

SOCIAL WORK: FULL TIME, MSW

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

NAMED OPTION REQUIREMENTS MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW-Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail

Minimum Credit Requirement 49 credits

Minimum Residence Credit Requirement 16 credits

Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement 25 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/>).

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement 3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/>).

Other Grade Requirements Grades of C are accepted only if they are offset by an equal number of credits of A. Candidates who receive more than two grades of C (in courses that do not extend beyond one term) or a grade of D or F while in the program will be dropped from the MSW Program. Candidates who receive a grade of C in the Field and Integrative Seminar courses may continue only with permission of the faculty and may not offset the grade with a grade of A. (This policy does not apply to grades received for courses taken to meet the statistics prerequisite while in the program but it will affect the GPA).

Assessments and Examinations None.

Language Requirements None.

REQUIRED COURSES

Generalist Practice

First-year MSW students complete all generalist courses unless granted an exemption:

Code	Title	Credits
SOC WORK 400	Field Practice and Integrative Seminar I	4
SOC WORK 401	Field Practice and Integrative Seminar II	4
SOC WORK 441	Generalist Practice with Individuals, Families and Groups	3
SOC WORK 442	Generalist Practice with Communities and Organizations	2
SOC WORK 612	Psychopathology in Generalist Social Work Practice	2
SOC WORK 650	Methods of Social Work Research	3
SOC WORK 708	The Field of Social Work	2
SOC WORK 709	Social Policy	2
SOC WORK 710	Diversity, Oppression and Social Justice in Social Work	2
SOC WORK 711	Human Behavior and the Environment	2
Total Credits		26

Generalist courses must be completed before beginning Advanced Generalist courses.

Advanced Generalist Specialization

In a broad social justice framework, advanced practice MSW students complete an advanced generalist practice specialization. Students may choose one of four optional focus areas:

1. Aging;
2. Child, Youth, and Family Welfare;
3. Health; and
4. Mental Health.

For more information about focus area recommendations, students should refer to the Specialization Handbook found on the Social Work website Student Resources page (<https://socwork.wisc.edu/students/resources/>).

Students complete an **Advanced Practice** class in a focus area, a **Policies & Services** class in a focus area, a sequence of **Field Practice** in a focus area, **Advanced Macro Practice**, and three "free electives" chosen in consultation with an advisor. Students may choose to complete their advanced generalist practice specialization with no focus area, and still complete **Advanced Practice, Policies & Services**, and **Field Practice** courses that are based within focus areas, in addition to **Advanced Macro Practice** and three "free electives" chosen in consultation with an advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
Advanced Practice (choose one)		2
SOC WORK 741	Interventions with Children, Youth, and Families	
SOC WORK 821	Social Work Practice in Aging and Mental Health	
SOC WORK 835	Advanced Social Work Practice in Mental Health	
SOC WORK 873	Social Work Practice in Health Care	
Policies & Services (choose one)		2
SOC WORK 836	Mental Health Policies and Services	
SOC WORK 875	Health, Aging, and Disability Policy and Services	
SOC WORK 920	Child, Youth, and Family Policies and Services	
SOC WORK 921	Child Welfare Policies and Services	
Advanced Macro Practice		2
SOC WORK 840	Advanced Macro Practice	
Advanced Practice Field¹		11
SOC WORK 800	Field Practice and Integrative Seminar III	
SOC WORK 801	Field Practice and Integrative Seminar IV	
Three free electives from the list below chosen in consultation with advisor.		6
Total Credits		23

¹ For information on available Advanced Practice field units and the process of selecting a field unit, students should refer to the Field Handbook found on the Social Work website Student Resources page (<https://socwork.wisc.edu/students/resources/>).

Free Electives

Electives may be chosen from this list in consultation with an advisor. The Specialization Handbook (<https://socwork.wisc.edu/students/resources/#full-time-msw-students>) has suggested electives for focus areas and select sub-focuses. Not all electives are offered in a given year or semester. **Courses outside of the department may substitute for a course on this Free Electives list in consultation with an advisor.**

Code	Title	Credits
SOC WORK 623	Interpersonal Violence	3
SOC WORK 624	Social Work with the Small Group	2
SOC WORK 627	Sex Trafficking and Sex Trading	2
SOC WORK/ AMER IND 636	Social Work in American Indian Communities: The Indian Child Welfare Act	3

SOC WORK 639	Social Work Practice with LGBTQIA2S+ Individuals and Communities	3
SOC WORK 644	Issues in Developmental Disabilities	3
SOC WORK 646	Child Abuse and Neglect	2
SOC WORK 648	Social Work Practice in Palliative Care	2
SOC WORK 656	Child Welfare Practice in Foster and Kinship Care, Permanency, and Adoption	2
SOC WORK 675	Topics in Contemporary Social Welfare	2-3
SOC WORK 712	Psychopathology for Social Work Practice in Mental Health	3
SOC WORK/ URB R PL 721	Methods of Planning Analysis	3
SOC WORK 741	Interventions with Children, Youth, and Families ¹	2
SOC WORK 742	Assessing and Treating Children and Adolescents	2
SOC WORK/ NURSING/ PHM PRAC 746	Interdisciplinary Care of Children with Special Health Care Needs	3
SOC WORK 817	Social Work Practice in Schools II (only for School Social Work students)	2
SOC WORK 821	Social Work Practice in Aging and Mental Health ¹	2
SOC WORK/ LAW 822	Family Law: Marriage and Divorce	2-4
SOC WORK/ LAW 823	Family Law: Parent and Child	3-4
SOC WORK 825	Grief, Death, Loss, and Life	2
SOC WORK 835	Advanced Social Work Practice in Mental Health ¹	2
SOC WORK 836	Mental Health Policies and Services ¹	2
SOC WORK 838	Principles of Psychedelic Healing	2
SOC WORK 842	Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services Organizations	3
SOC WORK 852	Influencing Political Systems for Social Change	2
SOC WORK 854	Crisis Intervention	2
SOC WORK 861	Recent Developments in Social Work	2-3
SOC WORK 863	Recent Developments in Social Work	2-3
SOC WORK 870	Cognitive and Behavioral Mental Health Treatments for Adults	2
SOC WORK 873	Social Work Practice in Health Care ¹	2
SOC WORK 875	Health, Aging, and Disability Policy and Services ¹	2
SOC WORK/ ED PSYCH/HDFS/ NURSING 880	Prevention Science	3

SOC WORK 920	Child, Youth, and Family Policies and Services ¹	2
SOC WORK 921	Child Welfare Policies and Services ¹	2
SOC WORK 924	Family Problems and Social Work	2
SOC WORK 929	Social Work and Substance Misuse	2

¹ These courses can satisfy either an Advanced Practice/Policies & Services course, or a free elective. Taking additional Advanced Practice/Policies & Services courses as electives should only be done in careful consultation with an advisor, and can only be taken in the advanced practice year.