SOCIAL WORK, MSW AND CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, MS (MSW/CRCJ)

Grace Abbott School of Social Work, School of Criminology & Criminal Justice, College of Public Affairs & Community Service

Vision Statement

The MSW/MSCRCJ dual degree program is a collaborative effort between the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Grace Abbott School of Social Work and the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice. The MSW/MSCRCJ offers interdisciplinary preparation in the fields of social work and criminal justice leading to the master of social work and the master of criminal justice degrees, with fewer required credit hours than it would take to obtain these degrees independently.

This dual degree program prepares students to provide a range of advanced social work services and assume leadership in the field of criminal justice and social work. Graduates with a dual MSW/MSCRCJ are prepared to respond to the needs of the community by working with delinquent and criminal populations and the systems that impact these populations.

Students beginning the MSW/MSCRCJ program at the MSW Foundation level must complete 81 credit hours total. Students beginning the MSW/MSCRCJ program at the Advanced Standing level, must complete 57 credit hours total.

Program Contact Information

Social Work Contact

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Admissions

General Application Requirements and Admission Criteria (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/admission/)

Other Requirements

- **English Language Proficiency:** Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the United States, OR a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a predetermined country on the waiver list (https://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/prospective-students/Proof%20of%20English%20Proficiency-%20International.pdf), must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission.

- **Statement of Purpose:** The statement of purpose is an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of and fit for the social work profession, as well as your aptitude for graduate-level social work education. The Admissions Committee pays close attention to both content and writing skills. In your statement of purpose, please address each of the items listed below, in no more than five (5) pages, double-spaced, in a 12-point font. Your response to each of the items should be roughly the same length. If your statement of purpose does not clearly and directly address each of the items or does not follow the instructions, it may not be considered.
  - If you have a compelling autobiographical story relevant to your application, but that falls outside of the items addressed within the statement, you may add a letter to the Admissions Committee. Your letter will be considered, but will not be scored.
  - What type of work are you planning to engage with once you attain your MSW degree? Specifically, what are the issues, populations, and levels of practice you hope to work with after graduate school?
  - The social work profession is rooted in social justice. Social workers adopt a stance of cultural humility and strive towards cultural awareness. Discuss a time when you realized that one of your personal or cultural identities influenced your reaction to a social situation. Reflecting on that experience, how might it influence your future social work practice?
  - Social workers are self-reflective, strengths-based, and growth-oriented. Identify a strength that you possess and an area for growth. Discuss how you became aware of these, how they show up in your current professional practice, and how they may influence your future professional practice.
  - Social work is a values-based profession dedicated to mitigating inequality and enhancing human wellbeing, especially for vulnerable, marginalized, and oppressed populations. From the core values and ethical principles identified in the NASW Code of Ethics (https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English/), identify and discuss one that resonates with you and one that may challenge you.
  - Why have you chosen social work? Your response should demonstrate a basic understanding of the social work profession, including what distinguishes it from other helping professions.

- **Resume:** Applicants are highly encouraged to have professional experience in the human service field. Please submit a professional resume that identifies:
  - Educational experiences since high school
    - List start and end dates with month and year
    - Identify whether the position is part or full-time
    - Identify whether the position is paid or volunteer
    - Field placements, internships or practicums
    - Honors or distinctions received
  - Professional experiences, especially in human services

Program-Specific Requirements

Application Deadlines (Fall 2022)

- Fall: January 15
• **Letters of Recommendation:** Three letters of recommendation are required; the recommendation requests are generated from your online application. These recommendations should be from professional and academic sources who are directly familiar with your skills and experience. At least one reference should be from an immediate professional supervisor. If you have graduated from an academic program within the past two years, it is suggested that at least one reference should be from a faculty member who can speak directly to your academic preparation for graduate social work education. References from family members, family friends, personal friends, personal therapists, or other non-professional/academic sources will not be scored.

• The MS application for criminology and criminal justice is completed online adhering to the same admission criteria for the MSW degree. The personal statement and letters of recommendation for admission to the MSW degree will be used by the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice to admit students.

The MSW/CRCJ Foundation Program is a 81 credit hour program available to applicants who do not hold a BSSW degree from an accredited school of social work within the last 10 years.

The MSW/CRCJ Advanced Standing Program is a 57 credit hour program available to applicants who have earned a BSSW degree from an accredited school of social work within the last 10 years.

