

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN STUDIES

Degrees Offered

Available on the Jackson and Germantown Campuses

- Master of Social Work

Master of Social Work Mission Statement

The mission of the MSW Program is to prepare competent and effective professionals for leadership in advanced generalist practice. In a context of Christian higher education, the program fosters compassionate service, promotes social and economic justice, and equips students for excellence in social work practice.

Program Outcomes

The goals of the Master of Social Work Program are:

1. To equip students with knowledge, values, and skills for excellence in social work practice within the context of Christian higher education;
2. To foster compassionate service and promote social and economic justice;
3. To prepare social workers to be leaders in communities at state, national, and international levels;
4. To increase the availability of competent master-level prepared social work professional leadership in the surrounding region.
5. To prepare students to pursue advanced scholarship in post-M.S.W. education.

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Program Delivery

The MSW Program accepts students as full-time or part-time students beginning in fall semester. Students entering with a degree other than the BSW must complete 60 credit hours in two or three years to complete the program. Qualified applicants with the BSW may be eligible for the Advanced Standing program, which requires 33 hours to complete the MSW in one year full-time or two years part-time. Qualifications include graduation with the BSW from a CSWE-accredited program, a GPA of at least 3.0, completed application, and references that meet the standards of the MSW Admissions Committee. (More information appears below.) This degree is not offered in a totally online format; however, depending on the content, both classroom and online options appear throughout the academic year.

www.uu.edu/msw/

Accreditation

The M.S.W. program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Graduate Program Admission

Requirements

Admission to the program will be based on competitive selection from the pool of applicants who meet the following admission requirements:

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
2. Official transcript(s) from all undergraduate and graduate coursework attempted
3. Three letters of professional/academic reference specifying the applicant's capabilities for graduate study.
4. Completed application, including essay, with application fee of \$25.
5. Cumulative GPA of at least 2.65 for the baccalaureate degree.
6. A completed immunization form.
7. An interview with the Social Work Admissions Committee may be requested.
8. The following personal qualities: Self-awareness, empathy, objectivity, appreciation of diversity, professional commitment, critical thinking ability, effective oral and written communication skills, and the ability to advocate for and empathize for and with others.

Program Options:

Full-time Program (Two years):

Students will complete 30 credit hours per year, 15 credit hours each fall and spring semester. In addition each student will complete 300 clock hours of field practicum in the first year and 600 clock hours of field practicum in the second year.

Part-time Program (Three years):

The part-time program requires 9 credit hours in each fall and spring term. An additional 9 credits of electives are required that can be taken in the January or summer terms.

Advanced Standing Program:

A student with a B.S.W. degree from a CSWE-accredited undergraduate program may apply for admission to the Advanced Standing Program. Requirements for admission to Advanced Standing include:

1. A minimum GPA of 3.0 in the undergraduate program.
2. At least a grade of "B" in the Advanced Standing Bridge Course (SW 599) offered in the summer term prior to taking required classes.
3. All other regular requirements for admission to the M.S.W. program.

Progression in the program:

1. After being approved for admission to the MSW program, the student will enroll in the courses according to the prescribed sequence.
2. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale must be maintained, with no grade less than a B required to pass all courses. Students may repeat once a course in which they earn lower than a B. Elective courses with a grade lower than a B need not be repeated, but no credit will be given toward graduation. Students earning less than a B in required courses or in field practicum may be placed on probation status or terminated from the program. The MSW Director

Provisional Admission

Applicants who do not meet the regular admission requirements for the MSW program may be admitted provisionally at the discretion of the MSW Admissions Committee. Provisional admission will require contractual agreement between the applicant and the Admissions Committee to specify the conditions that must be met to matriculate into the MSW program without the designation of provisional status.

Transfer of Credit

Graduate credit for courses earned at a regionally accredited university and in a CSWE-accredited MSW program may be transferred to Union University if the courses are essentially

the same as those required in the MSW program. Evidence of similarity may be requested by presenting course descriptions or a syllabus from the institution where the course was taken. Such transfer credit will not be allowed for courses used to satisfy another degree at another institution. The maximum number of semester hours that may be transferred to Union University and applied to the MSW degree is nine hours, unless extenuating circumstances are presented such as to require special faculty approval otherwise.

No course with a grade less than B may be transferred. Courses taken more than five years before beginning the MSW program will be considered on an individual basis.

Financial Information

The registration of a student signifies an agreement by the student to fulfill the related financial obligations.

Tuition \$510/semester hour for the 2015-2016 MSW program.

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| Non-degree seeking post-baccalaureate students | \$5.10/semester hour |
| Application Fee (non-refundable, one time only) | \$25 |
| General Student Fee | \$20/hour |
| Course Drop Fee..... | \$10 |
| Insurance fee (per year) if student does not have private insurance | \$25 |
| Field Instruction Fee (SW 590, 591, 690, 691) | \$ 100 per Field Seminar enrollment |
| Cap and Gown Purchase | approx. \$40-50 |
| Advanced Standing Student Fee (SW 599) | \$25 |

There are two methods for the payment of expenses.

1. Full payment for a term (winter, fall, spring, summer, or other non-regular term) is due prior to or on the day of registration for classes.
2. Payment may be made in two equal payments, with one-half due at the time of registration and the balance due halfway through the term. A 1.5% service charge will be added to the unpaid balance following the initial payment.

For students who have a definite commitment of financial aid from the Student Financial Planning Office the total cost for the term and the financial aid allocation is the amount payable by the student to the university.

Any combination of the following payment is available.

1. Check, cash, or credit card (MasterCard, Discover, American Express)- a 2 ½ % service charge will be applied when payment is by credit card.
2. Federal Stafford loan
3. Employer reimbursement
4. FACTS (an electronic monthly draft from a savings or checking account)

All financial information is subject to change without notice.

Financial Assistance

Federal Stafford Loans

Students enrolled in the Master of Social Work program for a minimum of six hours per semester, fall or spring, may apply for the Federal Stafford Loan. The Stafford loan application process will require that you:

1. Complete and forward the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to the federal government with Union University's code of 003528.
2. Complete a Union Financial Aid Application and forward to the Union University Student Financial Planning Office.
3. For more information, contact the Student Financial Planning Office at 731-661-5015 or go to www.uu.edu/financialaid.

If a Federal Stafford Loan is not approved and available at the time of registration, the student must assume the cost by paying in full by check, cash, credit card, or FACTS.

Veterans

Union University is approved to offer educational benefits to veterans, reservists, and dependents who qualify for veterans benefits. Any person who qualifies for the above should check with the Student Financial Planning Office as soon as possible upon registration.

Employer Tuition Reimbursement

1. Students are responsible for providing information to the university regarding their employer's policies for tuition reimbursement.
2. If an employer reimburses a student directly, the student must pay the university in full at the time of registration.
3. If an employer provides partial reimbursement directly to the university, the student must pay his/her portion of tuition at the time of registration.
4. The university will provide required information to an employer when requested by the student.

526. Children and Families at Risk (3)

The course introduces students to knowledge of the child welfare and the juvenile justice system. It provides an