SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

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Program Description
The social work profession is grounded in a commitment to serving vulnerable and oppressed populations and to advocating for public policies that promote social justice. The Department of Social Work offers the Master of Social Work (MSW) degree, which prepares students for advanced generalist social work practice. Graduates are prepared to work with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in fields such as mental health, physical health, family and child welfare, gerontology, corrections, juvenile justice, youth services, substance abuse treatment, and industrial social work. The program involves over 90 quarter units of academic work, a 960-hour internship, and a culminating experience.

The program includes both foundation and advanced courses, in which students develop knowledge, skills, and values of social work consistent with advanced generalist practice.

Students may participate in the program on a full-time or part-time basis. An advanced-standing option is available for students who have received a BSW from an accredited program within the last five years.

The mission of the California State University, Bakersfield, Department of Social Work is to prepare competent and ethical social work practitioners who possess the knowledge, skills, and values required to prevent social problems, intervene in problem areas, and improve social conditions of the region through culturally sensitive practice.

The goals of the MSW program are:
1. Prepare competent and ethical graduates for advanced social work practice through the provision of content that reflects the knowledge, values, and skills of the social work profession.
2. Prepare competent and ethical graduates who can practice effectively within public and private agencies where they will work with diverse populations and client systems of various sizes and types.
3. Prepare graduates for practice within the social contexts of the organizations in which they work and for the changing social and economic environments in the region.
4. Provide an educational foundation that prepares graduates to become aware of their lifelong responsibility to continue their professional growth and development.
5. Provide leadership in the development of service delivery systems.
6. Develop social work knowledge.
7. Conduct systematic evaluation of program activities and explore ways for continuous renewal, revision, and improvement.

Admission to the Program
Students who desire admission to the MSW program must complete an application for admission to both the university and to the department and must pay applicable fees. Regular students are admitted as a cohort once each year. Advanced-standing students are admitted in a manner to complete their course of study in a logical sequence.

Admission to the MSW program is based upon an overall evaluation of the applicant on several criteria, including: 1) intellectual and academic potential, 2) relevant human services experience, 3) leadership potential, and 4) quality of reference letters.

Essential Requirements
Applicants must meet the following requirements before the Admissions Committee will review their applications. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application file is complete.

1. Possession of a Bachelors degree with a liberal arts foundation from a recognized college or university. For degrees earned in the United States, this means the degree must be from an institution that is accredited by one of the six regional accrediting associations.
2. A cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 2.5 (on a four-point scale)
3. Computer literacy
4. A completed University application form, which is obtainable from any CSU campus.
5. A completed departmental application.
6. Official sealed copies of transcripts from all colleges attended.
7. A personal statement completed according to guidelines in the application packet.
8. Three letters of reference.

Students who meet the requirements above are admitted as “classified” graduate students. Students without a bachelor’s degree will be admitted as “conditional” graduate students, which must be rectified prior to the first day of class.
Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)
CSU system policy requires all degree candidates to demonstrate upper division writing competency. Students in the MSW program must fulfill CSUB Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement prior to advancement to graduate candidacy.

Advanced Standing. Applicants who have graduated with a baccalaureate degree in social work from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) may request advanced standing. These students follow an abbreviated Plan of Study involving waiver of Foundation courses except SW 530. Advanced-standing candidates may test out of SW 530 with an 80% or better score. The following additional conditions must be met for advanced standing:
1. The student must have completed the Bachelor’s degree in Social Work (BSW) within five years prior to admission to the graduate program.
2. The applicant must have an overall GPA of 3.0 for the baccalaureate degree.
3. All social work courses must have a grade of 3.0 or better. Courses with a grade of less than 3.0 will not be waived.

International Students
In addition to meeting the requirements for admission given above, international students must take TOEFL and have a score of 550 or higher (or 213 on the new conversion scale for the computer-based TOEFL exam).

Immigration Requirements for Licensure
On August 27, 1996, Governor Pete Wilson issued Executive Order W-135-96, which requested that the CSU and other state agencies implement "as expeditiously as reasonably practicable" the provision of The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRAWORA) of 1996 (P.L. 104-193). The Act, also known as the Welfare Reform Act, included provisions to eliminate eligibility for federal and state public benefits for certain categories of lawful immigrants as well as benefits for all illegal immigrants. Students who will require a professional or commercial license provided by a local, state, or federal government agency in order to engage in an occupation for which the CSU may be training them must meet the immigration requirements of the new Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act to achieve licensure.