### Degree Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required Foundation Courses</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8070</td>
<td>HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8080</td>
<td>HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT II</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8090</td>
<td>SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8110</td>
<td>INSTITUTIONAL OPPRESSION</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8130</td>
<td>GENERALIST PRACTICE I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8150</td>
<td>GENERALIST PRACTICE II</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8160</td>
<td>GENERALIST SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM I</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8170</td>
<td>GENERALIST SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM II</td>
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</table>

**Total Credits:** 24

1 A student must receive grades of "B" or higher in practicum courses (SOWK 8160 and SOWK 8170).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Required Core Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8190</td>
<td>RESEARCH &amp; COMPUTER APPLICATIONS</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8220</td>
<td>CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK WITH INDIVIDUALS</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8230</td>
<td>CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK WITH GROUPS</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8510</td>
<td>SOCIAL WORK LEADERSHIP</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8540</td>
<td>PLANNING FOR SOCIAL CHANGE</td>
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<td>SOWK 8650</td>
<td>HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH POLICIES FOR SOCIAL WORK</td>
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<td>SOWK 8290</td>
<td>SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOWK 8400</td>
<td>ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM I</td>
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<td>SOWK 8410</td>
<td>ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM II</td>
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**Advanced Research Course**

Select one of the following:

- SOWK 8940 EVALUATION OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS 3
- SOWK 8960 RESEARCH OTHER THAN THESIS 3
- CRCJ 8210 PROGRAM EVALUATION AND POLICY ANALYSIS 3

### Social Work Electives

Select two Social Work Electives (see below) 6

- SOWK 8026 SOCIAL WORK WITH THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY
- SOWK 8046 WORKING WITH MINORITY ELDERLY
- SOWK 8240 SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH CHILDREN
- SOWK 8250 SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH FAMILIES
- SOWK 8260 SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH OLDER ADULTS
- SOWK 8270 SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH SEXUAL CONCERNS
- SOWK 8280 SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH COUPLES AND CHANGING FAMILY STRUCTURES
- SOWK 8420 ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM III
- SOWK 8516 TREATMENT ISSUES IN CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY
- SOWK 8550 SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL ADVOCACY
- SOWK 8570 ADMINISTRATION OF SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCIES
- SOWK 8600 PERMANENCE FOR CHILDREN
- SOWK 8610 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY VIOLENCE
- SOWK 8620 TRAUMA AND RESILIENCE
- SOWK 8686 MEDICAL AND PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF ALCOHOL/DRUG USE AND ADDICTION
- SOWK 8696 ASSESSMENT AND CASE MANAGEMENT IN SUBSTANCE ABUSE
- SOWK 8806 SOCIAL WORK AND THE LAW
- SOWK 8816 SPIRITUALITY AND SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE
- SOWK 8836 CRISIS INTERVENTION
- SOWK 8856 HOSPICE & OTHER SERVICES FOR THE DYING PATIENT/FAMILY
- SOWK 8886 TOPICAL SEMINAR IN SOCIAL WORK
- SOWK 8900 SPECIAL STUDIES IN SOCIAL WELFARE

### Required Criminology and Criminal Justice Courses

- CRCJ 8010 NATURE OF CRIME 3
- CRCJ 8020 SEMINAR IN ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE 3
- CRCJ 8970 CAPSTONE PROJECT IN CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE 3
- CRCJ 8130 SEMINAR IN WOMEN AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE 3

Select one course from the following 3

- CRCJ 8040 SEMINAR IN POLICE AND SOCIETY 2
- CRCJ 8050 SEMINAR IN CORRECTIONS 2
- CRCJ 8080 SEMINAR IN JUVENILE JUSTICE 2

### Criminology and Criminal Justice Electives

Select two Criminology and Criminal Justice Electives (see below). 6
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8060</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN THE CRIMINAL COURT SYSTEM</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8030</td>
<td>CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH THEORY AND METHODOLOGY</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8070</td>
<td>SEMINAR IN CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8100</td>
<td>CRIMINAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATION, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8136</td>
<td>SOCIOLOGY OF DEVIANT BEHAVIOR</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8180</td>
<td>CRIMINAL JUSTICE INTERNSHIP</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8230</td>
<td>TERRORISM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8356</td>
<td>COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8516</td>
<td>VIOLENCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8800</td>
<td>SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRCJ 8950</td>
<td>STATISTICAL APPLICATIONS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE &amp; PUBLIC ADMIN</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits**: 57

1 A student must receive a grade of "B" or higher in practicum courses (SOWK 8400 and SOWK 8410).

2 Courses not selected from among the three listed may be used as an elective.

**Exit Requirements**

- CRCJ 8970 Capstone course is offered in the fall and spring semesters. Once all required coursework has been completed, the student can register to take the capstone course. In this course, students will make arrangements with the instructor to conduct a research project. The course will end with a research report detailing results and written in a way consistent with agency and/or criminal justice organizational standards.

- Satisfactory completion with a grade of B or better in SOWK 8400 and SOWK 8410

**Academic Policies and Standards**

- The MSW Student Handbook can be found here (https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-public-affairs-and-community-service/social-work/student-resources/).