



# Social Work

The social work profession is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. It addresses a variety of human needs and conditions in the context of complex personal and social situations, and promotes the positive use of resources. Social work settings include rural, suburban, and urban communities in public or private social service agencies, such as county social service agencies, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, residential youth programs, domestic abuse and sexual assault programs, adult day care, hospice, chemical dependency agencies, mental health organizations, family counseling programs, correctional programs, adoption and foster care agencies, and community outreach and social justice programs.

The Social Work Program emphasizes culturally responsive generalist social work practice and promotes an understanding of human interactions within the social environment. Content areas include social work values and ethics; diversity; promotion of social and economic justice; human behavior in the social environment, social welfare policy and services, social work practice with individuals, groups and communities; research; field placements; and a trauma-informed practice perspective. Graduates of the program are prepared for entry-level social work practice and for graduate study.

## Accelerated Master's Degree

As a graduate of BSU's Social Work Program, students may qualify for advanced standing in an accredited Master of Social Work (MSW) program. Advanced standing is a graduate program designed for students who have earned a bachelor's degree in social work from a university with a CSWE (Council of Social Work Education) accredited program, such as Bemidji State University with a GPA of 3.0 or higher (requirements vary). Advanced standing MSW programs typically take just one year to complete instead of two for students without a social work undergraduate degree.

The Social Work program offers a number of special activities and opportunities, including the following:

- Child Welfare Scholars Program -- stipends
- Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) certification courses Program Report
- Addictions Minor
- Mexico Consortium -- Social Work in a Latin American Context
- Social Work Program Field Expeditions
- Social Work Club

Addictions: The Social Work program offers both a minor and Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor certification coursework. The 18-credit Addictions minor provides students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge in addictions, but does not prepare students for educational eligibility for Alcohol and Drug Counselor licensure (LADC) application. The certificate in Chemical Dependency requires a four-year degree, 270 hour classroom training, and an 880 hour internship required for LADC application.

## Licensure

For graduates with a social work degree, a license is required by law if you provide social work services as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 148E.010, subdivisions 6 or 11, or use the title social worker, unless you are employed by a county or a federally recognized tribe.

- A license may still be required even if the employer does not require a

license, the job does not require direct client contact, or if the job title is not social worker

- Only the Board of Social Work has the authority to determine whether a person is engaged in social work practice and must be licensed
- Check with the MN Board of Social Work for more information about when a license is required

The Minnesota Board of Social Work offers four levels of licensure. Graduates of Bemidji State University will apply for the LSW level of licensure.

Licensed Social Worker (LSW) - May engage in generalist social work practice: must be supervised by another social worker for the equivalent of two years of full-time practice. The LSW requires:

- Graduation with a Baccalaureate or Master's Degree from an accredited social work program, such as Bemidji State University;
- Social workers must pass the national, multiple-choice examination provided by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB).
- Licensure by the Board of Social Work;
- Tribal and county-employed social workers are exempt from this licensure requirement.

**School Social Worker Licensure** – To practice school social work in Minnesota, the following are required:

- Graduation with a Baccalaureate or Master's Degree from an accredited social work program, such as Bemidji State University;
- Social workers must pass the national, multiple-choice examination provided by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)
- Licensure by the Board of Social Work;
- Licensure at Tier 3 by the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

**Supervised Practice:** Supervision means a professional relationship between a licensing supervisor and a social worker in which the licensing supervisor provides evaluation and direction of the services provided by the social worker to promote competent and ethical services to clients through the continuing development of the social workers knowledge, skills, and values.

A minimum of 4,000 hours of supervised practice is required for the LSW after the license is issued.

- LSW: Minnesota Statutes, Section 148E.100

Social Worker Licensing Supervisor must be an LSW; LGSW; LISW; or LICSW; and have completed 30 hours of training in supervision.