Accreditation
The MSW program at CSUB is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the national accrediting body in Social Work.

Life or Work Experience
In accordance with the standards of the Council on Social Work Education, it is the policy of the department not to grant academic credit for previous life or work experience at either the undergraduate or graduate level.

Criminal History
A conviction of a misdemeanor or felony may not preclude acceptance into the MSW program. However, admission into the MSW program does not guarantee acceptance by an agency for field education practicum. The law requires some agencies to conduct criminal background checks of all employees, interns, and volunteers. Thus, some agencies may not accept a student for placement if there is a criminal conviction, and limited choices for completing the required field education practicum could impede or even block an ability to complete the MSW program. In addition, the California Board of Behavioral Sciences imposes certain restrictions on approval of professional licenses to practice clinical social work based on past criminal convictions.

Requirements for Masters of Social Work (MSW) degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Units Required to Graduate</th>
<th>90 units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Requirements</td>
<td>40 units</td>
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<tr>
<td>Core Courses</td>
<td>30 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Practicum</td>
<td>10 units</td>
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<tr>
<td>(equates to seminar plus 480 hours of field practicum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Requirements</td>
<td>40 units</td>
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<tr>
<td>Core Courses</td>
<td>30 units</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Practicum</td>
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<td>(equates to seminar plus 480 hours of field practicum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>10 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>90 units</td>
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Note: One (1) quarter unit of credit normally represents one hour of in-class work and 2-3 hours of outside study per week.

See http://www.csub.edu/schedules.shtml for current list of courses satisfying university-wide requirements.
MSW courses provide two levels of competencies, namely Foundation and Advanced. The following are:

**Required Foundation Courses:**
SW 510, 520, 530, 540, 541, 542, 550, 551, 552
SW 550, 551, and 552 = 480 hours of field experience incorporated with associated seminars

**Required Advanced Courses:**
Students in the MSW program must take a series of advanced courses that expand generalist practice to greater depth or breadth than the foundation courses. The following are advanced courses:
SW 610, 620, 630, 646, 647, 648, 650, 651, 652
SW 650, 651, and 652 = 480 hours of field experience incorporated with associated seminars

The courses are selected in consultation with the advisor and according to a plan approved by the department.

**Elective Course Work**
Students in the MSW program must take at least ten hours of electives approved by the department. Students who received special funding may be required to take specific electives. Students may take additional electives. Electives that are not approved by the department will not count toward the graduation requirements.

**Field Practicum**
Field practicum is the signature pedagogy and an integral part of social work education. The field practicum experience provides an opportunity to integrate knowledge, skills, and values. Over the course of the program, students will complete a minimum of 960 clock hours in the field. Field Practicum may extend beyond the typical academic quarter schedule. The field experience is guided by an individualized learning contract that students develop with their field instructors. As part of the Field Practicum, students also participate in a seminar where they practice the integration of knowledge, skills, and values. The Coordinator of Field Education is responsible for this component of the curriculum.

Every effort is made to place students in their home communities; however, there are circumstances when suitable placements may not be available in their home communities. When this occurs, students may be required to travel to other communities.

**Culminating Experience**
The CSU system requires a culminating experience for graduate education. The MSW program has adopted a portfolio, which is a demonstration of the cumulative knowledge, values, and skills that the student has achieved throughout the MSW program. The final portfolio must be submitted prior to graduation with an interim portfolio submitted as a mechanism to demonstrate the student’s readiness to advance to candidacy. The portfolio will be integrated as part of SW 652 with the intermediate portfolio submitted as part of the SW 552 requirements.

**Thesis**
A student may choose to write a thesis as part of his/her course requirements. The thesis will count as ten (10) units and will replace the elective requirements.

**Time for Completion**
The MSW curriculum is structured so full-time students can complete the program in two years and part-time students can complete the program in three years.

