

Social Work

(Bachelor of Social Work)

Social work is an exciting and dynamic profession. The major in Social Work, leading to the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree, prepares a graduate for a career as a social worker interacting with a broad range of individuals, families, organizations, and communities. Graduates of the UW-Green Bay Social Work Professional Program secure positions in programs serving populations that include older adults, children and their families, persons challenged by developmental and other disabilities, juvenile and adult offenders, persons experiencing mental or physical health issues, and other at-risk and vulnerable groups identified in this ever-evolving field. Social workers provide direct service and work for social justice through community change activities.

The Social Work Professional Program has full accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The BSW degree from UW-Green Bay allows a graduate to obtain state certification and provides a broad range of employment opportunities.

Majors may elect to enroll in the child welfare emphasis, preparing for a career in child welfare practice. Students who have an interest in a career in public or tribal child welfare can apply for a stipend through The Child Welfare Training Program.

Majors may elect to enroll in the behavioral health emphasis, preparing for a career in mental health and substance abuse fields.

A Bachelor of Social Work degree provides advanced status for students seeking a Master's Degree in Social Work.

Program Entry Requirements

Students who wish to major in Social Work must make formal application for admission to the program. This applies to those transferring from other institutions as well as students continuing at UW-Green Bay. Students may apply to the Social Work program by the spring application date for fall admission. Application materials and deadlines are available from the UW-Green Bay Social Work website (<http://www.uwgb.edu/socwork/>).

To apply to the BSW degree program, students must first be admitted to the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and demonstrate they will have completed 48 credits by the time they begin the major. Additionally, they must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 and have completed the support course, PSYCH 203: Introduction to Life Span Development. Students are strongly encouraged to complete both WF 105 and statistics prior to entering the major. Applicants should demonstrate an interest in the profession, as indicated by the letter of reference and the essay accompanying their application.

Prospective Social Work majors should seek early advising from the Social Work Professional Advisor, Ryan Roberts. Contact him at 920-465-2679, or via email at robertsr@uwgb.edu (robertsr@uwgb.edu) to schedule an appointment.

Major Area of Emphasis (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/social-work/major/>)

Students must complete requirements in one of the following areas of emphasis: (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/social-work/major/>)

- Behavioral Health (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/social-work/major/>)
- Child Welfare (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/social-work/major/>)
- General (<https://catalog.uwgb.edu/archive/2025-2026/undergraduate/programs/social-work/major/>)

Faculty

Joan M Groessl; Professor; Ph.D., Marian University, chair*

Tohoro F Akakpo; Associate Professor; Ph.D., Michigan State University*

Stephanie Rhee; Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of Kentucky*

Jolanda M Sallmann; Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of Wisconsin - Madison*

Angela Baerwolf; Assistant Professor; Ph.D., University of St. Thomas*

Jennifer Schanen-Materi; Associate Teaching Professor; M.S.W., University of Wisconsin - Green Bay*

Corrina Heindel; Assistant Teaching Professor; M.S.W., University of Wisconsin - Green Bay

Heather Lawrence; Assistant Teaching Professor; M.S.W., University of Wisconsin - Green Bay*

Brittany Maas; Assistant Teaching Professor; M.S., University of Wisconsin - Green Bay*

Justine Terzinski; Assistant Teaching Professor; M.S.W., University of North Dakota*