Supervision is a one-time requirement for LSW and must include:

- 100 hours of supervision over 4,000 hours of practice at the rate of 4 hours of supervision for every 160 hours of practice
  - 50 hours must be provided through one-on-one supervision, and
  - a minimum of 25 hours of in-person supervision, and
  - no more than 25 hours of supervision via eye-to-eye electronic media while maintaining visual contact, excluding e-mail
  - Remaining 50 hours must be provided through:
    - one-on-one supervision, or
    - group supervision (limited to 6 supervisees)
    - supervision may be in-person, by telephone, or via eye-to-eye electronic media while maintaining visual contact, excluding email

Minnesota Board of Social Work  
2829 University Avenue SE, Suite 340  
Minneapolis, MN 55414-3239  
Toll free: 888-234-1320  
Email: [social.work@state.mn.us](mailto:social.work@state.mn.us)  
Web: <https://mn.gov/boards/social-work/>

**Alcohol and Drug Counselor (Minnesota Health Department, Health Occupations Program):** An applicant for Alcohol and Drug Counselor licensure (LADC) in Minnesota must have completed a four-year degree, 270 hours of classroom training, and an 880 hour internship in the field as well as pass written and oral licensure tests. (See Addictions Minor and Certificate sections for contact information.)

**School Social Work Preparation and Licensure:** The Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board issues licensure for school social workers. A school social worker is authorized to provide social work services to prekindergarten through grade 12 students in a school setting. Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board school social worker licensure is not authorization to practice as a social worker in a school setting without current Board of Social Work licensure to practice as a social worker.

The Social Work faculty encourages students to take additional courses in education along with SOWK 3620 School Social Work to be well prepared for school social work practice.

#### Application Process:

A school social worker is required to obtain a Tier 3 license through the MN Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board. A Tier 3 license issued under part 8710.0313 must be issued to a school social worker if the applicant:

- holds a baccalaureate or master's degree; and
- is currently licensed in Minnesota to practice as a social worker under the Board of Social Work.
- Note: social workers are not required to pass the MTLE content and pedagogy exams for tier 3 licensure.

**Maintaining Licensure:** In order to retain licensure as a school social worker, current Minnesota Board of Social Work licensure must be maintained at all times. Lapse of Board of Social Work licensure is grounds for revocation of the school social worker license.

Graduates will apply online with the Minnesota Professional Educator and Standards Board.

Go to: <https://mn.gov/pelsb/aspiring-educators/apply/>

#### Programs

- Social Work, B.S. *major*
- Addictions *minor*
- Addictions *cert*

#### Career Directions

At Bemidji State University, we recognize that social work is a critical link to the health and well-being for individuals, families, and society. We prepare students to be licensed professionals, prepared to work in direct practice with children or adults, groups and organizations, and as advocates for policies to advance the common good. Our students and faculty are committed to social justice and helping people make positive changes in their lives and communities.

Social workers are found in every facet of community life, including schools, hospitals, mental health clinics, senior centers, elected office, private practices, prisons, military, corporations, and in numerous public and private agencies. Some social workers conduct research, advocate for improved services, engage in systems design or are involved in planning or policy development. Many social workers specialize in serving a particular population or working in a specific setting. Some social work specializations focus on particular demographics, like people who are:

- Aging
- Children and families
- Developmentally disabled
- LGBTQ2S
- Terminally ill
- Veterans and active military
- Women and girls

Other social workers specialize in essential functions, like:

- Addiction & recovery
- Administration and human services management
- Advocacy and community organization
- Case management
- Child welfare
- Community organizing
- Crisis intervention
- Health care & medical social work
- International social work
- Military social work
- Policy & planning
- Restorative justice & corrections
- School social work
- Social justice advocacy
- Substance use disorders
- Trauma and disaster relief

**Clinical Social Work:** A Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from an accredited program paves the way to becoming licensed as a clinical social worker in addition to the practice areas mentioned above. Within the mental health professions, clinical social workers are trained not only to practice counseling and therapy, but to examine and integrate entire systems to support their clients. Having the mental health training prepares social workers to maximize their potential impact on their clients, their communities and their careers.

Clinical social work is a rapidly expanding profession, with many areas of practice expected to grow by almost 20 percent in the next decade. High-growth areas include:

- Aging / Gerontology
- Child / Family / School
- Health Care
- Immigrant / Refugees
- Military / Veterans

- Mental Health & Substance Abuse

Clinical licensure is increasingly preferred or required for master's-level social work roles, even those that do not include direct treatment/therapy. Our BSW program prepares students for advanced standing in a clinical social work program, paving the way for degree completion in just one year instead of two, maximizing their advancement toward clinical career opportunities.