**Degree Requirements**
The University confers the MSW degree upon fulfillment of the following requirements:
1. Completion of 90 hours of course work (55 hours for advanced-standing students) according to an approved degree plan.
2. Completion of 960 hours of field experience (480 hours for advanced-standing students) and associated seminars,
3. Positive assessment of portfolio (80% mean score of all categories).
4. Minimum grade point average of 3.0, with no grade less than a “C” (2.0 equivalent) in all courses taken to satisfy the requirements for the degree as specified in each student’s Plan of Study.
5. CA administrative code (Title 5, section 40510) states that all students must complete a minimum of 32-quarter units in residence.
6. CA law states that all requirements leading to the MSW degree must be completed within 7 years from first enrollment.

**Advancement to Graduate Candidacy**
Regular MSW students may be advanced to candidacy upon completion of the foundation curriculum, and advanced-standing students may be advanced to candidacy during the second quarter of their studies and successful completion of GWAR. Advancement to graduate candidacy is based upon a formal review and recommendation by the faculty and approval by the Dean for Graduate Studies and Research.
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SW 200 Social Welfare, Social Work, and Social Services (5)
This course is designed to provide beginning knowledge of social services, current and dominant issues of social welfare, the welfare state, the nature of social work, and the interaction between individuals and their environments. The course examines the knowledge base, the value base, and the historical landmarks in the development of the social welfare system and professional social work. Classroom sessions, student assignments, readings, and guest speakers will be used to examine how social workers work with a diverse client population and how social workers contribute to solving major social problems within our society. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or permission of the instructor. GE D5

SW 300 Social Policy and Services (5)
This foundation social policy course provides an introduction to social welfare services from a historical perspective. It examines the historical, philosophical, structural and functional aspects of social welfare institutions and the social work profession within the wider socio-economic, political and cultural contexts and systems. The impact of social policies on diverse populations such as ethnic minorities, children, women, the poor, and other oppressed groups is examined. This course critically analyzes contemporary issues in social welfare, such as the role of increasing privatization and human service corporations in the ever-evolving American social welfare system. Students are expected to develop knowledge about the process of policy formulation and demonstrate skills in critically analyzing social policies using various models of policy. The international perspectives on social welfare and the challenges it faces in the new millennium will also be discussed. This course will also focus on the importance of policy advocacy and policy practice in the current socio-economic and political environment. Prerequisite: admission to the program.

SW 520 Foundations of Human Behavior (5)
This course uses a comparative theory approach that encourages critical thinking skills when analyzing theories. A broad range of theories are covered including traditional lifespan as well as contemporary knowledge theories. Bio-psycho-social-spiritual issues of individuals, families, groups, organizations, institutions, and communities are considered within the context of social systems, a life course perspective, and the theories covered. Special attention is given to the unique situations involving oppression in vulnerable populations and, through analysis, which theories adequately address these issues. Prerequisite: admission to the program.

SW 530 Research Methods for Social Work (5)
This course introduces social work research methods, including research designs for both quantitative and qualitative studies. Focus of the course is on learning research strategies that are appropriate to (clinical) practice and administrative demands. There is also an emphasis on accepting responsibility for contributing to the professional body of social work knowledge, developing the ability to critically examine, interpret, and utilize research findings in relation to everyday social work practice, and acquiring skills in using and understanding statistical procedures most commonly used in social work settings. Prerequisite: admission to the program.

SW 540 Generalist Social Work Practice I (5)
The assumptions, concepts, principles, and values of generalist social work practice are examined at the micro levels from a cross-cultural perspective in terms of professional relationships, social work roles, treatment processes, and service delivery models with individuals. This course focuses on professional relationships that are characterized by mutuality, collaboration, and respect for the client system, and focus on the examination of client strengths and problems in interactions among individuals and between people and their environments. The course emphasizes the helping process, utilizing clinical interviewing to collect and analyze data, identify and define problems, plan change, select and implement appropriate interventions, evaluate interventions, and plan and implement appropriate termination. Special issues relating to diverse populations such as ethnic minorities, children, women, the poor, and other oppressed groups will be examined. Values and ethics will underlie the materials and analysis of social work problems and decision-making. Prerequisite: admission to the program.
SW 541 Generalist Social Work Practice II (5)
This course introduces students to the professional roles, values, ethical standards, knowledge, skills, and technological tools for effective cross-cultural generalist social work practice with families and groups. Using a strengths-based perspective, students explore effective group and family practice in relation to a variety of social problems, including those exacerbated by factors related to deprivation and social injustice. Throughout the course, students actively engage in skill-building exercises to strengthen practice competencies in family and group work, including advocacy on behalf of vulnerable populations within the community. Students also learn empirically-based approaches to enhance their interpersonal and written communication, interviewing, data gathering, assessment, intervention, and evaluation skills. Prerequisite: successful completion of SW 540.

