Soc Wrk - Civil Court	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		12
Total Hours		87

Spring Admission Curriculum – Part-time only

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Second Semester		
Foundation Year		
SOWK 6201	Social Problems and Programs	3
SOWK 6512	Theories of Behavior	3
Hours		6
Second Year		
First Semester		
Foundation Year		
SOWK 6301	Social Policy Analysis	3
SOWK 6511	Behavior and Environments	3
Hours		6
Second Semester		
SOWK 6910	Research Method in Social Work	3
SOWK 7513	Cultural Competence	3
Hours		6
Third Year		
First Semester		
Foundation Year		
SOWK 6611	Theory and Practice I	3
SOWK 6811	Field I and Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 6901	Theory and Practice II	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
SOWK 6812	Field II - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 6912	Theory and Practice III	3
Hours		6
Fourth Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Both Tracks		
SOWK 7511	Mental Hlth - Psychopathology	3
SOWK 7910	Clinical Evaluation	3
Hours		6
Second Semester		
SOWK 7201	Administration and Supervision	3
SOWK 7912	Prevention Theory	3
Hours		6
Fifth Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Behavioral Health		

SOWK 7512	Substance Abuse Theory	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7911	Substance Abuse Practice	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
SOWK 7913	Behavior Intervention for CHC	3
Hours		6
Sixth Year		
First Semester		
Concentration Year - Forensic		
SOWK 7611	Theory Pract Forensic Soc Wrk	3
SOWK 7612	Forensic Social Work	3
SOWK 7811	Field III - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		9
Second Semester		
SOWK 7714	Forensic Social Work - Family	3
SOWK 7715	Forensic Soc Wrk - Civil Court	3
SOWK 7812	Field IV - Integrated Seminar	3
Hours		9
Total Hours		78