

SOCIAL WORK, MSW

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

Vision Statement

The mission of the Grace Abbott School of Social Work is to educate students to become highly qualified social workers who serve people of all ages and influence the systems that affect them, to advance knowledge through teaching and research, and to engage with diverse communities to promote socially just societies.

Program Information

The MSW program has received continuous accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education since 1940. The MSW program prepares graduates for advanced social work practice within a variety of settings. The MSW degree is recognized for licensure for independent social work practice in the United States. More information regarding licensure and certification can be found on local Department of Health and Human Services websites.

Program Contact Information

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Program Website (<https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-public-affairs-and-community-service/social-work>)

Admissions

Application Deadlines

- Summer or Fall: January 15

Program-Specific Requirements

1. Transcript(s)-Undergraduate weighted cumulative GPA of 3.0
2. Three Letters of Recommendation
 - Recommendation requests are generated from your online application. Please indicate only professional and/or academic persons (excluding family members and personal friends) as your recommenders.
 - Each recommender should describe how they know you (how long and in what capacity), and why they believe you would be a good candidate for the MSW program.
3. Resume
 - Current resume detailing employment history, nature of duties and responsibilities, accomplishments, leadership roles, and community involvement.
4. Statement of Purpose
 - Please answer the following statements/questions in a total of five double-spaced, typewritten pages (12 point font). Your application is considered incomplete if these instructions are not followed.
 - a. Brief autobiographical statement that discusses who you are and the experiences that led you to social work:
 - i Trace the development of you interest in social work. Why have you chosen social work as a profession? Describe the key motivating figure(s), role model(s), or experience(s) important to your decision to become involved in social work.

- a. Discuss your career objectives as a professional social worker as you now conceive them. What do you see yourself doing immediately after receiving your MSW degree?
- b. Discuss a contemporary social problem; include possible causes and potential solutions in your response. What contribution do you want to make to the pursuit of social and economic justice?
- c. The Grace Abbott School of Social Work is committed to enrolling students who represent diverse backgrounds *and* have an aptitude for working with clients of diverse backgrounds. Diversity can be defined by virtue of personal characteristics such as race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, class, and religion as well as other characteristics. Diversity may also include personal life experiences such as class, career history, belonging to another culture, working among another culture, dealing with significant personal challenge(s), and knowledge of more than one language. Even if you have had minimal contact with people from diverse backgrounds, please address how you “think” about diversity in relation to the practice of social work and respond to the following questions:
 - What are your views regarding diversity?
 - How does diversity relate to experiences in your life?
 - How might these views and experiences personally contribute to your work with clients in social work practice?

The MSW **Foundation Program** is a 63 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 **Advanced Standing Program** is a 39 credit hour program available to applicants who have earned a BSSW degree from an accredited school of social work within the last 10 years.

Completion of the following undergraduate prerequisite courses is required before entering the MSW Program.

- A human biology course or equivalent such as anatomy
- A research methods course (Note: There is a waiver exam available for this prerequisite)
- A statistics course

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Foundation Courses		
SOWK 8070	HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT I	3
SOWK 8080	HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT II	3
SOWK 8090	SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY	3
SOWK 8110	INSTITUTIONAL OPPRESSION	3
SOWK 8130	GENERALIST PRACTICE I	3
SOWK 8150	GENERALIST PRACTICE II	3
SOWK 8160	GENERALIST SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM I ¹	3
SOWK 8170	GENERALIST SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM II ¹	3
Total Credits		24

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

Code	Title	Credits
Required Advanced Courses		
SOWK 8190	RESEARCH & COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	3

SOWK 8220	CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK WITH INDIVIDUALS	3
SOWK 8230	CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK WITH GROUPS	3
SOWK 8290	SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH	3
SOWK 8650	HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH POLICIES FOR SOCIAL WORK	3
SOWK 8510	SUPERVISION AND PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	3
SOWK 8540	SOCIAL WELFARE PLANNING	3
SOWK 8400	ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM I ¹	3
SOWK 8410	ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM II ¹	3

Advanced Research Course

SOWK 8940	EVALUATION OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS	3
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Electives

9

Select 9 credit hours. Students who are pursuing a graduate certificate or a graduate minor may be able to apply certain courses in those program curricula as MSW electives.

SOWK 8026	SOCIAL WORK WITH THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY
SOWK 8046/ GERO 8696	WORKING WITH MINORITY ELDERLY
SOWK 8056	ETHNIC DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE
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 8420	ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM III
SOWK 8516	TREATMENT ISSUES IN CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY
SOWK 8540	SOCIAL WELFARE PLANNING
SOWK 8550	SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL ADVOCACY
SOWK 8560	ADVANCED COMMUNITY PRACTICE
SOWK 8570	ADMINISTRATION OF SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCIES
SOWK 8600	PERMANENCE FOR CHILDREN
SOWK 8610	FAMILY AND COMMUNITY VIOLENCE
SOWK 8626	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

SOWK 8950	RESEARCH METHODS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE
SOWK 8960	RESEARCH OTHER THAN THESIS
SOWK 8990	MASTER'S THESIS
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Total Credits	39

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

Exit Requirements

- Comprehensive Examination
 - The comprehensive examination is offered twice each academic year, during the fall and spring semesters. It is recommended that students take the examination during the semester of graduation, but they may take it earlier provided no more than nine (9) credit hours are remaining to be completed after the semester in which the comprehensive examination is taken.

Academic Policies and Standards

- The *Academic Policies and Standards* can be found here (<https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-public-affairs-and-community-service/social-work/current-students/academic-policies-standards.php>).