SOCIAL WORK

Nethery Hall, Room 08
(616) 471-6196
FAX: (616) 471-3686
sowk@andrews.edu
http://www.andrews.edu/SOWK/

Faculty
Sharon W. Pittman, Chair, Graduate Program Director
Jan F. Wrenn, BSW Program Director
Héctor L. Díaz
René D. Drumm
Shelly J. Perry
Karen E. Stockton
Curtis J. VanderWaal
Fred L. Washington
Elizabeth D. Watson
Michael A. Wright

Academic Programs
BSW Bachelor of Social Work
MSW Master of Social Work

Interpersonal Practice
Administration and Development
• Two-year regular program
• One-year advanced-placement program

The mission of the Department of Social Work is to prepare individuals for excellence during a lifetime of professional service and Christian compassion in action.

Undergraduate Program

Bachelor of Social Work — 71-73

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) is a professional degree which allows the graduate to enter the field of social work at the first level of practice or to have the opportunity to be admitted to a Master of Social Work (MSW) program with advanced standing. The program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education through the year 2003. The foundation curriculum consists of five areas of emphasis that are required in every BSW program: Human Behavior and the Social Environment, Social Welfare Policy, Research, Professional Practice, and Practicum. Throughout the curriculum, the program integrates concepts of professional ethics and values, critical thinking, and sensitivity to diversity, oppression, social and economic justice, and populations-at-risk.

Although students may declare themselves as social work majors in their freshman or sophomore year, they must apply for acceptance into the social work program. Application is made at the end of the sophomore year for formal acceptance into the program in the fall of the junior year. Applications are available from the undergraduate program director.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Students qualify for entry into the BSW program when they:
• Earn a minimum GPA of 2.00.
• Receive grades of C- or better in all required program prerequisite and cогnate courses.
• Complete SOWK100, 105, 315; PSYC101, 220; SOCI119, a human biology course. Maintain a GPA of at least 2.50 in these courses.
• A satisfactory criminal background check no more than 6 months old.
• Pass an entrance interview.
• Receive a positive recommendation from the Student Services committee in the department.
• Complete a Writing Competency Exam.

CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT CRITERIA

Continued enrollment is conditional upon the following:
• Acceptable academic performance
• Ethical conduct in compliance with the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics
• Adequate knowledge and practice performance in the practicum setting. A more detailed description of admission procedures and program standards can be found in the Social Work Student Handbook available in the office of the Department of Social Work.

Major Requirements


Cognate Courses

PSYC101, 220; SOCI119, 425; a human biology course; PLSCI104; IDSC237; SPAN171, BHSC230. Students are also required to choose two 2-3 credit upper division social work or social-work-related courses, in consultation with the student’s advisor.

General Education Requirements

Requirements are the same as for the Bachelor of Science degree, except BHSC100 and MATH165, which are not required.

Field Practicum.

Students are required to complete a 400-hour field placement in a local human-service agency. The practicum is normally completed during the student’s senior year. Prerequisites include the following courses (which must be completed with a grade of C- or above): SOWK340, 350, and 402, and a human biology course. Students may be dropped from the program or be required to complete additional practicum hours for the following reasons:
• Inability to demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and professional responsibilities required of a baccalaureate-level social work intern
• Clear violation of the NASW Code of Ethics

Graduate Program

Master of Social Work—34 or 58

The Master of Social Work (MSW) degree is a professional degree enabling the graduate to enter practice as an advanced-level practitioner. Graduates are prepared to work in Interpersonal Clinical Practice or in Administration and Development Practice. The foundation curriculum for the MSW consists of five areas of course emphasis: 

1. Human Behavior and the Social Environment
2. Social Welfare Policy
3. Research
4. Professional Practice
5. Practicum

These areas are designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the social work profession and to prepare students for advanced levels of practice.
Behavior and the Social Environment, Social Welfare Policy, Research, Professional Practice, and Practicum. Accreditation for the MSW degree has been granted through the Council on Social Work Education.

**ASSISTANTSHIPS**

Students have the opportunity to apply for graduate assistantships—teaching or research. These assistantships give students the opportunity to develop their expertise. Students interested in becoming social-work educators—especially those with years of clinical experience—may teach undergraduate courses. Research assistantships offer experiences in community consulting, grant writing, and/or conducting research.

