

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Available on the Jackson and Germantown Campuses

Program Delivery

The MSW Program accepts students beginning in the fall semester. Students entering with a degree other than the BSW must complete 60 credit hours 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. 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, most courses have online components, and some courses are totally online. For more information, visit 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) showing all course work, completion of baccalaureate degree(s), and all graduate credit previously attempted. Even if withdrawal occurred prior to earning credits and even if those credits do not apply to the current degree being sought, official transcripts must be sent from each institution.

- J. SW 590 Field Seminar I
 - K. SW 591 Field Seminar II
 - L. SW 605 Psychopathology
 - M. SW 623 Theory and Ethics for Advanced Practice
 - N. SW 631 Practice and Program Evaluation
 - O. SW 650 Advanced Practice with Individuals and Families
 - P. SW 660 Advanced Practice in Community Development and Administration
 - Q. SW 690 Field Seminar III
 - R. SW 691 Field Seminar IV
- II. Electives: 9 hours

an additional 12 hours. of MSW courses which are counted

Dual Degree Options

MSW/MCS: A dual degree option is offered between the School of Social Work and the School of Theology and Missions. Students will complete the required social work courses from Advanced Standing (24 hours) or Regular Standing (51 hours), the required Christian studies courses (24 hours), and an additional 12 hours of electives.

60-hour option:

- I. Required Social Work Core from Advanced Standing—24 hours:
- II. Required Christian Studies Courses—24 hours:
MCS 500, 505, 510, 515, 517, 538, 545, 546
- III. Four Electives from the following (2 from each discipline)—12 hours:
 - A. SW: 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 610, 611, 612
 - B. MCS: 516, 520, 535, 536
 - C. SW/MCS 580 Study Abroad (Communities and Trauma)
SW/MCS 580 Study Abroad (Poverty)

87-hour option:

- I. Required Social Work Core from Regular Standing—51 hours:
- II. Required Christian Studies Courses—24 hours:
MCS 500, 505, 510, 515, 517, 538, 545, 546
- III. Four Electives from the following (2 from each discipline)—12 hours:
 - A. SW: 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 610, 611, 612
 - B. MCS: 516, 520, 535, 536
 - C. SW/MCS 580 Study Abroad (Communities and Trauma)
SW/MCS 580 Study Abroad (Poverty)

Admissions Requirements: Applicants to the MSW/MCS dual degree must apply to and be accepted to each program separately, per current admission requirements of each program.

MSW/MBA: A dual degree option is offered between the School of Social Work and the McAfee School of Business. Students will complete the required social work courses from Advanced Standing (24 hours) or Regular Standing (51 hours), and the required Masters of Business courses (24 hours.), and

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.

dependents of veterans who qualify for Veterans Benefits. Any person who qualifies for VA Benefits should check with the

Financial Information

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

Tuition \$595/semester hour for the 2020-2021 MSW program.

Non-degree seeking post-baccalaureate students	\$595/semester hour
Application Fee (non-refundable, one time only)....	\$25
General Student Fee.....	\$23/hour
Course Drop Fee.....	\$10
Insurance fee	\$25
Field Instruction Fee (SW 590, 591, 690)	
.....	\$ 100 per Field Seminar enrollment
Field Instruction Fee (SW 691)	
.....	\$ 300 (includes licensing prep)
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

Financial aid information for graduate students is available on our website at www.uu.edu/financialaid/graduate/. Generally, graduate students may be eligible for Federal Direct student loans or private alternative student loans, depending on the program of study and the eligibility of the borrower. Union University is also approved by the Department for Veterans Affairs to offer educational benefits to veterans, reservists, and

4. Full payment of the student's account in the Business Office
5. Discharge of all other obligations (fines, fees, etc.) to the University.

Student Organizations

M.S.W. Student Organization

A professional organization is open to all M.S.W. students to assist in developing professional social work identity by regular meetings, educational events, and opportunities for students to lead in service to various social service agencies and the community.

