



Twin Cities Campus

Social Work M.S.W.

School of Social Work

College of Education and Human Development

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

Contact Information:

School of Social Work, 105 Peters Hall, 1404 Gortner Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108 (612-625-1220; fax: 612-624-3744)

Email: swadmis@umn.edu

Website: <http://cehd.umn.edu/ssw>

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2018
- Length of program in credits: 34 to 53
- 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 MSW prepares students for advanced social work practice. A 53-credit program and a 34-credit advanced standing program are available. The curriculum offers concentrations in clinical mental health, families and children, health, disabilities and aging, or community practice.

Accreditation

This program is accredited by Council on Social Work Education.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

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

Prerequisites for Admission

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

A foundation in the liberal arts and one year of work experience in human services is preferred. Work experience may include paid, volunteer, and intern positions.

Special Application Requirements:

In order to apply, applicants are required to submit a specified personal statement, writing sample, resume, transcripts, and three letters of recommendation. All application instructions are posted on the School of Social Work website.

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 53 major credits and up to null credits outside the major. There 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 semester must be completed before filing a Degree Program Form.

The MSW requires 53 credits; a 34-credit advanced standing program is available to graduates of undergraduate social work programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. All credits for the MSW can be completed in two years of full-time study, or three years to four years of part-time study, and must be completed within five years of the date of the earliest coursework taken for the degree.



The 53-credit program includes a set of required foundation courses (19 cr), courses from a selected concentration, two field internships, and social work electives.

A maximum of 26 credits may be transferred from the following sources with School of Social Work approval: up to 8 credits as a non-degree-seeking student registered for social work graduate credit at the University of Minnesota; up to 26 credits from another regionally and professionally accredited school of social work if the student was registered as a graduate student in the program.

The 34-credit advanced standing program includes courses from a selected concentration, one field internship, and social work electives. A maximum of 16 credits may be transferred from the following sources with School of Social Work approval: 16 credits completed as a graduate student in another accredited MSW program; up to 6 credits as a non-degree-seeking student registered for social work graduate credit at the University of Minnesota.

Foundations Curriculum- Full Program (53 credit) Students

The 19-cr foundation curriculum is required for full program (53 cr) students. The foundation curriculum is waived for advanced standing students, unless required in a student's conditions of admission. Advanced standing students who receive a grade of B- or less in a BSW class that is comparable to one of our foundation classes may be asked to repeat that content in our MSW program. Students should take 5051 for 2 cr; 5101 for 3 cr; 8010 for 3 cr in fall; 3 cr in spring or 6 cr in summer.

Take exactly 19 credit(s) from the following:

- [SW 5051](#) - Human Behavior and the Social Environment (2.0 cr)
- [SW 5101](#) - Historical Origins and Contemporary Policies in Social Welfare (3.0 cr)
- [SW 8151](#) - Social Work Methods: Practice With Individuals and Systems (2.0 cr)
- [SW 8152](#) - Social Work Practice Methods: Families and Groups (2.0 cr)
- [SW 8153](#) - Social Work Practice Methods: Macro Practice and Organizations (2.0 cr)
- [SW 8154](#) *(Inactive)* (1.0 cr)
- [SW 8841](#) - Social Work Research Methods (2.0 cr)
- [SW 8010](#) - Seminar: Field Practicum I (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

Concentrations

Clinical Mental Health Concentration

Prepares students for advanced clinical social work practice with children, adults and families across diverse settings and populations. Students learn contextually based approaches to mental health diagnostic assessment, treatment and practice evaluation, with a strong focus on client systems experiencing significant mental health risk. In addition to the following requirements, students must complete 5 cr of electives at a minimum of 5000 level.

Anchor and Boost

[SW 8451](#) - Assessment and Engagement in Clinical Social Work Practice (3.0 cr)

[SW 8452](#) - Core Concepts in Clinical Social Work Practice (3.0 cr)

Concentration Electives

Students must take two courses/ 6 cr of concentration electives.