**ADMISSIONS CRITERIA**

Applicants to the MSW program must meet the requirements in the Graduate Admission section of this bulletin. They must also meet the requirements outlined below.

**Regular 2-year Program**
- Hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, or a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.
- Provide transcripts that demonstrate course work with a strong liberal arts background.

**Required Liberal Arts Background**

Minimum Semester Credits
- Human Biology or Anatomy and Physiology—3
- Communications/Language Skills (foreign languages, speech, grammar, linguistics, written communication, media)—6
- Social and Behavioral Science (sociology, anthropology, psychology, social psychology, diversity)—8
- Humanities/History (philosophy, religion, arts, government, political science, economics, or literature)—14
- Math/Physical Science (statistics, sciences, chemistry, physics, logic, math)—3
- Previous computer skills, either in course work (1 credit) or extensive hands-on experience evidenced by the Computer Skills Assessment Form.
- A GPA of at least 3.00 (4.00 system) in the upper division course work.
- Satisfactory completion of the California Personality Inventory that indicates emotional stability, emotional wellness, and suitability to professional social work.
- Satisfactory performance on a basic writing skills test.
- A professional résumé documenting related experience.
- A statement of professional interest and purpose for MSW graduate study.
- Two strong professional references.
- A satisfactory criminal background check.

The Student Services Monitoring Team may request a personal interview or a third reference and/or other information.

**Advanced One-year Program**

Credit requirements are reduced by 24 based on previous foundation courses taken. In addition to the requirements for the regular 2-year program, the following are required for admission into the advanced 1-year program.

- A minimum of 58 semester credits (2-year regular students) or 34 semester credits (advanced placement students only) and satisfactory completion of all courses. This includes 900 hours of field practicum for 2-year regular students or 600 hours of field practicum for advanced-placement students.
- The accumulation of no more than 8 credits below B– (including U) from the 5-year limit.
- The maintenance at all times of professional conduct and behaviors appropriate for a social worker according to the National Association of Social Workers’ Code of Ethics.
- Defense of the professional degree portfolio. This portfolio is a demonstrative collection of professional skills and projects.
- Other Andrews University degree requirements as presented in the Graduate Academic Information section of this bulletin.

**MSW DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

**MSW CURRICULUM**

Both Interpersonal Practice (micro) and Administration and Development (macro) emphases are offered during the advanced year. Students wishing to enroll in core graduate social work courses must be enrolled in the MSW Program and/or have the instructor’s permission. Students in the regular 2-year program are required to take all foundation year courses. All students, both regular and advanced placement, must take all advanced year courses, as well as those listed for the specific track they select (Interpersonal Practice or Administration and Development). Students who are accepted into the advanced one-year program must also take SOWK515. Students select approximately 2 credits of electives during their foundation year and 6-8 elective credits (depending on their concentration) during their advanced year. A maximum of 8 credits of graduate electives may be taken from other related disciplines. All courses are subject to change based on accreditation needs.

**Courses**

See inside front cover for symbol code.

**SOWK100**

**Introduction to Social Work**

The professional activity of social workers in the U.S., including a brief history of the social-work profession, its knowledge, values, and skills base, and its cross-cultural aspects. Emphasis on the response of social work to varied populations and diverse cultures. **Fall, Spring**

**SOWK105**

**BSW Seminar**

Orientation to the social work program which includes procedures, policies, academic information, field instruction component, review of Handbook, professionalism and expectations for the program. Required of all new and transfer students. **Fall**

**SOWK315**

(was SOWK225)

**Christian Perspectives on Ethics and Diversity**

Special attention is given to core values and professional ethics expected of outstanding social workers. Emphasizing a Christian world view, students develop appreciation for diversity and sensitivity toward issues related to culture, race, gender, class, age, and sexual identity. **Fall**

**SOWK320**

**Introduction to Counseling Skills**

Exposes students to basic engagement, listening, assessment, and interviewing skills. Students gain beginning skills in exploring the problems of various client systems. Classes include both instruction and lab experience. **Spring**

**SOWK325**

8 (3)