Phi Alpha Honor Society

National Honor Society for Social Work Students, Eta Phi Chapter, fosters high standards of education for social work students and invites into membership those who have attained excellence in scholarship and achievement. Students with an overall GPA in the top 35% of all graduating MSW majors are

considered for membership. Other criteria for membership include professionalism, experience in field practicums, and leadership in the social work program. Students will be invited for membership after completion of SW 690, Field Seminar, in the curriculum.

Program Calendar

Classes meet on Monday and Thursday evenings depending on the program option. Classes may include both in-class and on-line instruction. Electives may be held any night of the week, on Saturday, or be totally online.

See www.uu.edu/msw for additional information.

Course Descriptions: Social Work (SW)

500. Human Behavior and the Social Environment I: Theoretical Foundations (3)

A foundational course providing a framework for creating, organizing, and understanding theory, research, and practice issues of human behavior and the social environment.

501. Human Behavior and the Social Environment II: Assessment through the Lifespan (3)

Prerequisite: SW 500.

This course uses a person-in-environment theoretical framework to provide the knowledge, values, and skills necessary for understanding human behavior as a function of biological, psychological, social, spiritual, and cultural systems across the lifespan.

502. MSW Orientation (0) F, S

This course provides an introduction for all new students to the graduate social work program at Union University and is essential to their success in the MSW program. Access to technologies used by Union University and the School of Social Work is covered along with an orientation to the library and online research tools.

510. Social Welfare and Social Justice (3)

An introductory background to the history, policy, programs, practice, and values of the social work profession.

520. Practice I: Communities and Organizations (3)

An examination of practice theory and methods with communities and organizations, including community organization and development, organizational theory and behavior, and advocacy.

521. Foundations for Research (3)

The conceptual foundations and methods of evidence-based research. Qualitative and quantitative research will be explored, as well as beginning practice research.

530. Practice II: Individuals and Families (3)

An examination of practice theories and methods for work with individuals and families. The course will emphasize client engagement, assessment, cultural competence, and problem-solving.

535. Policy Analysis and Advocacy (3)

Social policy focusing on major social welfare issues to equip students to analyze and evaluate policy and to develop knowledge and skills for advocacy.

540. Social Work with Groups (3)

An introduction to group theory, group development and methods of practice, various types of groups, and ethical issues that arise in work with groups.

590. and 591. Field Seminar I and II (3 each)

Students participate in Field Seminar when placed in a field practicum. Field Seminars I and II are designed to assist the student with processing the graduate level foundation year field experiences and in applying classroom learning to practice.

599. Advanced Standing Bridge Course (3)

A concentrated, rigorous seminar-styled course designed to prepare the Advanced Standing student for the concentration year of the M.S.W. curriculum. It links the student's

631. Practice and Program Evaluation (3)

Advanced graduate level research course designed to offer the student an opportunity to demonstrate advanced theoretical and practical approaches to program planning, development, grant writing, evaluation, and monitoring.

650. Advanced Practice with Individuals and Families (3)

An advanced course in social work practice with individuals and families focusing on evidence-based and culturally competent practice. Various theories and methods for work with individuals and families will be explored in depth with an aim toward equipping the advanced practitioner for skilled practice.

660. Advanced Practice in Community Development and Administration (3)

This advanced course in administrative and community practice focuses on leadership skills for use in advanced generalist practice. Planned change processes, program development and administration, teamwork, consensus organizing, grant writing and program management expertise are contexts for social work leadership.

690, 691. Field Seminar III and IV (3 each)

Students participate in the advanced field seminars during the graduate level concentration year field practicum. Field seminar III and IV are designed to assist the student with processing the advanced year field experiences and in applying classroom learning to practice.

Social Work Electives

The School of Social Work offers a selection of elective classes each year. Nine hours of elective credit are required for the M.S.W. These elective classes give students an opportunity to specialize in particular fields of social work practice or to explore social problems in depth.

