Duluth Campus

Social Work M.S.W.

Social Work

College of Education and Human Service Professions

Link to a list of faculty for this program.

Contact Information:
Department of Social Work, 220 Bohannon Hall, 1207 Ordean Court, Duluth, MN 55812 (218-726-7245; fax: 218-726-7185)
Email: umdsw@d.umn.edu
Website: http://www.d.umn.edu/sw

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2022
- Length of program in credits: 34 to 51
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Master of Social Work

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the General Information section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The master's of social work (M.S.W.) program offers an advanced generalist practice curriculum that prepares students to practice in a variety of human service settings. Graduates undertake a variety of professional social work roles ranging from counselor and case manager to community organizer and administrator. The curriculum has a special focus on services to American Indians and their communities. In addition to the 51-credit generalist program, a 34-credit advanced generalist program is available to applicants with a bachelor of social work degree from a program accredited by the Council of Social Work Education. Students can complete additional coursework towards optional emphases in child welfare practice and clinical social work. Completion of the M.S.W. can satisfy all or a majority of clinical content hours for licensure.

Accreditation

This program is accredited by the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE).

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.00.

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree with a solid background in the liberal arts, including courses in cultural studies, and behavioral and social sciences.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:
Completion of at least 6 semester credits in two or more social science disciplines, such as sociology, psychology, economics, anthropology, or political science is required. Admitted applicants must complete a college-level biology course with content on human anatomical and physiological development or developmental psychology and a college-level statistics course. The biology/psychology course must be completed before registering for the first semester in the M.S.W. program, and the statistics course must be completed before registering for the first research course. Interested persons can apply and be admitted before completing the enrollment prerequisites.

Special Application Requirements:
Applicants should be knowledgeable about diverse cultures; social problems; social conditions; and the social, psychological, and biological determinants of human behavior. Applicants with undergraduate degree majors in social work or a related field or discipline are given preference over applicants with other majors. Applicants should show potential to contribute to the social work profession. Preference is given to applicants with professional experience in human service settings, particularly when this experience involves working with underrepresented and protected classes. Course credits are not awarded for non-academic or professional "life experience."

Applicants with a Bachelor of Social Work degree from a program accredited by the Council of Social Work Education are eligible for the Advanced Generalist Program.

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The following must be submitted through the online application: the Department's Supplemental Application form, a personal statement, a writing sample, and a resume. Three letters of recommendation are required on department's recommendation form. Generalist Program students are admitted in the fall semester only. Advanced Generalist Program students have the option of starting either in the summer or fall semester.

The UMD MSW program does not accept 4000 or 5000 level coursework at the pre-baccalaureate level to be applied to a graduate degree. Post-baccalaureate social work courses from a CSWE accredited program may be considered to meet generalist program requirements (waiving a course) or possible elective credits equivalent to a 5000 level, or at the discretion of the DGS. Courses can be completed as a non-degree seeking student. Courses must be taken for credit and an official grade received. Audited coursework will not be considered.

International and domestic applicants whose first language is not English must submit scores from one of the following tests.

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
  - Internet Based - Total Score: 79
  - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
  - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
- IELTS
  - Total Score: 6.5
  - Reading Score: 6.5
  - Writing Score: 6.5
- MELAB
  - Final score: 80

Key to test abbreviations(TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the General Information section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Plan C: Plan C requires 34 to 51 major credits and 0 to 6 credits outside the major.The is no final exam.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A minimum GPA of 3.00 is required for students to remain in good standing.

At least 1 semesters must be completed before filing a Degree Program Form.

The UMD Department of Social Work was designed to help students meaningfully integrate, on an ongoing basis, the knowledge and skills they acquire throughout the master's curriculum. Specialized papers on: professional competencies, social justice, ethical practice, and effective practice in working with diverse communities are integrated into specific course assignments. All MSW graduates must demonstrate competence in those learning areas believed to be key to quality master's-level social work practice, and in conjunction with standards identified by the Council on Social Work Education.

The Generalist Program requires two field placements in human service agencies; the Advanced Generalist Program requires one field placement. A level of personal and professional competencies is demonstrated by proficiency in social work courses and field placement evaluations.

All MSW students must complete a minimum of 20 Social Work Graduate credits through University of Minnesota CSWE accredited programs. This means admitted Generalist students can transfer in up to 31 credits from another CSWE accredited institution, provided they left that program in good standing. Students will be required to provide documentation, such as syllabi and official transcripts, to verify their coursework. It is the students responsibility to provide documentation as requested. Students are appraised that variations in credit content may not transfer equally to the UMD MSW degree requirements, and they may need to complete additional credits to meet minimum credit or field practicum requirements. Additionally, the UMD Department of Social Work is not responsible for determining clinical content hours as required for licensing for coursework completed at other programs.

All students must complete the CSWE minimum requirement for practicum hours. Transfer students from other institutions must provide a copy of their Field I practicum final evaluation and provide official documentation of hours completed. Field II practicum hours also require such documentation. The Field Director will review all documentation of practicum completion in determination of potential transfer of credits. It is the students responsibility to obtain these documents.