**Social Welfare Institutions and Services**

An analysis of the factors which determine the manner in which social-welfare services are currently being delivered in the U. S. Factors include the value base, the historical development, and the organization of the social welfare system. Prerequisites: SOWK100; HIST118 or PLSC104. **Fall**

**SOWK340**

(merges SOWK355, 356)

**Human Behavior and the Social Environment**

Ecological model for studying human behavior and the social-welfare services currently being delivered in the U. S. Factors include the value base, the historical development, and the organization of the social welfare system. Special attention paid to the impact of gender, health, and minority status upon human development. **Fall**

**SOWK350**

(merges SOWK345, 445)

**Social Welfare Policy**

Examines the determining factors affecting how social-welfare services are currently delivered in the U.S., including the value base, historical development, and organization of the social-welfare system. The framework used to systematically identify, define, and analyze social problems and policies is studied. **Spring**
SOWK410, 402 (4,4)
Foundations of Practice I, II
Designed to develop the theory, knowledge, and skills essential in generalist social-work practice. Various methods are offered for developing communication, assessment, planning, intervention, and evaluative skills necessary in social work practice. Focus on skills necessary for practice with individuals, families, groups, and organizations in a variety of settings. CoPrerequisites: SOWK320, 325, 340. Fall (401), Spring (402)

SOWK410 ? (2)
Children and Families at Risk
Development of programs for the well-being of children. Focus on current child-welfare programs including juvenile courts, foster care, child-care centers, adoptions, protective services, institutional care, and special-need services.

SOWK415 Alt ? (2)
Substance Use in American Society
An overview of substance-use terminology, historical issues, definitions, epidemiology, consequences, and drugs of abuse within an American cultural and historical framework. Offered alternate years

SOWK420 (was SOWK432) (1)
Social Work Methods Seminar
Provides opportunity for students to develop their basic social work skills through integrating social work knowledge and theory into field practice. Several aspects of field will be discussed. Is taken concurrently with the student’s field placement and is repeated during the second semester. Fall, Spring

SOWK435 (9)
Field Instruction
A lab course to give students experience and practice in a community agency under qualified supervision. A total of 400 clock hours required. Fall, Spring

SOWK437 ? (2)
International Environment of Social Welfare
Students engage in critical thinking in relation to global issues. Theories of causation and alternative models of global intervention. Explores the social, cultural (including religious), political, and economic factors impacting social-welfare policies and the delivery of human services in Third World, developing, industrial, and post-industrial societies.

SOWK440 ? (2)
Assessment and Treatment of Victims of Violence
Examination of assessment issues, approaches, and barriers to effective treatment when working with victims of domestic violence, adult survivors of sexual abuse, victims of rape, incest survivors, and child sexual-assault victims. Interpretation of assessment findings included. Short- and long-term therapy options including specific techniques are explored. Prerequisites: SOWK401 and 402 or SOWK501 or permission of instructor.

SOWK447 ? (2)
Social Policies and Service in Other Countries
A study of the policy-making processes and strategies utilized to meet the needs of the poor and at-risk populations in other countries. Students travel abroad where they study social policy formulation, analyze selected policies and programs, and participate in the development of a group position paper. Prerequisite SOWK350 or equivalent course.

SOWK448 ? (2)
Computers in 21st-Century Social Work Practice
Exposure to computer applications and automated systems that enhance practice for the 21st century. Much of this class involves hands-on learning in the computer lab.

SOWK455 ? (2)
Treatment of Substance Abuse
An overview of treatment techniques and basic prevention strategies including specific training in assessment and therapeutic techniques, examining the relationship between etiology and treatment. Treatment evaluation discussed. At-risk, vulnerable populations receive special consideration. Prerequisites: SOWK415, 458.

SOWK458 ? (2)
Advanced Theories of Addiction and Treatment Surveys, critiques, and integrates the primary theories currently used to explain the process, outcome, and treatment of addictions. Covers biological, psychological, social, and anthropological addiction theories. Primary substance-abuse prevention theories are surveyed. Implications for at-risk, vulnerable populations considered. Corequisite: SOWK415.