511. Community Development (3) As Needed

Students will explore the practice of community development as a means to address social problems such as poverty, disease, and social injustice; explore the dynamics of religious life and faith in the work of Christian community development; learn the history and culture of a specific geographic region, with a focus on issues of cross-cultural service and development, and local and international sociopolitical factors in its development and poverties. Students will reflect on their own experiences and understandings in a cross-cultural setting and gain skills in cultural competence.

512. Counseling Theories (3) F

This course serves as an introduction and overview for selected counseling theories and will help prepare students for application of theoretical concepts. Students will have the opportunity to examine theories as they begin the process of developing a personal theoretical approach to counseling that best fits specific client populations. By the end of the course, students will be able to identify the theory with which they most closely connect, applying it to a particular case study and developing a theory-specific treatment plan.

522. Aging Issues and Services (3)

This is a graduate overview course that will introduce a wide variety of issues related to aging. It will aid the student to understand the complexity of the aging process from the perspective of the individual, the family, society, and social policy using senior mentors who will attend, respond to class lectures and participated in role play exercises.

523. Trauma-Focused Cognitive Based Therapy (3)

This course will introduce the students to the concepts, components, and skills underlying evidenced-based treatment for traumatized children and youth. There will be specificity placed on trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy, as well as focus given on how to integrate the knowledge, values, and skills as an advanced generalist practitioner.

524. Applied Technology in Social Work Practice (3)

This course equips graduate social work students to utilize emerging technologies in their daily professional practice. Students will become proficient in identifying specific hardware, software, and mobile & cloud services that can be employed in each phase of the planned change process in micro, mezzo, and macro client systems. A particular emphasis will be placed on how social workers can stay informed on the rapid development of technologies relevant to professional practice.

525. Traumatic Grief and Loss (3)

Traumatic Grief and Loss is a three-credit hour master level elective course that will underscore trauma-informed social work practice that transcends the particular type of trauma exposure with individuals, families, and groups of persons, but has special focus on those who have experienced the loss of a loved one from sudden, violent death.

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 overview of the child welfare system describing the history, policies, and programs, at both the state and the federal level for intervening with families in crisis. It is intended to provide a foundation in the knowledge and values necessary for professional child welfare practice and explore evidence based practices working with families and children. The class is taught web blended.

527. Professional Communications and Ethics (3) W, Su

This course focuses on building proficiency in professional communication skills and ethics in the field of social work in academic, agency, and other community settings. Types of communication covered include writing, speaking, presentations, documentation, emails, memos, etc. Ethical analysis of case scenarios are utilized in both building ethical analysis skills and in practicing and assessing communication proficiency.

528. Social and Cultural Diversity (3) As Needed

This course is designed to prepare social work students to be knowledgeable of people's biases based on race, ethnicity, culture, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, social and economic status, political ideology, disability and how these contribute to discrimination and oppression. Students will examine the role, function, and effects of oppression in society as it relates to social and economic justice.

550. Grant Writing and Grant Management (3)

Prepares students with resources to successfully submit competitive proposals and state and federal applications for funding. Includes writing purpose statements, background and justification, personnel, timelines, methods, budget, evaluation process, and effective management of funds upon approval.

551. Spirituality and Religion in Social Work Practice (3)

An overview of the ways spirituality and religion participate in SW practice, with particular emphasis on their inclusion as necessary components of assessment, planning, treatment, and evaluation in culturally-competent social work practice. Students examine influences in a diverse range of religious traditions and spiritual practices.

552. Addictions Counseling (3)

Introduction to addictions counseling with intensive understanding of the etiology, progress and counseling strategies for addictive disorders. Emphasis is on acquiring a comprehensive definition of addiction behaviors and review of the impact of addiction on individual and family systems.

553. Social Work Services in Schools (3)