Social Work

Professional service at the individual, family, group, community and organizational levels

The Major
The Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) at Winthrop University offers a strong professional practice curriculum that builds on a sound liberal arts foundation. The degree prepares students to move directly into social work positions in a wide range of settings, engaging in generalist practice at the individual, family, group, community and organizational levels. Students are also prepared to pursue graduate-level education. The program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

The Program
In addition to the general education program and university-wide requirements, the B.S.W. degree requires 45 semester hours in social work courses. These courses include content in human behavior and the social environment, multicultural populations, social welfare, research methods, interpersonal helping skills, and social work practice with individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations.

Field Instruction
The B.S.W. degree requires a full-semester internship during the last semester in the program. The internship includes a minimum of 450 hours working in a community social work setting under the supervision of a professional social worker. The Field Office is responsible for coordination and oversight of all internships.

Graduate School
Alumni from Winthrop's B.S.W. Program are eligible to pursue graduate social work in an Advanced Standing Program and complete their Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) in only one year. Advanced Standing Programs are offered at many accredited graduate schools of social work, including Winthrop University. Both the B.S.W. and M.S.W. degrees are professional degrees, and graduates are eligible for state licensure. A large number of Winthrop graduates choose to pursue a M.S.W., either immediately upon completing their B.S.W. degree or after working in the social work field.

Students from the B.S.W. program at Winthrop have a high acceptance rate into graduate schools, and the Department of Social Work receives consistent feedback that Winthrop students are well prepared for graduate-level education. While most students choose to complete a M.S.W. degree, some students elect to pursue graduate work in public health, psychology, counseling, and/or law.

The department sponsors the Social Work Club, a chapter of the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW), and a chapter of Phi Alpha, the National Social Work Honor Society.
Careers
Social work is the profession dedicated to service and social justice. Professional social workers provide help and support to those in need. Social work requires the ability to assess, engage, intervene, and evaluate service to others at the individual, family, group, community, organizational, and policy levels.

Social work graduates have a variety of career opportunities and are quickly employed in a broad range of settings including schools, hospitals, mental health centers, correctional institutions, non-profit organizations, government offices, and international development projects. The field has been noted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as one of the fastest growing professions in the United States.

Faculty
The social work faculty at Winthrop has been consistently recognized and respected as a group of highly motivated and dedicated professionals. Faculty members have received numerous awards at the university, local, state and national levels. Faculty are involved in active research and publications, participate in a variety of professional activities, and volunteer in the local community. Above all, faculty are dedicated to effective teaching and student learning.

Kori R. Bloomquist, (Ph.D., University of Indiana), assistant professor

Brent E. Cagle (Ph.D., LISW, LCSW, University of South Carolina), associate professor

Monique A. Constance-Huggins (Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh), assistant professor

Cynthia D. Forrest (Ph.D., LMSW, University of South Carolina), associate professor and gerontology program director

Allison K. Gibson (M.S.W., LSW, Ohio State University), assistant professor

Kareema J. Gray (Ph.D., University of Georgia) assistant professor

Jennifer C. McDaniel (LMSW, University of South Carolina), field director

Deana F. Morrow (Ph.D., LPC, LCSW, LISW-CP, North Carolina State University) professor, department chair and graduate program director

Duane R. Neff (Ph.D., Brandeis University) assistant professor and assessment coordinator

Perry Owen (M.S.W., University of South Carolina), associate field director

Wendy Sellers (Ph.D., University of South Carolina), associate professor and undergraduate program director

Winthrop University social work students were selected by the South Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) as the state’s social work students of the year in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013.

For more information, contact:
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