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Graduate credits earned while enrolled in another U of M graduate program may only be considered as potential elective courses. Up to 6 elective credits outside of Social Work may be approved by the DGS. Up to 3 additional elective credits outside of social work may be considered, but must be approved by the advisor and the DGS. The student must provide syllabi from the other graduate coursework for review by designated faculty in the Department of Social Work. The Department is not responsible for determining whether these electives would meet criteria for clinical content with regard to Clinical Social Work licensing requirements.

For students seeking a second graduate degree, the Department may consider up to 6-9 credits of elective courses, as previously noted, to apply to a degree in Social Work.

Advanced or Generalist Curriculum

Advanced Curriculum -Required (28 Credits)

Applicants with a bachelor of social work degree from a program accredited by the Council of Social Work Education may apply for the Advanced Generalist Program.

Advanced Generalist Concentration Courses (23 Credits)

SW 8802 must be taken for a total of 8 credits.
SW 8100 - Social Work with Diverse Populations (3.0 cr)
SW 8102 - Advanced Research (3.0 cr)
SW 8235 - American Indians and Social Policy (3.0 cr)
SW 8331 - Organization and Community Practice II (3.0 cr)
SW 8441 - Individual, Family and Group Practice II (3.0 cr)
SW 8802 - Field Placement II (3.0 - 8.0 cr)

Advanced Practice Course (3 Credits)

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling 3 or more credit(s) from the following:
•SW 8031 - Advanced Practice in Child Welfare (3.0 cr)
•SW 8332 - Advanced Practice in Administration and Community Development (3.0 cr)
•SW 8443 - Advanced Practice in Mental Health (3.0 cr)

Advanced American Indian Content Course (2 Credits)

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling 2 or more credit(s) from the following:
•SW 8771 - Health in American Indian Communities (2.0 cr)
•SW 8881 - Dynamics of American Indian Families (2.0 cr)

or **Generalist Curriculum - Required (48 Credits)**

Generalist Courses (20 Credits)

SW 8801 must be taken for 6 credits.
SW 5101 - Human Behavior in the Social Environment (3.0 cr)
SW 5201 - Social Welfare Policy (3.0 cr)
SW 8101 - Introduction to Research (2.0 cr)
SW 8111 - Individual, Family and Group Practice I (3.0 cr)
SW 8112 - Organization and Community Practice I (3.0 cr)
SW 8801 - Field Placement I (3.0 - 6.0 cr)

Advanced Generalist Concentration Courses (23 Credits)

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SW 8100 - Social Work with Diverse Populations (3.0 cr)
SW 8102 - Advanced Research (3.0 cr)
SW 8235 - American Indians and Social Policy (3.0 cr)
SW 8331 - Organization and Community Practice II (3.0 cr)
SW 8441 - Individual, Family and Group Practice II (3.0 cr)
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Advanced American Indian Content Course (2 Credits)

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling 2 or more credit(s) from the following:
•SW 8771 - Health in American Indian Communities (2.0 cr)
•SW 8881 - Dynamics of American Indian Families (2.0 cr)

Emphases

Only students with a bachelor of social work degree from a program accredited by the Council of Social Work Education who completed the Generalist Required courses listed above may apply for the Advance Generalist Program. They may also apply for the Clinical Scholars or Child Welfare Scholars Program. Generalist Students may apply for Child Welfare Scholars Program or for the Clinical Scholars program in their second year.

Advanced Generalist Program (6 cr)

With advisor approval students may take courses outside the Social Work department.

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Electives
Take 6 or more credit(s) from the following:
•SW 5xxx
•SW 8xxx

-OR-

Generalist Program (3 cr)
With advisor approval students may take courses outside the Social Work department.
Elective
Take 3 or more credit(s) from the following:
•SW 5xxx
•SW 8xxx

-OR-

Child Welfare Program (10 cr)
Students choosing this option complete SW 8031 for the Advance Practice Course.
SW 5032 - Child Welfare Practice, Policy and Profession (2.0 cr)
SW 5215 - Trauma Informed Social Work Practice with Children and Adolescents (3.0 cr)
SW 8031 - Advanced Practice in Child Welfare (3.0 cr)
SW 8771 - Health in American Indian Communities (2.0 cr)
or SW 8881 - Dynamics of American Indian Families (2.0 cr)

-OR-

Mental Health/Clinical Plan (11 cr)
Students choosing this option are advised to complete SW 8443 for the Advance Practice Course and SW 8070, Evidenced-Based Practice in Clinical Social Work.
SW 8070 - Evidence-Based Practice in Clinical Social Work (3.0 cr)
SW 8443 - Advanced Practice in Mental Health (3.0 cr)
SW 5144 - Grief, Loss and Coping in Social Work Practice (3.0 cr)
or SW 5280 - Substance Use Trends and Interventions in Social Work (3.0 cr)
or SW 5500 - Healthcare, Social Work, and Interdisciplinary Care (3.0 cr)
SW 8771 - Health in American Indian Communities (2.0 cr)
or SW 8881 - Dynamics of American Indian Families (2.0 cr)

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