

Master of Social Work

The MSW program prepares students for advanced practice social work in a variety of fields of practice. The curriculum is founded on the program's mission and goals and emphasizes social justice advocacy, leadership, and social work with, and on behalf of, vulnerable families. The program offers a full-time curriculum which can be completed in two calendar years for students entering at the Generalist level or one year for students entering at the Specialized level. A part-time program is also available which can be completed in nine semesters for students entering at the Generalist level or five semesters for students entering at the Specialized level. A key element of the program is the opportunity for students to integrate and apply their classroom learning in a field internship setting.

Admission Requirements

The program seeks applicants who have demonstrated academic potential for graduate study, readiness and suitability for advanced-level social work, and who are able to articulate a commitment to social work. In addition, the program seeks applicants with demonstrated human services experience and sensitivity to multi-cultural practice, social justice, and leadership/advocacy.

Required Qualifications

To be considered for admission to the MSW program, the following criteria must be met:

1. An undergraduate degree from a regionally accredited university by the time classes start.
2. A 3.0 grade point average (GPA), measured on a 4.0 scale. GPA is based on the last 60 credits taken in bachelor's degree studies or graduate level course work. Consistent with Graduate Studies policy, students from schools not using a grading system will be evaluated on an individual basis. Students who do not meet the 3.0 GPA requirement or who have other deficiencies may be admitted on a provisional basis. Provisionally admitted students who receive at least a B grade in courses totaling nine credits of graduate work, after acceptance, will be fully admitted.
3. An academic background in the liberal arts with completion of a minimum of 12 credits in the social sciences. Examples include coursework within or across the following disciplines: psychology, sociology, anthropology, economics and political science.
4. A total of four prerequisite courses are required and include one course from each of the following areas: Biological Life Sciences, Lifespan Development, Statistics, and Research Methods. Students without a BSW degree who are applying for admission to the Generalist Program must have completed all prerequisites prior to the start of the program. Students who have a BSW degree are considered to have met all four prerequisites.
5. International students must provide evidence of English proficiency. Please see the Graduate Studies website for more information.
6. To be considered for admission, applicants with social work degrees from international universities must substantiate their academic credentials via the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) International Social Work Degree Recognition and Evaluation Service (ISWDRES). Information is available here: <https://cswe.org/Centers-Initiatives/Initiatives/International-Degree-Review.aspx>

Preferred Qualifications

In addition to meeting the required admissions qualifications noted above, applicants with the following qualifications will be given preference for admission.

1. Demonstrated post-high school human services-related experience. Examples include paid employment, volunteer work, and internships.
2. Written communication that demonstrates clear and succinct conceptualization of ideas, application of critical thinking, the ability to coherently communicate and organize ideas, and the ability to write using correct grammar, spelling and syntax.
3. Commitment to social justice, advocacy, and multicultural practice on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed populations.

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required.

Additional Admission Information

The MSW program admits students once per year. Applications and specific instructions for submission are posted on the MSW program website in August with applications due on or before December 1. Applicants are encouraged to review the MSW program website for specific admission dates, fees, and application submission requirements.

Degree Requirements

For program applicants who do not have a Bachelor of Social Work degree, 56 credits are required for graduation. This includes a 26-credit two-semester Generalist curriculum (fall and spring), and a 30-credit three-semester Specialized curriculum (summer, fall and spring). Applicants with a BSW degree may receive advanced standing status in the MSW Program if they meet one of the following two options described below.

Part-Time Option

Students entering the Generalist Program complete the part-time option in four years. Students entering with advanced standing complete the part-time option in two years.

As a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, classroom and field activities assist students in the MSW Program to attain practice competency in nine different areas with demonstration of skill and learning across the dimensions of knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive-affective integration. The competencies listed below are the learning objectives for the program.

Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice

Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice

Competency 4: Engage In Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice

Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice

Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Code	Title	Credits
Generalist Curriculum Requirements: ¹		26
SOC WORK 700	Gateway to the Profession of Social Work	
SOC WORK 701	Contemporary Social Work Ethics	
SOC WORK 702	Generalist Practice I	
SOC WORK 704	Generalist Practice II	
SOC WORK 707	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	
SOC WORK 711	Foundations of Social Welfare	
SOC WORK 712	Field I	
SOC WORK 713	Seminar I	
SOC WORK 714	Field II	
SOC WORK 715	Seminar II	
Specialized Curriculum Requirements:		30
SOC WORK 716	Field III	
SOC WORK 717	Seminar III	
SOC WORK 718	Field IV	
SOC WORK 719	Capstone Seminar	
SOC WORK 720	Diversity, Social Justice & Advocacy	
SOC WORK 721	Advanced Practice: Multi-Level Family Systems	
SOC WORK 728	Advanced Policy: Leadership, Advocacy and Practice	
SOC WORK 731	Research for MSW Practice	
Electives (Choose six credits from the following list):		
SOC WORK 540	Strengths-Based Group Facilitation	
SOC WORK 542	Psychopharmacology	
SOC WORK 723	Trauma Informed Care	
SOC WORK 544	Grant Writing for Success	
SOC WORK 596	SPECIAL TOPICS	
SOC WORK 683	SELECTED TOPICS	
SOC WORK 699	Travel Course	
SOC WORK 701	Contemporary Social Work Ethics (This is a required course for foundation students; an elective for advanced standing students.)	
SOC WORK 722	Social Work Management & Supervision in the Social Services	
SOC WORK 727	Psychopathology for Clinical Social Work	
SOC WORK 735	Emerging Issues in Child Welfare	

SOC WORK 737	Crisis Intervention
SOC WORK 747	Clinical Theories for Mental Health Practice
SOC WORK 749	Contemporary Interventions in Social Work Practice
SOC WORK 751	Social Work Practice in Schools
SOC WORK 753	Strengths-Based Leadership and Supervision
SOC WORK 757	Social Work Practice in the Criminal Justice System
SOC WORK 761	Overview of Wisconsin DPI School Social Work Standards
SOC WORK 767	Assessing Mental Health and Substance Use in Practice
SOC WORK 777	Forensic Social Work: Policy and Practice
SOC WORK 795	Special Topics
SOC WORK 798	Independent Study
EDUC 552	Social and Family Influences on Development and Learning
MGMT 589	Organizational Behavior
PSYCH 544	Dying, Death, and Loss
PU EN AF 615	Public and Nonprofit Budgeting

Advanced requirement: Capstone Poster

Total Credits **56**

- ¹ Generalist Curriculum Requirements may be met if one of the following criterion is met:
- OPTION ONE:** BSW degree from a baccalaureate social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) or those recognized by the International Social Work Degree Recognition and Evaluation Service. BSW degree must be obtained within seven years of the year of admission to the UW-Green Bay MSW program.
- OPTION TWO:** Must meet all three of the following criteria:
1. BSW degree from a CSWE-accredited program,
 2. Current Wisconsin Social Work certification (training certificate excluded), and
 3. Post-BSW social work practice experience equivalent to three full-time years (approximately 6,240 hours). Work experience must be obtained within 10 years of the year of admission to the MSW Program.

Applicants are responsible for providing evidence of meeting the criteria in Option Two.

Progress to Degree

Steps Toward the Degree

1. Prospective student submits an admission application and is recommended for admission.
2. Applicant is admitted to the Master of Social Work graduate program.
3. The student develops a Capstone project which is defined in consultation with the program faculty and adviser.
4. The student files an *Application for Graduation* with the Registrar's Office through the Student Information System (SIS). The application must be completed and submitted to the Office of the Registrar in the fall semester for spring and summer semester graduates.
5. Upon successful completion of the Capstone project the instructor files the *Approval of Thesis Defense or Project Presentation* (GR-4 Form) with the Office of Graduate Studies.
6. Degree is awarded and graduate receives diploma.

Curriculum Guide

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
Generalist Curriculum		
SOC WORK 700	Gateway to the Profession of Social Work	2
SOC WORK 702	Generalist Practice I	3
SOC WORK 711	Foundations of Social Welfare	3
SOC WORK 712	Field I	4
SOC WORK 713	Seminar I	1
Credits		13
Spring		
Generalist Curriculum		

SOC WORK 701	Contemporary Social Work Ethics	3
SOC WORK 704	Generalist Practice II	3
SOC WORK 707	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	2
SOC WORK 714	Field II	4
SOC WORK 715	Seminar II	1
Credits		13
Second Year		
Summer		
Specialized Curriculum		
SOC WORK 728	Advanced Policy: Leadership, Advocacy and Practice	3
Elective		3
Credits		6
Fall		
Specialized Curriculum		
SOC WORK 716	Field III	5
SOC WORK 717	Seminar III	1
SOC WORK 720	Diversity, Social Justice & Advocacy	3
SOC WORK 721	Advanced Practice: Multi-Level Family Systems	3
Credits		12
Spring		
Specialized Curriculum		
SOC WORK 718	Field IV	5
SOC WORK 719	Capstone Seminar	1
SOC WORK 731	Research for MSW Practice	3
Elective		3
Credits		12
Total Credits		56

Faculty

Faculty members in the MSW Program represent a wide range of teaching, practice, and research experiences. Contact information and biographies for faculty and staff are available on the program website at: <https://www.uwgb.edu/social-work/faculty-staff/>