SW 542 Generalist Social Work Practice III (5)
This is the third foundation course in generalist social work practice and moves from the micro and mezzo emphases of the first two practice courses to an emphasis on macro systems (organizations and communities). The course orients students to the major areas of macro practice with particular emphasis on communities and organizations as social systems. The course analyzes community as a social system and explores strategies for producing societal change in the context of an action-oriented problem solving process. Various approaches to community intervention as well as their relevance and application to current social problems are also presented. The course reviews the nature of formal organizations as environments through which social services are provided in the community and the knowledge and skills necessary to affect change within organizations. Sensitivity to ethical issues and vulnerable and diverse populations is woven throughout the course as essential to the effective practice of macro social work. Students will focus on analysis of the community as a social system, common strategies for producing change in community work, the nature of formal organizations as environments through which social services are provided in the community, and the knowledge and skills necessary to affect change within organizations. Students will examine the role of a macro social worker as program developer, program administrator, and organization developer. This course conceptualizes macro social work as the profession that brings about social transformation, social reform, and community betterment. Prerequisite: successful completion of SW 541.

SW 550 Foundation Field Practicum I (3)
This is the first Foundation Practicum course and includes 16 hours each week (for a total of 160 hours/quarter) of supervised practice experience in a community social agency with a three-hour integrative seminar. The course focuses on the application of Foundation knowledge, skills, values, and ethics to practice with diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities across the life span. Students develop skills in self-evaluation and effective use of self across multiple roles and in accord with professional values and ethics and with applicable laws and regulations; in culturally responsive interviewing, assessment, intervention, and evaluation; in written and oral professional communication; in effective use of supervision; and in critical assessment of agency policy and practice. The course may extend beyond the limits of a typical quarter. Prerequisites: admission to the program; completion of or concurrent enrollment in SW 540.

SW 551 Foundation Field Practicum II (3)
This is the second Foundation Practicum course and includes 16 hours each week (for a total of 160 hours/quarter) of supervised practice experience in a community social agency with a three-hour integrative seminar. The course focuses on the application of Foundation knowledge, skills, values, and ethics to practice with diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities across the life span. Students develop skills in self-evaluation and effective use of self across multiple roles and in accord with professional values and ethics and with applicable laws and regulations; in culturally responsive interviewing, assessment, intervention, and evaluation; in written and oral professional communication; in effective use of supervision; and in critical assessment of agency policy and practice. The course may extend beyond the limits of a typical quarter. Prerequisites: successful completion of SW 550.
SW 552 Foundation Field Practicum III (4)
This is the third Foundation Practicum course and includes 16 hours each week (for a total of 160 hours/quarter) of supervised practice experience in a community social agency with a three-hour integrative seminar. The course focuses on the application of Foundation knowledge, skills, values, and ethics to practice with diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities across the life span. Students develop skills in self-evaluation and effective use of self across multiple roles and in accord with professional values and ethics and with applicable laws and regulations; in culturally responsive interviewing, assessment, intervention, and evaluation; in written and oral professional communication; in effective use of supervision; and in critical assessment of agency policy and practice with the culmination being the first part of the portfolio in preparation for advancement to candidacy. The course may extend beyond the limits of a typical quarter. Prerequisites: successful completion of SW 551.

