

BSW in Social Work

Degree Program Description

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Program is a professional program that prepares students for immediate entry into direct human service professional positions, graduate-level education, and life-long learning. BSW-level social workers assist individuals, families, small groups, organizations, and communities to effectively resolve problems, deal with their relationships, and function optimally within their environment. Graduates are employed in many different settings, including nursing homes, hospices, hospitals, home care agencies, family service agencies, children and youth services, aging services, residential treatment programs, domestic violence shelters, criminal justice agencies, schools, and legal services agencies.

Major Program Requirements

Required Entry-Level Courses: Specific liberal arts requirements for graduation are listed below (* denotes a prerequisite course to the BSW professional program that must be completed before beginning social work core courses).

Students must complete all university requirements (<http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/>), including general education (<http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/>), in addition to the degree requirements below.

Students must earn and maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA in all college-level coursework. Students must complete all BSW Program Prerequisites and BSW Program Requirements with grades of C- or higher and may have no more than two grades of C+ in the BSW courses.

BSW Program Prerequisites

ENGLISH 1000	Writing and Rhetoric *	3
MATH 1100	College Algebra (or equivalent) *	3
or MATH 1050	Quantitative Reasoning	
BIO_SC 1010	General Principles and Concepts of Biology *	3
or BIO_SC 1500	Introduction to Biological Systems with Laboratory	
or BIO_SC 1030	General Principles and Concepts of Biology with Laboratory	
Anthropology (student's choice) (Recommend ANTHRO 1300, ANTHRO 1350, ANTHRO 2030) *		3
PSYCH 1000	General Psychology *	3
SOCIOL 1000	Introduction to Sociology *	3
American History/American Government *		3
ECONOM 1014	Principles of Microeconomics *	3
or ECONOM 1015	Principles of Macroeconomics	
or ABM 1041	Applied Microeconomics	
COMMUN 1200	Public Speaking *	3
Philosophy (student's choice) (Recommend PHIL 1000, PHIL 1100, PHIL 1200) *		3

BSW Program Requirements

History or Political Science (student's choice, but must be selected from the subject area not chosen for American History/American Government)		3
---	--	---

PSYCH 2310	Social Psychology	3
or SOCIOL 3310W	Social Psychology - Writing Intensive	
SOC_WK 3320	Understanding Personality in a Social Context	3
or PSYCH 2320	Introduction to Personality	
Exploration of Power, Privilege, & Oppression (PPO) coursework: ¹		6
SOC_WK 2000 or SOC_WK 2000W		
3 additional hours of approved PPO coursework ²		
Professional BSW Core Courses		
SOC_WK 2220W	Human Behavior in the Social Environment - Writing Intensive (May be taken before or during the professional phase.)	3
or SOC_WK 2220	Human Behavior in the Social Environment	
SOC_WK 4710	Social Justice and Social Policy	3
SOC_WK 4730	Introduction to Social Work Practice	3
SOC_WK 4740	Introduction to Community and Organizational Processes	4
SOC_WK 4750	Interaction Skills Workshop	3
Social Work Elective (4000-level) in a field of practice		3
SOC_WK 4310	Social Statistics	3
SOC_WK 4711	Social Justice and Social Policy II	3
SOC_WK 4720	Variations in Human Behavior	3
SOC_WK 4760	Theory and Practice of Social Group Work	3
SOC_WK 4951	Research for Social Work Practice	3
SOC_WK 4770	Strategies of Direct Practice	3
SOC_WK 4952	Research Methods for Social Work	3
SOC_WK 4970	Senior Professional Seminar	3
SOC_WK 4971	Undergraduate Field Practicum	6
Recommended Courses		
Social Work Electives		
SOC_WK 1110	Introduction to the Social Work Major	1
SOC_WK 1115	Social Welfare and Social Work	3

¹ Exploration of Power, Privilege & Oppression: Social Work BSW majors are required to take SOC_WK 2000 or SOC_WK 2000W to count for three credit hours of the six credit hours requirement. Students should select one additional course that reflects the cultural diversity of our society; often selected from social work, sociology, anthropology, peace studies, English, religious studies, human development and family science, black studies, and women and gender studies. Students can find a complete list on the School of Social Work website.

² Students cannot double-count BSW Program Prerequisite, BSW Program Requirement, or field of practice elective courses with Exploration of Power, Privilege and Oppression (PPO) courses (e.g., ANTHRO 1350 can count toward the Anthropology program requirement OR the PPO requirement, but not both).

Capstone Requirements

All students accepted into the professional BSW program must take SOC_WK 4971 Undergraduate Field Practicum and SOC_WK 4970 Senior Professional Seminar to complete their capstone requirement. Please note: As a student, if you have acquired any criminal background history which includes misdemeanors or felony charges your choices of placements may be affected. In an effort to assist you we strongly

encourage you to make an appointment with the Director of the Undergraduate Program to assist in facilitating options for your completion of educational requirements.

[Back to Top \(p. \)](#)

Semester Plan

Below is a sample plan of study, semester by semester. A student's actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available.

First Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
ENGLSH 1000		3 MATH 1100	3
BIO_SC 1010		3 SOCIOL 1000	3
BIO_SC 1020		2 ANTHRO 1300	3
PSYCH 1000		3 COMMUN 1200	3
SOC_WK 1110 (Elective)		1 SOC_WK 1115 (Elective)	3
History (Constitution)		3	
		15	15
Second Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
PHIL 1100		3 ECONOM 1014	3
PSYCH 2310		3 Humanities	3
SOC_WK 2000W		3 SOC_WK 2220W	3
Political Science		3 SOC_WK 3320	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
		15	15
Third Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
SOC_WK 4710		3 SOC_WK 4310	3
SOC_WK 4730		3 SOC_WK 4711	3
SOC_WK 4740		4 SOC_WK 4720	3
SOC_WK 4750		3 SOC_WK 4760	3
Field of Practice Elective		3 SOC_WK 4951	3
		16	15
Fourth Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
SOC_WK 4770W		3 Power Privilege & Oppression	3
SOC_WK 4952		3 Elective	3
SOC_WK 4970		3 Elective	3
SOC_WK 4971		6 Elective	3
		Elective	2
		15	14

Total Credits: 120