Also: Graduate Study

### Preparation

Recommended High School Courses

Psychology  
Human Development  
Biology  
Social Science  
Sociology Health  
Careers

## Social Work, B.S. *major*

A total of 120 semester credits are needed for the **Social Work B.S.** degree and include the following:

- Completion of a minimum of 40 upper division credits (level 3000/4000)
- Completion of all required major credits
- Completion of Core Curriculum credits (Minnesota Transfer Curriculum [MnTC] Goal Areas 1-10 with a minimum of 40 credits) required for all baccalaureate degrees
- Completion of BSU Focus and Nisidotaading Course Requirements

### Dual Degrees

Students wishing to complete two degrees concurrently, (example: Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts) must complete a minimum of an additional 30 credits above the required 120 credits.

### Multiple Credentials

Any additional major, minor or certificate in a degree must have at least 6 credits of course work not used to meet the requirements of another major, minor or certificate in the degree.

Required Credits: 70

Required GPA: 2.50

All individual social work courses must reflect a letter grade of a C or better. Prospective students may apply for admission to the Social Work Program during their sophomore year or when nearing completion of their liberal education coursework. Students are encouraged to enroll in supporting foundation courses as part of their liberal education coursework. In addition, students must either have completed or enrolled in three pre-BSW program courses during the semester of application. All individual social work courses must reflect a letter grade of C or better and an overall social work GPA of 2.50 or better.

## I SUPPORTING FOUNDATION COURSES

Complete the following courses:

- BIOL 1110 Human Biology (4 credits)
- POL 1200 Introduction to American Politics (3 credits)
- PSY 1100 Introductory Psychology (4 credits)
- PSY 2217 Psychopathology and Wellness (4 credits)
- SOWK 2110 Intercultural Communication (3 credits)

Select 1 of the following courses:

- CRJS 3201 Research Methods and Statistics for Criminal Justice (3 credits)
- PSY 3401 Basic Statistics for Research (4 credits)
- SOC 3001 Quantitative Research Methods in the Social Sciences (3 credits)

## II PRE-BSW ADMISSION COURSES

Complete the following courses prior to or during the semester of application for admission to the BSW program:

- SOWK 2120 Introduction to Social Welfare (3 credits)
- SOWK 2140 Field Experience in Social Work (3 credits)

Select 1 of the following diversity courses:

- COMM 3150 Gender Communication (3 credits)
- ENVR 3600 Environmental Justice and Sustainability (3 credits)
- GWS 3850 Sex, Gender and Power: Theories and Practice (3 credits)
- HST 2700 The History of World Religions (3 credits)
- INST 1107 Introduction to Turtle Island (3 credits)
- INST4900
- SOC 2230 Race and Ethnic Relations (3 credits)
- SOC 3320 Social Class and Inequality (3 credits)
- SOC 4270 Intersectionality (3 credits)

## III BSW PROGRAM COURSES

Complete the following after being accepted into the

## Social Work Program

- SOWK 2130 Interpersonal Relations (3 credits)
- SOWK 2160 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (3 credits)
- SOWK 3160 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II (3 credits)
- SOWK 3201 Family: Dynamics and Intervention (3 credits)
- SOWK 3260 Social Welfare Policy (3 credits)
- SOWK 3551 Generalist Practice I (3 credits)
- SOWK 3552 Generalist Practice 2 (3 credits)
- SOWK 3553 Generalist Practice 3 (3 credits)
- SOWK 4450 Social Work Research Seminar (3 credits)
- SOWK 4880 Internship Orientation (1 credit)

Complete the following course for 12 credits after successful completion of all BSW program courses with a C or higher and major GPA of 2.5 or higher:

- SOWK 4970 Internship (6-12 credits)  
(Complete for 12 credits)

### Program Learning Outcomes | Social Work, B.S.

1. Apply & communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice.
2. Apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients.
3. Demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and oral, written and electronic communication.
4. Make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, and additional codes of ethics.
5. Present self as learners and engage clients and constituencies of their own experiences.
6. Use reflection & self-regulation to manage personal values & maintain professionalism in practice situations.
7. Use supervision & consultation to guide decision-making behavior.

## Addictions *minor*

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### Multiple Credentials

Any additional major, minor or certificate in a degree must have at least 6 credits of course work not used to meet the requirements of another major, minor or certificate in the degree.

