

THE PROFESSION OF SOCIAL WORK

The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. A historic and defining feature of social work is the profession's focus on individual well-being in a social context and the well-being of society. Fundamental to social work is attention to the environmental forces that create, contribute to, and address problems in living (NASW Code of Ethics, 2006).



ABOUT WINTHROP

Winthrop University is a comprehensive public university that provides personalized and challenging undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education programs of national caliber to an achievement-oriented, culturally diverse and socially responsible student body. The university has been recognized on a variety of fronts including "Barron's Best Buys in College Education," the Princeton Review's "America's Best College Values," and U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges."



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For more information, please visit our website at:
www.winthrop.edu/socialwork/



MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE PROGRAM



MSW DEGREE OPTIONS

The Winthrop University MSW program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and offers three different options for completing the MSW degree:

- a) A two-year Full-Time Program (60 credits) for students interested in full-time study. Each cohort begins in August and completes four semesters of study, including two field internships at community agencies.
- b) A one-calendar year Advanced Standing Program (39 credits) for students who already have a CSWE-accredited BSW degree. Each cohort begins in May and completes a full calendar year of study, including one field internship at a community agency.
- c) A three-year Weekend Program (60 credits) for working students interested in part-time study in an intensive weekend format. Each cohort begins in August and continues for three years. Each course meets for two intensive weekend sessions one month apart, accompanied by independent readings and projects prior to, in-between, and after weekend sessions. Field internships are at reduced hours over a longer period of time to better accommodate the needs of working students.

PROGRAM CONCENTRATION

The MSW program offers an advanced concentration in empowerment practice across systems (individuals and families, small groups, and communities and organizations). Empowerment practice assesses the influence of multiple and interlocking personal, structural and societal systems of power on vulnerable and oppressed populations, incorporates the use of advanced social work theories and methodologies for assessment and intervention, and seeks to establish and maintain systems that are responsive, through culturally relevant strategies, in helping clients increase their power to improve their current situations and quality of life. Empowerment practice social workers synthesize and apply a broad range of evidence-based theories and methods of practice consistent with empowerment practice principles. They assess, intervene and evaluate at multiple levels of complexity and across systems in order to promote human and social well-being.

SOCIAL WORK COURSES

SCWK 601	Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3 credits
SCWK 602	Social Welfare Policy I	3 credits
SCWK 603	Social Work Research	3 credits
SCWK 604	Generalist Practice I	3 credits
SCWK 605	Interpersonal Helping Skills	3 credits
SCWK 615	Empowerment Practice Concepts	3 credits
SCWK 610	Generalist Practice II	3 credits
SCWK 611	Generalist Practice III	3 credits
SCWK 612	Field Instruction I	3 credits
SCWK 614	Social Welfare Policy II	3 credits
SCWK 620	Advanced Practice: Micro Systems	3 credits
SCWK 623	Psychopathology & Empowerment Practice	3 credits
SCWK 624	Psychodiagnostics & Social Work Practice (Elective)	3 credits
SCWK 633	Advanced Social Work Research	3 credits
SCWK 622	Field Instruction II	6 credits
SCWK 621	Leadership & Empowerment Practice	3 credits
SCWK 631	Advanced Practice: Macro Systems	3 credits
SCWK 640	Advanced Practice: Capstone	3 credits
SCWK 632	Field Instruction III- Field of Practice Focus	6 credits

FIELD INSTRUCTION

Students in the MSW program complete field practicum internships at area community agencies during their program of study. Full-Time Program students complete a 16 hours-per-week foundation level internship during their second semester of study and a 24 hours-per-week advanced practice internship during their third and fourth semesters of study. Advanced Standing Program students complete a 24 hours-per-week internship during their fall and spring semesters of study. Weekend Program students complete two extended internships at 12 hours per week during their program of study.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

All admission application forms may be accessed through the Graduate School website at www.winthrop.edu.

Degree: An undergraduate degree from a regionally accredited college or university (note: a CSWE-accredited BSW degree is required for admission to the Advanced Standing Program)

GPA: 3.0 overall preferred

Standardized Test Scores: GRE: Either the Graduate Record Exam (800+ combined verbal and quantitative scores) or the Miller Analogies Test (400+)

References: Three professional references

Experience: Not required, but valued

Essay: A brief statement is required for the Graduate School application, and a longer, more comprehensive statement is required for the MSW program. See program website for details.

Application Review: Review of applications begins each year on February 1 and continues until each cohort is filled.

For additional information:

Website: www.winthrop.edu/socialwork

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