SW 565 Social Work Practice with Older Adults and their Families (5)
This course will provide an overview of social work practice with older adults and their families. It will build upon and expand foundation coursework theories about human development, personality, and the social environment as it relates to an ethnically diverse, aging society. Social work practice with elders at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels will be a focus. Special topics to be covered will include the interaction between and among: poverty, gender issues, ethnicity, care giving, elderly abuse, long term care, religion and spirituality, legal issues, mental health, health care, and advocacy. Prerequisite: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 570 Domestic Violence and Family Dynamics (5)
This course examines the dynamics of domestic violence within the family with an emphasis on understanding the cycle of violence and the impact of domestic violence on women and children. This course also focuses on the bio-psycho-socio-spiritual models and theoretical approaches to interventions with this population and society. Prerequisites: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 571 Clinical Practice and Inquiry with Death and Dying (5)
This course examines the impact of grief and loss throughout the life cycle with an emphasis on loss through terminal illness and the trauma of death. The course emphasizes clinical interventions, research, and the current theoretical perspective from a bio-psycho-socio-spiritual paradigm. Prerequisites: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 572 Issues and Interventions in Child Maltreatment (5)
This course prepares students for interdisciplinary, multicultural practice with maltreated children and their families. Students develop a conceptual background in etiology, intervention, and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Students develop skills in identification, intervention, treatment, and prevention in working with families who have abused or are at high risk for abusing their children. Prerequisite: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 574 Substance Abuse, Dual Diagnosis, Assessment, & Treatment (5)
This advanced course in substance abuse and dual diagnosis treatment addresses assessment, placement criteria, treatment approaches, relapse prevention, standards of care, professional ethics, case management, and multidisciplinary strategies. The course also covers the 10 core competencies required to become a Certified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor, and consideration is given to public policy, legislation, and service delivery in a managed care environment. Prerequisite: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 577 Special Topics in Social Work (1-5)
Offered periodically as announced. May be repeated with different course content. Prerequisite: admission to the program or instructor permission.

SW 585 Social Work in the Schools (5)
This is an elective course designed to help students gain a greater understanding of the role of school social work and its implications for social work practice. The focus of this course is on the application of theories, concepts, and principles in the direct and indirect practice with children and their families in school settings. This course will utilize an ecological perspective with emphasis placed on the ethical dimensions faced in a public school setting. Prerequisites: graduate standing and instructor permission.
SW 593 Assessment and Diagnosis in Social Work (5)
This course is designed to examine the incidence and etiology of mental illness and other conditions that may bring individuals to seek assistance and the impact of those conditions on individuals, families, and society. Includes examination of biopsychosocial, environmental, and cultural variables that may influence the occurrence, perception, and experience of conditions as they are manifest across the life span. Various Classification systems (DSM, PIE, and ICD) may be utilized to meet the demands of practice. Prerequisites: A course in human biology and SW 520.

SW 595 Spirituality, Religion, and Social Work (5)
This course examines the role of spirituality and religion in social work practice. Attention will be given to national as well as global spiritual and religious traditions and their impact on the formation of social work as a profession. Students will gain an understanding of the roles of Charity Organization Societies, the Settlement House Movement, and the influence of other religiously/spiritually-based groups in the development of social work. Relevant literature and research will be explored with an emphasis on offering students models to integrate spirituality and religious beliefs into current social work philosophy, theories, and micro, mezzo, and macro practice frameworks. Information on research needs and opportunities concerning these subjects will also be addressed. Prerequisite: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 596 Human Sexuality in Social Work Practice (5)
Examination of the major variables affecting human sexuality including the physiological, psychological, and socio-cultural variables associated with the development and manifestation of sexual identity, sexual behavior, and sexual disorders across the lifespan. The interaction of biological, social, psychological and cultural factors as they promote health and well-being, or contribute to difficulties in the expression of sexuality, is emphasized. Prerequisites: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 599 Individual Study (1-5)
This course allows a student to work independently with a professor on a collaboratively designed plan of study. Prerequisite: instructor permission.

