

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.

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program is offered in two modalities: on campus and online. Students should understand that there are different expectations, processes, and policies for each modality and should confer with an advisor before determining which to apply to. This program also requires an application for admission to the professional phase of the program. At the point of application, students must select a program modality. Upon admittance, students will be required to finish the program in the modality selected at the point of admission. Only extenuating circumstances will be considered for a modality change and any requests will need approval by the undergraduate Program Director and will be communicated to the Office of Student Services.

Major Program Requirements

Required Entry-Level Courses: Specific liberal arts requirements for graduation are listed below. Program Pre-requisites must be completed before beginning Professional BSW Core courses.

Students must complete all university requirements (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/>), including general education (<https://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

| | | |
|----------------|--|-----|
| ENGLSH 1000 | Writing and Rhetoric | 3 |
| MATH 1100 | College Algebra | 3 |
| or MATH 1050 | Quantitative Reasoning | |
| BIO_SC 1010 | General Principles and Concepts of Biology | 3-5 |
| or BIO_SC 1500 | Introduction to Biological Systems with Laboratory | |
| or BIO_SC 1030 | General Principles and Concepts of Biology with Laboratory | |
| PSYCH 1000 | General Psychology | 3 |
| SOCIOL 1000 | Introduction to Sociology | 3 |
| ECONOM 1014 | Principles of Microeconomics | 3 |
| or ECONOM 1015 | Principles of Macroeconomics | |
| or ABM 1041 | Applied Microeconomics | |

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| or ABM 1042 | Applied Macroeconomics | |
| or ECONOM 1000 | General Economics | |
| or FINANC 1000 | Principles of Finance | |
| or FINPLN 1000 | iGen Money | |
| or FINPLN 2183 | Personal and Family Finance | |
| Approved MO State Law Course | | 3 |
| COMMUN 1200 | Public Speaking | 3 |
| 1000-level or higher Philosophy course (Recommend PHIL 1000, PHIL 1100, PHIL 1200) | | 3 |
| SOC_WK 1115 | Social Welfare and Social Work | 3 |
| BSW Program Requirements | | |
| 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 | | |
| 3 additional hours of approved PPO coursework ² | | |
| Professional BSW Core Courses | | |
| SOC_WK 2220 | Human Behavior in the Social Environment (May be taken before or during the professional phase.) | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4310 | Social Statistics | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4710 | Social Justice and Social Policy | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4711 | Social Justice and Social Policy II | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4720 | Variations in Human Behavior | 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 |
| SOC_WK 4760 | Theory and Practice of Social Group Work | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4770 | Strategies of Direct Practice | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4951 | Research for Social Work Practice | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4952 | Research Methods for Social Work | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4970W | Senior Professional Seminar - Writing Intensive (Capstone) | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4971 | Undergraduate Field Practicum (Capstone) | 6 |
| 4000-level or higher Social Work Elective in Field of Practice (choose one) | | |
| SOC_WK 4330 | Addiction Treatment and Prevention | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4350 | Deaf Culture: A Social Work Perspective | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4360 | Working with Minority Youth | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4370 | Delinquency, Corrections and Social Treatment | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4380 | Social Work Practice With Minorities: African-American Emphasis | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4390 | Helping Strategies With Children and Adolescents | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4395 | Death, Grief and Loss | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4400 | Domestic Violence | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4410 | Social Welfare and the Law | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4450 | Professional Perspectives on Child Welfare Services in the 21st Century | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4480 | Direct Practice with Older Adults | 3 |

Social Work Electives (Recommended)

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|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| SOC_WK 1110 | Introduction to the Social Work Major | 1 |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|

¹ Exploration of Power, Privilege & Oppression: Social Work BSW majors are required to take SOC_WK 2000 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 here (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/electives/social-work/>).

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.

Capstone Requirements

All students accepted into the professional BSW program must take SOC_WK 4971 Undergraduate Field Practicum and SOC_WK 4970W Senior Professional Seminar - Writing Intensive 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.

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 and chosen program modality.

| First Year | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|---------------------|-----------|
| Fall | CR | Spring | CR |
| ENGLSH 1000 | | 3 MATH 1100 or 1050 | 3 |
| BIO_SC 1010 | | 3 SOCIOL 1000 | 3 |
| BIO_SC 1020 | | 2 COMMUN 1200 | 3 |
| PSYCH 1000 | | 3 SOC_WK 1115 | 3 |
| HIST 1100, 1200, or POL_SC 1100 | | 3 Elective | 3 |
| SOC_WK 1110 (Elective) | 1 | | |
| | | 15 | 15 |

| Second Year | | | |
|--------------------------|----|---------------|-----------|
| Fall | CR | Spring | CR |
| PHIL 1100, 1000, or 1200 | | 3 ECONOM 1014 | 3 |
| PSYCH 2310 | | 3 Humanities | 3 |
| SOC_WK 2000W | | 3 SOC_WK 2220 | 3 |
| Elective | | 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 4770 | | 3 Power Privilege & Oppression | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4952 | | 3 Elective | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4970W | | 3 Elective | 3 |
| SOC_WK 4971 | | 6 Elective | 3 |
| | | Bio/Phys/Math Science | 2 |
| | | 15 | 14 |

Total Credits: 120