Required Credits: 20

Required GPA: 2.50

### REQUIRED COURSES

#### COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- CHEM 2130 Chemistry of Drugs (3 credits)
- PSY 1100 Introductory Psychology (4 credits)
- PSY 2217 Psychopathology and Wellness (4 credits)
- SOWK 2030 Introduction to Addictions (3 credits)
- SOWK 3201 Family: Dynamics and Intervention (3 credits)

- SOWK 3330 Assessment and Treatment of Addictions (3 credits)

## Addictions *cert*

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### Multiple Credentials

Any additional major, minor or certificate in a degree must have at least 6 credits of course work not used to meet the requirements of another major, minor or certificate in the degree.

Required Credits: 51

Required GPA: 2.50

### REQUIRED COURSES

Complete the following courses:

- SOWK 2270 Drugs, Brain and Behavior (3 credits)  
*or* CHEM 2130 Chemistry of Drugs (3 credits)
- PSY 1100 Introductory Psychology (4 credits)
- PSY 2217 Psychopathology and Wellness (4 credits)
- SOWK 2030 Introduction to Addictions (3 credits)
- SOWK 3201 Family: Dynamics and Intervention (3 credits)
- SOWK 3330 Assessment and Treatment of Addictions (3 credits)
- SOWK 4887 Addictions Certificate Internship Orientation (1 credit)

Select 1 of the following courses:

\*\*Social Work majors must take SOWK 3551 Generalist Practice I (3 credits)  
\*\*Criminal Justice majors take CRJS 3380 Probation and Parole (3 credits)  
\*\*All other majors take PSY 3332 Multicultural Counseling Skills (4 credits) or CRJS 3380 Probation and Parole (3 credits)

- SOWK 3551 Generalist Practice I (3 credits)
- PSY 3332 Multicultural Counseling Skills (4 credits)
- CRJS 3380 Probation and Parole (3 credits)

Select 1 of the following courses:

\*\*Social Work majors must take SOWK 3552 Generalist Practice 2 (3 credits)  
\*\*Criminal Justice majors take CRJS 4487 Principles of Criminal Justice Supervision (3 credits)  
\*\*All other majors take PSY 3337 Group Processes (4 credits) or CRJS 4487 Principles of Criminal Justice Supervision (3 credits)

- SOWK 3552 Generalist Practice 2 (3 credits)
- PSY 3337 Group Processes (4 credits)
- CRJS 4487 Principles of Criminal Justice Supervision (3 credits)

Complete the following courses for 24 credits after successful completion of addiction program courses with a C or higher and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher:

- SOWK 4970 Internship (6-12 credits)  
*or* CRJS 4970 Internship (6-12 credits)
- SOWK 4971 Addictions Certificate Internship I (6-12 credits)
- SOWK 4972 Addictions Certificate Internship II (6-12 credits)

## Social Work Courses

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### **SOWK 2030 Introduction to Addictions (3 credits)**

This is an introductory course that provides an overview of the addictions field including: theories of substance abuse counseling, the continuum of substance abuse, ethical and legal issues in substance abuse counseling, assessment and diagnosing of substance use disorders, and the diverse treatment options available to clients. A clear emphasis will be placed on the necessity of treating each client with dignity and respect through a multicultural, strengths-based approach along with client advocacy being central to an addiction professional's role. The current and emerging substance abuse paradigm of evidence-based practices and respectful community collaboration with other fields including health care and criminal justice will be discussed.

### **SOWK 2110 Intercultural Communication (3 credits)**

Designed to enable students to develop awareness, knowledge and skills for sensitive and effective intercultural communication on the international scene as well as with core-cultures in America. The course is particularly useful for students who are preparing to work with cultures other than their own, including: the human services field, business, marketing, languages, pre-professional programs and others. [Core Curriculum Goal Area(s) 7A & 8]

### **SOWK 2120 Introduction to Social Welfare (3 credits)**

Introduces students to American social welfare institutions, the social problems with which these institutions deal, and the profession of social work. Considerable attention is paid to the historical and philosophical bases of various types of social welfare services. Other topics emphasized include the intervention methods used by social workers and the special needs of oppressed groups in the society. The final section of the course deals with the career paths in social work.

### **SOWK 2130 Interpersonal Relations (3 credits)**

This course prepares students for the interpersonal relationship skills necessary for the effective use of self as a practitioner. Major course topics include building and maintaining relationships through emotional intelligence and compassionate communication; societal and interpersonal determinants of relationships including cultural, and positive personal identity; and needs and characteristics of healthy relationships and their impacts on professional relationships. Prerequisite: Admission to the Social Work program.