SW 610 Advanced Social Policy and Services (5)
This is the second of two courses offered in the policy sequence. Building on knowledge from SW510 (Social Policy and Services), emphasis in this course is on a deeper understanding and application of social policy. This course has a special focus on policy practice and policy advocacy to bring about desired changes consistent with the values and ethics of social work profession. The course builds on the content and concepts of SW 510 and prepares students to understand major services and policies relating to health, mental health, and child welfare services. The course attempts to explicate the intended and unintended effects of policies and programs in these areas on special populations at risk. It also addresses topics of special concern to social work such as promoting social justice, addressing oppression, and providing equal opportunity. It will emphasize that policy is made in interaction with politics and the legislative process. The course will review international, national, state, and local perspectives on problem areas in child welfare, health and mental health, and aging services. Students are exposed to the importance of adopting human rights framework and a right-based approach to social and economic justice. Prerequisite: SW 510 and advancement to social work candidacy.

SW 620 Advanced Human Behavior (5)
This course focuses on complex social systems as a foundation for the integration of multiple theoretical perspectives. There is a stress on risk and protective factors including the roles that poverty, adversity, and discrimination play in understanding human behavior in the context of the environment. The course builds on the SW 520 Foundations in Human Behavior course, offers coverage of current methods, models, and frameworks, and provides a more in depth application of theory to social work practice. Prerequisite: SW 520 and advancement to social work candidacy.
SW 630 Advanced Research Methods for Social Work Practice (5)
This advanced course in research methodology builds on SW530 Research Methods in Social Work. The focus of this course is on social work program and practice evaluation. Particular attention is given to epistemological issues in clinical research, clinical assessments, quantitative, and qualitative methods used in social work practice evaluation. Needs assessments and program evaluation and their roles in social work practice will be covered. This course is designed to give the student a more in-depth exploration of gender and ethnic minority research issues and computer-assisted, descriptive, and inferential data analysis. Prerequisites: SW 530 and advancement to social work candidacy.

SW 640 Advanced Practices in Child and Family Services (5)
This is the advanced practice course within the Child and Family Services and builds on the knowledge and skills gained in foundation courses. It is designed to prepare students to carry out social work roles in various social agencies that serve children and families. This course is designed to address three key areas by: 1) providing a broad overview of the significant policies, laws, programs, and practices that led to the development of current child welfare services, 2) focusing on key practical aspects of working with children in children and family welfare settings, and 3) identifying critical issues facing practitioners in this service area. Students will become acquainted with the range of services and settings that constitute the field of practice with children and families. Social work roles, functions, and processes across settings will be emphasized. Prerequisite: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 641 Community Mental Health (5)
This online course provides information and skills necessary for the practice of social work with people who have problems of functioning that are commonly treated in mental health settings. The course is designed to provide a better understanding of the service delivery system and ideas for how to work effectively in it. Issues related to ethics, diversity, and social justice is incorporated in the course. The values that community mental health professionals must consider include cultural competence, empowerment, and the ethical concerns unique to helping agency-affiliated individuals in the community. Prerequisites: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 643 Advanced Practice in Health (5)
This course introduces students to the specialized knowledge, skills, and ethical standards central to effective social work practice in the field of health care. It examines the roles and functions of medical social workers working within an interdisciplinary team and practicing in a variety of health care settings with individuals, families, and groups from diverse backgrounds. It explores evidence-based preventive and therapeutic approaches to a variety of crises related to injury, illness, disability, disease, community-wide disasters, and loss throughout the lifespan. Through case studies, it challenges students to apply effective communication, assessment and intervention strategies to a variety of complex and culturally diverse situations. Particular attention is given to the needs of a growing older population and their families, as well as to those in society who are more vulnerable to the effects of health care disparities due to poverty, oppression, and discrimination. Practice standards in end-of-life care, systems-based practice, and ethical decision making are examined; with particular attention to health-related legal, cultural, and social justice issues. By incorporating an historical and integrative multi-system perspective, this course also explores global and national health and disease trends, advances in information and medical technology, and changes in the U.S. health care delivery and financing systems influencing the future of social work practice in the health care field. Prerequisites: graduate standing and instructor permission.

