**Social Work**

**Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Priority Admission Application Deadlines:**

**Full-time two-year program**: February 15

**Full-time Adv Standing:**

\*Summer February 15

\*Spring: October 15

**Part-time program:** Contact School for further information. Please call 813-974-2063 regarding deadlines

**Minimum Total Hours:** 35 (with B.S.W.)

60 (without B.S.W.)

**Level:** Masters

**CIP Code:** 44.0701

**Dept Code:** SOK

**Major/College Codes:** SOK BC

**Approved** 1981

**Also offered as:** Concurrent Degree M.S.W./M.P.H.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Behavioral & Community

Sciences

**Department:** School of Social Work (SOK)

**Contact Information:** [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu/)

**MAJOR INFORMATION**

The School of Social Work offers a program leading to a Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree. The Major is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. A concurrent degree option is available with Public Health/Maternal and Child Health or Behavioral Health. The primary objective of the major is preparation of the graduate for professional social work practice through acquisition of specialized knowledge and skills necessary for clinical practice with individuals, families, and groups. The secondary objectives of the M.S.W. are:

1. to prepare students academically for pursuit of doctoral education in social work or related human service disciplines or professions;
2. to contribute to the needed supply of professionally educated clinical social workers in the Tampa Bay area, the state, the region, and the nation.

The M.S.W. offers a specialized course of study in direct clinical practice. The major offers students a core curriculum, plus electives, and a supervised field experience designed to produce professionals with individual, family, and group practice skills. M.S.W. graduates are prepared to engage in advanced clinical social work practice. As such, it is our goal that by completion of the major , students will be prepared:

1. To become advanced social work practitioners who integrate the knowledge, skills , and values of the profession so they are able to conduct evidence-informed practice effectively and ethically with individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities ranging from local to global levels.
2. To engage in addressing the needs of vulnerable, oppressed, and underserved populations and to promote university-community partnerships that strengthen communities and further social and economic justice.
3. To further the development of social policies and social service delivery systems that are effective in meeting the needs of individuals and communities at local-global levels and that are in concert with values of the social work profession.
4. To contribute to the body of knowledge regarding theory and skills that is critical to the practice of effective social work and the vitality of the profession.
5. To engage in the pursuit of professional life-long learning, which may include advanced education preparation necessary to sustain professional competency.

The M.S.W. places great emphasis on standards of professional behavior and ethics in the practice of social work. Entrance into the M.S.W. does not guarantee graduation from the major. Students admitted to the M.S.W. must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00, in all social work courses, with no grade below “B-” counting toward graduation. Failure to maintain the specified GPA or to exhibit responsible professional behavior determined by the School may result in suspension or dismissal from the major. Courses with grades below “B-” must be repeated before progressing to the next sequence. Students must pass the comprehensive paper during the last semester in order to graduate from themajor.

Students may pursue the M.S.W. on either a full- or part-time basis. Both options consist of 60 semester hours of study. Students should check directly with the School of Social Work for applications and timelines. The full-time option takes four semesters to complete; the part-time option lasts for eight (8) consecutive semesters. The major offers graduates from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited BSW program (within 5 years) the option of applying for advanced standing.  The advanced standing program is available online on either a full- or part-time basis. The advanced standing program is also offered on campus **and online. Students qualify by receiving “B-” or better grades in all the undergraduate social work courses. (Students do not qualify with any grade below “B-” in these courses)**. Both the full- and part-time options are heavily sequenced and students must stay in sequence.

**Accreditation:**

Accredited by the Council of Social Work Education.

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements for admission to the major, listed below.

* School of Social Work Application
* Three letters of recommendation
* 500-word personal statement and a 500-word essay describing a social problem
* Liberal arts pre-requisites; to be eligible for admission to the MSW Major, students must have taken courses with a liberal arts perspective. Liberal Arts perspective is defined as 12 credits which include three credits of biology with human content and a minimum of three credits of social and behavioral sciences. The remaining credits may be completed through additional social and/or behavioral sciences, humanities and fine arts classes. (One statistics course may also be used in completing this requirement.) Liberal Arts requirements may be waived at the discretion only of the MSW chair in consultation with the Director.
* Interview may be required; experience in the field preferred.

**CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

Total Minimum hours: 60 (non-BSW students)

35 (BSW students)

**Non BSW Students – 60 hour minimum**

**Curriculum Requirements (non-B.S.W. students) 60 hours minimum**

**Summary**

Foundations Courses 17 hours

*(ex: SOW 6105, SOW 6305, SOW 6235, SOW 6405, SOW 6348, SOW 6xxx)*

Advanced Courses 20 hours

Field Courses 13 hours

Electives 9 hours

Capstone Project 1 hour

**Total 60 hours for non-BSW students**

**Core Requirements -37 hours**

**Human Behavior and Social Environment Courses - 8 hours**

SOW 6105 3 Foundations of Human Behavior

SOW 6124 3 Psychopathology

SOW 6126 2 Health, Illness, and Disability

**Social Work Practice Courses -17 hours**

SOW 6342 3 Social Work Practice With Individuals

SOW 6305 3 Foundations of Social Work Micro Practice

SOW 6348 3 Diversity and Social Justice

SOW 6362 3 Social Work Practice With Couples and Families

SOW 6368 3 Social Work Practice With Groups

SOW 6186 3 Foundations of Social Work Macro Practice

**Policy and Services Courses - 6 Hours**

SOW 6235 3 Foundations of Social Welfare Policy

SOW 6236 3 Social Welfare Policy Development and Analysis

**Social Work Research Courses - 6 hours**

SOW 6405 3 Foundations of Social Work Research and Statistics

SOW 6438 3 Evaluation of Clinical Practice in Diverse Settings

**Supervised Field Experience - 13 hours**

For full-time students:

SOW 6534 1 Field Instruction I

SOW 6535 4 Field Instruction II

SOW 6536 4 Field Instruction III

SOW 6539 4 Field Instruction IV

For part-time students:

SOW 6534 1 Field Instruction I

SOW 6553 2 Field Instruction Sequence IIPart-time

SOW 6554 2 Field Instruction Sequence II:Part-Time

SOW 6555 2 Field Instruction Sequence III:Part-Time

SOW 6556 2 Field Instruction Sequence III:Part-Time

SOW 6557 2 Field Instruction Sequence IV:Part-Time

SOW 6558 2 Field Instruction Sequence IV: Part-Time

**Electives -9hours**

All MSW students are required to take 9 clinical elective credit hours. All clinical electives must be taken in the School of Social Work. Students may take clinical electives during any semester including summer sessions. However, part-time students should check the program course schedule for the recommended semesters for electives.

**Comprehensive Exam - 1 hour**

***Captstone Project*** - In lieu of the Comprehensive exam, students wil complete a **Capstone Project** involving the content from across the curriculum. It will be completed in the final semester. It is worth 1 credit hour and meets the requirement for the Comprehensive Exam.

SOW 8907 1 Capstone Project

**BSW Students (Advanced Standing Students) – 35 hour minimum**

This option offers graduates from a CSWE accredited BSW (within 5 years) the opportunity of applying for advanced standing.  **Students qualify by receiving “B-” or better grades in all the undergraduate social work courses. (Students do not qualify with any grade below “B-” in these courses)**.

**Curriculum Requirements (B.S.W. students) 35 hours minimum**

**Summary**

Core requirements 20 hours

Field Experience 8 hours

Electives 6 hours

Capstone Project 1 hour

**Total 35 hours for BSW students**

**Core requirements for advanced standing students -20 hours**

**Human Behavior and Social Environment Courses - 5 hours**

SOW 6124 3 Psychopathology

SOW 6126 2 Health, Illness, and Disability

**Social Work Practice Courses - 9 hours**

SOW 6342 3 Social Work Practice With Individuals

SOW 6362 3 Social Work Practice With Couples and Families

SOW 6368 3 Social Work Practice with Groups

**Policy and Service Courses - 3 hours**

SOW 6236 3 Social Welfare Policy Development and Analysis

**Social Work Research Courses - 3 hours**

SOW 6438 3 Evaluation of Clinical Practice in Diverse Setting

**Supervised Field Experience** - **8 hours**

For full-time students:

SOW 6536 4 Field Instruction III

SOW 6539 4 Field Instruction IV

For part-time students:

SOW 6555 2 Field Instruction Sequence II:Part-Time

SOW 6556 2 Field Instruction Sequence III:Part-Time

SOW 6557 2 Field Instruction Sequence IV:Part-Time

SOW 6558 2 Field Instruction Sequence IV:Part-Time

**Electives - 6 hours**

Students are required to take 6 hours of clinical electives. All clinical electives must be taken in the School of Social Work. Students may take clinical electives during any semester including summer sessions. However, part-time students should check the program course schedule for the recommended semesters for electives.

**Comprehensive Exam - 1 hour**

***Capstone Project -* In lieu of the Comprehensive exam, students complete a Capstone Project** involving the content from across the curriculum will be completed in the final semester. It is worth 1 credit hour and meets the requirement for the Comprehensive Exam.

SOW 8907 1 Capstone Project

**COURSES**

See <http://www.ugs.usf.edu/course-inventory/>