### **SOWK 2140 Field Experience in Social Work (3 credits)**

Provides students with their first practical experience in the field of social work and introduces them to basic theoretical models used in social work practice, including generalist approach, ecosystems, cultural competence, and human diversity.

### **SOWK 2160 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (3 credits)**

Designed to enable students to explain and assess individual, family, and group system behavior as generalist social work practitioners, utilizing the cultural competence continuum and a strengths perspective within an ecosystems approach across the following dimensions: biological, spiritual, psychological, cognitive, socioeconomic, cultural, aesthetic, and gender. Examines traditional and alternate theories of development across the life span of individual, family, and group systems. Attention is given to the influence of paradigms on shaping human behavior. This is the first course in a two-course combination in HBSE, providing the foundation for HBSE II. Prerequisites: BIOL 1110, PSY 1100, and admission to the Social Work program.

### **SOWK 2270 Drugs, Brain and Behavior (3 credits)**

This course has a clinical focus with a practical orientation where students will be able to examine relevant facts and fictions about psychotropic medications, articulate the basics of psychopharmacology and assist individuals with medication-related concerns. The course will begin with a brief overview of psychotropic medications, to include the historical, sociopolitical, economic and ethical context of their administration. Our emphasis will be on actively and assertively helping individuals with their concerns regarding their medications using a range of approaches, techniques and strategies in collaboration with their families and providers. Lastly, we will discuss the language of the field and practice articulating with clients, families, and other providers the basics of psychopharmacology.

### **SOWK 2500 Mindfulness and the Art of Living: Exploring Personal and Professional Prac (3 credits)**

This course combines scholarly knowledge and experiential learning with an emphasis on process. The content examines the use of mindfulness-based practices (e.g., journaling, meditation, movement, art, listening) for professional and personal self-awareness, interventions, ethical practice, resilience, and self-care. Additional course content includes the intersection of mindfulness and values of dignity, relationships, service, social justice, integrity, and competence. Opportunities to experience practices that engage the mind, body, and spirit as well as understanding their value are an integral part of the course.

### **SOWK 3160 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II (3 credits)**

Designed to enable students to explain and assess group, organization, and community behavior/life span from an eco-systems perspective using a generalist social work practice approach. Students integrate the cultural competence continuum and the strengths perspective across the diversity dimensions of large human systems: group, organization, community, and society. Students also critically consider and examine models of large system development - group, organization, and community - as well as the relationships and interconnections between and among micro and macro systems. Prerequisites: POL 1200 and SOWK 2160.

### **SOWK 3201 Family: Dynamics and Intervention (3 credits)**

Introduction to knowledge, skills, and values related to working with families as small groups. Students learn and apply tools integral to assessment and intervention strategies of generalist social work practice with families, including the strengths perspective, human diversity framework, family systems, cultural competence, and the ecosystems approach. Students critically examine family systems, elements of family well being, level of need and intervention models, ethics, and practice implications particularly related to contemporary social welfare issues. Prerequisite: SOWK 2160 for majors, PSY 1100 for nonmajors.

### **SOWK 3260 Social Welfare Policy (3 credits)**

Students develop an understanding of the history and role of public policy as related to social work practice, societal values, and issues central to the development of public policy in the United States. Students critically examine contemporary and controversial social welfare issues, assess U.S. policy development and evaluation practices, understand the global interconnectedness of U.S. policy, and develop social justice advocacy skills for vulnerable populations. Prerequisite: Admission to the Social Work program, and POL 1200.

### **SOWK 3330 Assessment and Treatment of Addictions (3 credits)**

This course takes a student through the continuum of substance abuse treatment based on the 12 Core Functions and the 8 Practicing Principles of an addiction counselor. Students will be expected to practice and be evaluated on counseling skills, techniques, and intervention strategies used in the treatment process. For example: by participating in experiential classroom activities, role playing and/or completing skill-based small and large group assignments. Prerequisite: SOWK 2030 or consent of instructor.