SW 646 Advanced Practice I (5)
This is the first practice course within the Advanced Generalist Practice sequence and builds on the knowledge and skills gained in foundation courses. It is designed to prepare students to carry out social work roles in various social agencies. The focus of this course is on the application of theories, concepts, and principles in direct service. Students are expected to develop competencies in assessments, intervention strategies, and in ongoing review of cases. Students will become acquainted with the range of services and settings that constitute the field of social work practice. Social work roles, functions, and processes across levels of practice will be emphasized. Prerequisites: advancement to social work candidacy.
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SW 647 Advanced Practice II (5)
This course is the second in a three-course advanced generalist practice sequence. It focuses on the value, knowledge, and skill base necessary for effective social work practice with families and groups. The course will provide advanced intervention techniques with diverse families, and groups are analyzed from a developmental, resiliency-based, multicultural systems framework with an emphasis on integrating various theoretical perspectives and evidence-based practice approaches. Throughout the course, students actively engage in skill-building exercises to strengthen practice competencies in family and group work, including advocacy on behalf of vulnerable populations within the community. Prerequisite: SW 646.

SW 648 Advanced Practice III (5)
This is the third practice in a three-course advanced generalist practice sequence. The focus of this course is management, supervision and organizational behavior within human service agencies. The major areas include leadership, supervision, decision making, conflict resolution, program development, human resources, fiscal management, and work with boards and volunteers. Social work is often described as an ‘organizational profession’ because it does most of its work within formal agency settings. With the growing complexity of human service organizations, more and more social workers are called upon to participate in managerial roles. This course will prepare students to work more effectively and responsively within complex organizational settings. It will seek to develop and expand students’ knowledge of the organizational context of social work practice. Emphasis will be placed on how race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, class, and disability affect management practices. Prerequisite: SW 647.

SW 650 Advanced Field Practicum (3)
This is the first advanced supervised practicum experience for 16 hours each week (for a total of 160 hours/quarter) that engages students in supervised application of the knowledge and skills acquired in other courses. The goal is to produce a professionally reflective, self-evaluating, knowledgeable, and developing social worker who can flexibly apply a variety of knowledge and skills with diverse populations that interrelate with multiple systems across the life span in accord with professional values and ethics and applicable laws and regulations. The course includes periodic seminars to guarantee integration of content to meet Program competencies, practice behaviors, and student learning outcomes. To complete the total 160 hours, the course may extend beyond the limits of a typical quarter. Prerequisites: either concurrent enrollment or completion of SW 647.

SW 651 Advanced Field Practicum II (3)
This is the second advanced supervised practicum for 16 hours each week (for a total of 160 hours/quarter) that engages students in supervised application of the knowledge and skills acquired in other courses. The goal is to produce a professionally reflective, self-evaluating, knowledgeable, and developing social worker who can flexibly apply a variety of knowledge and skills with diverse populations that interrelate with multiple systems across the life span in accord with professional values and ethics and applicable laws and regulations. The course includes periodic seminars to guarantee integration of content to meet Program competencies, practice behaviors, and student learning outcomes. To complete the total 160 hours, the course may extend beyond the limits of a typical quarter. Prerequisites: either concurrent enrollment or completion of SW 647.

SW 652 Advanced Field Practicum III (4)
This is the third advanced supervised practicum for 16 hours each week (for a total of 160 hours/quarter) that engages students in supervised application of the knowledge and skills acquired in other courses. The goal is to produce a professionally reflective, self-evaluating, knowledgeable, and developing social worker who can flexibly apply a variety of knowledge and skills with diverse populations that interrelate with multiple systems across the life span in accord with professional values and ethics and applicable laws and regulations. The course includes periodic seminars with the purpose of developing a portfolio that demonstrates the student’s ability to integrate the Program content in relationship to the competencies, practice behaviors, and student learning outcomes. To complete the total 160 hours, the course may extend beyond the limits of a typical quarter. Prerequisites: either concurrent enrollment or completion of SW 648.

SW 691 Thesis I (5)
The first of two courses under the supervision of a thesis committee to work toward completion of an individual research project. Must meet University thesis requirements. Five units are awarded for the first quarter in which satisfactory work is documented and approved by the thesis committee. Prerequisite: advancement to candidacy is required prior to initiation of the thesis.

SW 692 Thesis II (5)
The second of two courses under the supervision of a thesis committee to work toward completion of an individual research project. Must meet University thesis requirements. Five units are awarded at the culmination of the thesis process with satisfactory work documented and approved by the thesis committee. Prerequisite: completion of SW 691 and thesis committee approval.