Take 6 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [SW 8352](#) - Intervention Methods with Families (3.0 cr)
- [SW 8461](#) - Advanced Clinical Social Work Practice with Adults (3.0 cr)
- [SW 8462](#) - Advanced Clinical Practice With Children and Adolescents (3.0 cr)
- [SW 8463](#) - Practice Interventions with Persons Who Experience Serious Mental Illness (3.0 cr)

Diversity

[SW 8821](#) - Social Work and Difference, Diversity and Privilege (2.0 cr)

Field Practicum and Advanced Evaluation

[SW 8020](#), Field Practicum II (6 cr) and [SW 8842](#), Advanced Social Work Evaluation (3 cr) must be taken concurrently. [SW 8842](#) must be taken for a total of 3 cr. The credits are split between fall and spring semesters. If a student registers for 2 cr in the fall, they must register for 1 cr in the spring and vice versa. Students taking [8842](#) in the summer register for 3 cr.

Advanced Standing students will take [SW 8030](#) concurrently with [SW 8842](#).

[SW 8020](#) - Field Practicum II (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

with [SW 8842](#) - Advanced Social Work Evaluation (1.0 - 3.0 cr)

Advanced Policy

[SW 8806](#) - Health and Mental Health Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8807](#) - International and Comparative Social Welfare Policy (3.0 cr)

2nd Focus Anchor

Students must choose one course.

[SW 8251](#) - Social Work Practice in Health, Disabilities, and Aging (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8351](#) - Assessment and Engagement with Families and Children (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8551](#) - Advanced Community Practice: Assessment, Organizing, and Advocacy (3.0 cr)

-OR-

Community Practice Concentration



Concentration prepares students to improve the effectiveness and responsiveness of human service systems to mobilize groups for social change, and to serve as catalysts for sustainable development and social justice. Students are prepared to fill a variety of community practice roles-leaders, planners, policy advocates, community organizers, mediators, evaluators and agency administrators in a range of settings. In addition to the following requirements, students must complete 5 cr of electives.

Anchor and Boost

[SW 8551](#) - Advanced Community Practice: Assessment, Organizing, and Advocacy (3.0 cr)

[SW 8552](#) - Advanced Community Practice: Leadership, Planning, and Program Development (3.0 cr)

Concentration Electives

Students must take two courses/ 6 cr of concentration electives.

Take 6 or more credit(s) from the following:

• [SW 5562](#) - Global Social Work and Social Development (3.0 cr)

• [SW 8561](#) (~~Inactive~~) (3.0 cr)

• [SW 8563](#) - Advanced Policy Advocacy (3.0 cr)

Diversity

[SW 8821](#) - Social Work and Difference, Diversity and Privilege (2.0 cr)

Field Practicum and Advanced Evaluation

[SW 8020](#), Field Practicum II (6 cr) and [SW 8842](#), Advanced Social Work Evaluation (3 cr) must be taken concurrently. [SW 8842](#) must be taken for a total of 3 cr. The credits are split between fall and spring semesters. If a student registers for 2 cr in the fall, they must register for 1 cr in the spring and vice versa. Students taking [8842](#) in the summer register for 3 cr.

Advanced Standing students will take [SW 8030](#) concurrently with [SW 8842](#).

[SW 8020](#) - Field Practicum II (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

with [SW 8842](#) - Advanced Social Work Evaluation (1.0 - 3.0 cr)

Advanced Policy

[SW 8804](#) - Child Welfare Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8805](#) - Aging and Disability Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8806](#) - Health and Mental Health Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8807](#) - International and Comparative Social Welfare Policy (3.0 cr)

2nd Focus Anchor

[SW 8251](#) - Social Work Practice in Health, Disabilities, and Aging (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8351](#) - Assessment and Engagement with Families and Children (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8451](#) - Assessment and Engagement in Clinical Social Work Practice (3.0 cr)

-OR-

Families and Children Concentration

Prepares students to work with families and children in a range of settings and organizations, as well as influence relevant organizational structures and policies. Students will be able to identify protective supports and develop interventions that mediate risk and promote resilience. In addition to the following requirements, students must complete 5 cr of electives at a minimum of 5-000 level.

Anchor and Boost

[SW 8351](#) - Assessment and Engagement with Families and Children (3.0 cr)

[SW 8352](#) - Intervention Methods with Families (3.0 cr)

Concentration Electives

Students must take two courses/ 6 cr of concentration electives.