**SOWK 3340 Anti-Oppressive Social Work (3 credits)**

The purpose of this course is to critically examine societal issues generated by systemic discrimination and explore methods for reducing discrimination. Particular focus is on social work practice with a variety of diverse populations, and strategies that generalist practitioners can employ to decrease oppression on all system levels. The course is designed to provide students with the skills required for culturally competent practice with diverse communities. Theories of oppression and discrimination will be reviewed. Historical forms of oppression will be analyzed with a connection to present-day forms of discrimination and oppression. Students will learn a process of career-long learning about culture and difference, including strategies to address systemic issues of oppression. Finally, emphasis will be placed on personal values and the complexities of integrating social work values, as well as ethical practice in working with diverse populations. Prerequisite(s): Junior and Senior Standing or instructor consent

**SOWK 3551 Generalist Practice I (3 credits)**

Introduces and applies models for establishing and engaging in the professional helping relationship with individuals. Students learn, practice, and critically examine knowledge, skills, and values related to generalist social work practice with individuals: assessment, engagement, crisis intervention, counseling, evaluation, and ethical practice. Emphasis is on cultural competence in social work practice. Prerequisite: Admission to the program.

**SOWK 3552 Generalist Practice 2 (3 credits)**

Introduces and applies models for establishing and engaging in the professional helping relationship with support and treatment groups. Students learn, practice, and critically examine knowledge, skills, and values related to group processes: planning, assessment, facilitation, leadership, evaluation, role development, and ethical practice. Emphasis is on cultural competence in social work practice with groups. Prerequisite: SOWK 2130 and SOWK 3551.

**SOWK 3553 Generalist Practice 3 (3 credits)**

Introduces and applies models for establishing and engaging in the professional helping relationship with task groups, organizations, and communities focusing on systems change: assessment and engagement, intervention, advocacy, leadership, community organizing and strategic planning to create change. Students learn and practice cause advocacy and grantwriting skills. Emphasis is on cultural competence and the application of ethical group practice in task groups, community organizing, and cause advocacy.

**SOWK 3600 Contemplative Social Work Seminar (3 credits)**

This course combines scholarly knowledge and experiential learning with an emphasis on process. The content examines the use of contemplative practices (e.g., journaling, mindfulness, movement, art, listening) for professional and personal self-awareness, interventions, ethical practice, resilience, and self-care. Additional course content includes the intersection of contemplative practices and the core social work values of dignity, relationships, service, social justice, integrity, and competence. Opportunities for contemplative practices and for understanding its value in relation to social work practice are an integral part of the course. Prerequisite(s): Junior, Senior or instructor approval.

**SOWK 3610 Culturally Responsive Practice with American Indian Families (3 credits)**

Introduction to historical and contemporary social work practice issues with American Indians. Students will learn about policy issues, cultural sensitivity, and practice methods with American Indian clients and communities at micro and macro levels of intervention. Prerequisite(s): Junior or senior standing or instructor consent.

**SOWK 3730 Anti-Oppressive Practices in Social Work and Helping Professions (3 credits)**

This course focuses on issues of diversity, oppression, and social justice. It is designed to prepare students to be knowledgeable of the effects of oppression in a society, and to examine their own values and beliefs as it relates to race, ethnicity, culture, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, social and economic status, political ideology, disability and how these contribute to discrimination and oppression personally, systemically, and institutionally. [Core Curriculum Goal Area(s) 7B]

**SOWK 3760 Mental Health Social Work (2 credits)**

Designed to enable the student to develop a knowledge base for beginning social work practice in the field of mental health. Students are introduced to theories of mental health and concepts of: mental health-illness, determination of needs, service systems, scope and variety of interventive methods, role of interdisciplinary team, evaluation, supervision, and impact of discrimination. Prerequisite: SOWK 2120 or consent of instructor. (Might not be offered every year.)

**SOWK 3780 Family And Child Welfare (3 credits)**

Overview of historical and contemporary child welfare practice primarily in the public sector, including supportive, supplemental, and substitute services. Emphasis is on issues such as family-centered practice, family preservation, kinship care, permanency planning, and cultural competence related to the assessment of and intervention with vulnerable families and children. Prerequisite: SOWK 2120 or consent of instructor. (Might not be offered every year.)

**SOWK 3790 School Social Work (3 credits)**

This course combines scholarly knowledge and experiential learning with an emphasis on process. The content is designed to enable students to develop awareness, knowledge and skills to provide culturally-responsive services in a school setting. Additional course content includes the intersection of school-based practices and the core social work values of dignity, relationships, service, social justice, integrity, and competence.

