**Social Work**

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

*~~Program is currently suspended for admissions~~*

*~~(Effective Spring 2014)~~*

**Priority Admission Application Deadlines:**

**Fall:** February15

**Spring:** October 15

**Summer:** February 15

International applicant deadlines:

<http://www.grad.usf.edu/majors>

**Minimum Total Hours:** ~~60~~ 42 post masters

**Level:** Doctoral

**CIP Code:** 44.0701

**Dept Code:** SOK

**Major/College Codes:** SOK BC

**Approved:** 2004

**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 major leading to a Ph.D. in Social Work. The Ph.D. major provides a course of study to prepare graduates for academic and research careers, to provide leadership in research and education committed to excellence in social work clinical practice and to provide leadership in the development of clinical services for diverse, vulnerable and underserved populations.~~

~~The Ph.D. major, requiring 60 hours of study, is offered via a nontraditional model of delivery. During the first three years, students complete thirty-six hours of course work in nine semesters. These courses are offered in intensive weekend sessions during the fall and spring semesters and in concentrated three-week summer sessions. Dissertation work (24 hours) is taken during the course of years four and five.~~

~~This doctoral major allows students to attend course work while maintaining full-time employment commitments.~~

The School of Social Work offers a full-time interdisciplinary program leading to a Ph.D. in Social Work. The Ph.D. degree program provides a course of study to prepare graduates for academic and research careers, to provide leadership in research and education committed to excellence in social work practice and to provide leadership in the development of program and services for diverse, vulnerable and underserved populations. Unique to this program is the strategic emphasis on topic areas that align with the strengths of the College, USF, and forecasted direction of the profession. These are: (1) Behavioral Health, (2) Global Issues, (3) Health, (4) Leadership and Business, and (5) Societal Change and Innovation. The degree program leads to the preparation of future scholars and educators to advance social justice and vulnerability issues.

**Accreditation:**

The University of South Florida is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of College and Schools.

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

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

* ~~Bachelor’s degree from a regionally-accredited university or college; undergraduate G.P.A. of 3.00 in last two (2) years of undergraduate work;~~
* ~~Master’s degree from CSWE accredited social work program; G.P.A. of at least 3.05 (on a 4.00 scale);~~
* ~~GRE required, with preferred scores of 500V, 500Q;~~
* ~~School of Social Work Application;~~
* ~~Three recommendations addressing applicant’s academic and professional capabilities;~~
* ~~Candidate’s statement that describes reasons for seeking admission to the Ph.D. in Social Work major, career goals, and research interests;~~
* ~~Professional or academic writing sample providing evidence of scholarly abilities such as single-authored journal article, book chapter, technical report, thesis, grant application, or other comparable work; and~~
* ~~Interview.~~

Admission is typically limited to individuals who hold a Master in Social Work from programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or international equivalents. However, applicants without a Master’s degree in social work, but with a Master’s degree in a related discipline are welcome to apply and will be considered on a case by case basis. The admissions committee may review the degree and request additional material for consideration to the program.

* A master’s degree GPA of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale
* Graduate Record Examination (GRE) with preferred scores of at least 30th percentile in the quantitative section and at least 50th percentile in the verbal section.
* Two letters of recommendation addressing applicant’s academic and professional capabilities.
* Applicant’s statement that describes reasons for seeking admission to the Ph.D. in Social Work program, career goals, and research interests.
* Professional writing sample providing evidence of scholarly abilities, such as journal article, book chapter, technical report, thesis, grant application or other comparable work.
* The admissions committee may request a personal or telephone interview with an applicant to clarify materials submitted.

**CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

**Total Minimum Hours: 42 post master’s**

The Ph.D. degree program requires a minimum of 42 credit hours post MSW/master’s degree. In accordance with university policy requiring a minimum of 72 hours post baccalaureate for a Ph.D., a minimum of 30 credit hours from the MSW/master’s degree can be applied to this degree’s post-baccalaureate’s 72 hour minimum. No credit hours for field work/internship will be counted towards the required credit hours for the Ph.D.

**Core – 15 credit hours**

**Courses in Area of Strategic Emphasis – 9 credit hours**

**Graduate Research Methods – 12 credit hours minimum**

**Dissertation – 2 credit hours minimum**

**Additional hours in research or area of emphsis/directed studies or dissertation – 4 credit hours minimum**

**Core Requirements – 15 credit hours**

SOW 7491 3 Theoretical Perspectives in Social Work Research

SOW 7981 3 Scientific Communication and Dissemination Practices

SOW 7616 3 Advanced Clinical Practice With Complex Problems

SOW 7775 3 Critical Issues in Social work

SOW 7776 3 Social Work Educator in the University

**Courses in Area of Strategic Emphasis – 9 credit hours minimum**

Students will also take a minimum of three (3) (9 credit hours) graduate courses in their area of strategic emphasis offered in the College or University.

**Graduate Research Methods – 12 credit hours minimum**

Students will complete three (3) credit hours minimum in Directed Studies

SOW 7917 3 Directed Studies in Social Work Research

9 To be determined\*

*\*Students will also take a minimum of three (3) (9 credit hours) of graduate research methods course offered in the College or the University.*

**Additional Hours – 4 credit hours minimum**

Students should expect to take at least four (4) additional credit hours either in research or area of strategic emphasis, or in directed studies or dissertation hours.

**Qualifying Exam**

Successful completion of **qualifying examinations** at the end of coursework prepares the student for Candidacy. Students must successfully pass the School of Social Work qualifying exam in order to be admitted into Doctoral Candidacy.

**Dissertation -2 credit hours minimum**

Successful defense of a dissertation consisting of original Social Work research. Students will take a minimum of 2 dissertation credits hours at the time of their defense.

SOW 7980 2 Dissertation Hours

**COURSES**

See <https://www.systemacademics.usf.edu/course-inventory/>