Take 6 or more credit(s) from the following:

• [SW 8361](#) - Identification and Assessment of Family Violence (3.0 cr)

• [SW 8363](#) - Social Work in Child Welfare (3.0 cr)

• [SW 8462](#) - Advanced Clinical Practice With Children and Adolescents (3.0 cr)

Diversity

[SW 8821](#) - Social Work and Difference, Diversity and Privilege (2.0 cr)

Field Practicum and Advanced Evaluation

[SW 8020](#), Field Practicum II (6 cr) and [SW 8842](#), Advanced Social Work Evaluation (3 cr) must be taken concurrently. [SW 8842](#) must be taken for a total of 3 cr. The credits are split between fall and spring semesters. If a student registers for 2 cr in the fall, they must register for 1 cr in the spring and vice versa. Students taking [8842](#) in the summer register for 3 cr.

Advanced Standing students will take [SW 8030](#) concurrently with [SW 8842](#).

[SW 8020](#) - Field Practicum II (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

with [SW 8842](#) - Advanced Social Work Evaluation (1.0 - 3.0 cr)

Advanced Policy

[SW 8804](#) - Child Welfare Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8805](#) - Aging and Disability Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8806](#) - Health and Mental Health Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8807](#) - International and Comparative Social Welfare Policy (3.0 cr)

2nd Focus Anchor

[SW 8251](#) - Social Work Practice in Health, Disabilities, and Aging (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8451](#) - Assessment and Engagement in Clinical Social Work Practice (3.0 cr)



or [SW 8551](#) - Advanced Community Practice: Assessment, Organizing, and Advocacy (3.0 cr)

-OR-

Health, Disability and Aging Concentration

Prepares students to work with people affected by distinct and interconnected issues related to health, disability and aging. Students are prepared to work in a variety of settings such as hospitals, primary care clinics, residential care facilities, hospice, community-based programs, and in policy and advocacy organizations. In addition to the following requirements, students must complete 5 cr of electives at a minimum of 5000 level.

Anchor and Boost

[SW 8251](#) - Social Work Practice in Health, Disabilities, and Aging (3.0 cr)

[SW 8261](#) - Advanced Social Work Practice in Health Care (3.0 cr)

Concentration Electives

Students must take two courses/ 6 cr of concentration electives.

Take 6 or more credit(s) from the following:

• [SW 8262](#) - Empowerment Practice With Persons With Disabilities (3.0 cr)

• [SW 8263](#) - Essential Skills and Perspectives for Working with Older Adults (3.0 cr)

• [SW 8463](#) - Practice Interventions with Persons Who Experience Serious Mental Illness (3.0 cr)

Diversity

[SW 8821](#) - Social Work and Difference, Diversity and Privilege (2.0 cr)

Field Practicum and Advanced Evaluation

SW 8020, Field Practicum II (6 cr) and SW 8842, Advanced Social Work Evaluation (3 cr) must be taken concurrently. SW 8842 must be taken for a total of 3 cr. The credits are split between fall and spring semesters. If a student registers for 2 cr in the fall, they must register for 1 cr in the spring and vice versa. Students taking 8842 in the summer register for 3 cr.

Advanced Standing students will take SW 8030 concurrently with SW 8842.

[SW 8020](#) - Field Practicum II (1.0 - 6.0 cr)

with [SW 8842](#) - Advanced Social Work Evaluation (1.0 - 3.0 cr)

Advanced Policy

[SW 8805](#) - Aging and Disability Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8806](#) - Health and Mental Health Policy (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8807](#) - International and Comparative Social Welfare Policy (3.0 cr)

2nd Focus Anchor

[SW 8351](#) - Assessment and Engagement with Families and Children (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8451](#) - Assessment and Engagement in Clinical Social Work Practice (3.0 cr)

or [SW 8551](#) - Advanced Community Practice: Assessment, Organizing, and Advocacy (3.0 cr)

Joint- or Dual-degree Coursework: MSW/MPH, MSW/MPP, and MSW/MURP Student may take a total of 22 credits in common among the academic programs.