**SOWK 4450 Social Work Research Seminar (3 credits)**

This course is a capstone research seminar for social work majors. Students are introduced to the basic concepts and procedures of social work research and learn the quantitative and qualitative research approaches that are common to the social work profession and the social sciences. Students will critically examine, interpret, and utilize research findings in relation to everyday social work practice through the application of a research project. Prerequisite(s): CRJS 3201 or PSY 3401 or SOC 3001 or STAT 3660.

**SOWK 4880 Internship Orientation (1 credit)**

Prepares social work students for the internship experience. Provides students with the information needed for appropriate internship placement. This course should be taken during the semester immediately preceding the registration in SOWK 4970.

**SOWK 4887 Addictions Certificate Internship Orientation (1 credit)**

Assists in preparing future Addictions Certificate students for the internship experience. Provides students with the information needed for appropriate placement in the internship learning experience. This course should be taken during the semester immediately preceding Addictions Certificate internship courses. Prerequisite(s): This course should be taken the semester immediately preceding the Addictions Certificate Internship

**SOWK 4917 DIS Tchg Assoc | (1-2 credits)**

Directed Independent Study | Teaching Associate

**SOWK 4970 Internship (6-12 credits)**

The Social Work Internship is a senior signature course designed to provide students with an immersive, hands-on experience in a public or private social service organization. Over the course of 400 hours, students will integrate and apply their social work knowledge, values, and skills in a professional setting, fostering both cognitive and affective development. This course emphasizes the synthesis of theoretical learning and practical application. Through guided supervision and participation in integrative seminars, students will engage in critical reflection on their experiences, enhance their professional competencies, and contribute to the social service community. This opportunity not only solidifies students' understanding of social work practices but also prepares them for future roles in the field. Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory only. Prerequisite(s): Completion of all courses in the major with a 2.50 GPA in the major and a C or better in all courses with a social work prefix (SOWK).

**SOWK 4971 Addictions Certificate Internship I (6-12 credits)**

Part one of a two semester (880 clock hours) block placement in a public or private social service organization providing addictions counseling. This internship is a senior capstone course focused on integrating practice experience in the 12 Core Functions and 8 Practice Dimensions of an addictions counselor with theory. Students are expected to demonstrate skills in addictions theory, knowledge, values/ethics and skills through hands-on experience. Students will complete assignments and participate in seminars to discuss their internship experiences with peers and the faculty liaison. Prerequisite: Successful completion of all required courses in the Addictions Certificate with a C or higher and a 2.5 GPA. First semester students completing a Social Work major and the Addictions Certificate register for 6 credits. First semester students completing any other degree and the Addictions Certificate will register for 12 credits. First semester students completing only the Addictions Certificate will register for 12 credits.

**SOWK 4972 Addictions Certificate Internship II (6-12 credits)**

Part two of a two semester (880 clock hours) block placement in a public or private social service organization providing addictions counseling. This internship is a senior capstone course focused on integrating practice experience in the 12 Core Functions and 8 Practice Dimensions of an addictions counselor with theory. Students are expected to demonstrate skills in addictions theory, knowledge, values/ethics and skills through hands-on experience. Students will complete assignments and participate in seminars to discuss their internship experiences with peers and the faculty liaison. Prerequisite: SOWK 4971.

**All-University Courses**

The course numbers listed below, not always included in the semester class schedule, may be registered for by consent of the advisor, instructor, or department chair, or may be assigned by the department when warranted. Individual registration requires previous arrangement by the student and the completion of any required form or planning outline as well as any prerequisites.

1910, 2910, 3910, 4910 DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY  
1920, 2920, 3920, 4920 DIRECTED GROUP STUDY  
1930, 2930, 3930, 4930 EXPERIMENTAL COURSE  
1940, 2940, 3940, 4940 IN-SERVICE COURSE  
1950, 2950, 3950, 4950 WORKSHOP, INSTITUTE, TOUR  
1960, 2960, 3960, 4960 SPECIAL PURPOSE INSTRUCTION  
1970, 2970, 3970, 4970 INTERNSHIP  
1980, 2980, 3980, 4980 RESEARCH  
1990, 2990, 3990, 4990 THESIS