SOWK460 (2)
Death and Grief in Contemporary Society
Designed to help the student understand cultural and societal perspectives on death as well as develop an increased awareness and sensitivity to the personal and interpersonal dynamics of death, dying, and loss. The student’s personal encounters with dying, death, and loss, as well as the experiences of guest speakers, provides topics for class discussion. The “art of condolence” is discussed for helping people deal with uncomplicated death and loss issues.

SOWK466 (3)
Social Work Research (replaces SOCI427 cognate)
A broad range of research tools available to social workers to improve both the effectiveness and efficiency of their practice. Research methodologies, both quantitative and qualitative, are discussed for helping people deal with uncomplicated death and loss issues.

SOWK467 ? (2)
Social Aspects of Long-Term Care
Focuses on the health-care system’s ability to provide for the elderly who require long-term-care facilities. Examines the aging American population, attitudes and stereotypes associated with the aged, resources available to the social worker, and techniques to assist in providing appropriate care for the elderly.

SOWK475 Topics in: ? (1-4)
Students are able to select offerings from various contemporary social-work topics. Repeatable with different topics.

SOWK489 (1)
Generalist Professional Seminar
Introduces and monitors professionalism as evidenced in student’s portfolio, scholarship skills, and their ability to exhibit positive behaviors that will ensure success in social work practice. Fall

SOWK495 (1-4)
Independent Study/Project/Teachings
Consent of the instructor required.

FOUNDATION YEAR
SOWK501, 502 (4,4)
Foundations of Practice I, II
Designed to develop the theory, knowledge, and skills essential in generalist social-work practice. Various methods are offered for developing communication, assessment, planning, intervention, and evaluative skills necessary in social work practice. Focus on skills necessary for practice with individuals, families, groups, and organizations in a variety of settings. CoPrerequisite: SOWK540. Fall (501), Spring (502)

SOWK510 (1)
Generalist Field Seminar
Provides opportunity for students to develop their basic social work skills through integrating social work knowledge and theory into field practice. Several aspects of field will be discussed. Is taken concurrently with the student’s field placement and is repeated during the second semester of the foundation year. Fall, Spring

SOWK515 (2)
Christian Perspectives on Ethics and Diversity
Special attention is given to core values and professional ethics expected of outstanding social workers. Emphasizing a Christian world view, students develop appreciation for diversity and sensitivity toward issues related to culture, race, gender, class, age, and sexual identity. Fall

SOWK533 (1-3)
Generalist Field Experience
In this practicum, students will apply course-based knowledge and skills by working in a social work setting. Fall, Spring, Summer

SOWK540 (3)
Human Behavior and the Social Environment
Ecological model for studying human behavior and an overview of normal individual development throughout the life cycle. Psychosocial, learning, and social-role theories constitute the theoretical basis for the course. Special attention paid to the impact of gender, health, and minority status upon human development. Fall

SOWK550 (3)
Social Welfare Policy
Examines the determining factors affecting how social-welfare services are currently delivered in the U.S., including the value base, historical development, and organization of the social-welfare system. The framework used to systematically identify, define, and analyze social problems and policies is studied. Spring
Advanced Clinical Assessment
SOWK605 (3)

Advanced assessment theories of and recent research into the etiology and psychopathology of social variance. Emphasis on developing differential diagnostic skills and holistic assessment from a strengths perspective. Prerequisite: Advanced-year status. Fall

Advanced Interpersonal Practice I, II
SOWK611, 612 (4, 4)

Theory and skills necessary for social work practice expanded. Various theories with corresponding tests and measures explored. Special emphasis on ensuring competence and critical thinking skills necessary for differential, empirically based selection of interventive methods. Professional responsibility for evaluating and communicating outcomes and developing research highlighted. Prerequisite: Advanced-year placement. Fall (611), Spring (612)

Advanced Administration and Development
SOWK655 (3)

Organizational/Community Assessment
The basic underpinnings of organizational dynamics. Students explore the historical influences on and current challenges faced by social-work managers. The basics of management-assessment skills and human issues that impact organization explored. Prerequisite: Advanced-year placement. Spring

Administration and Development Practice I, II
SOWK661, 662 (4,4)

Framework of administrative and development methods. Students explore how leadership styles, communication, planning, organizing, decision making, and marketing impact organizations. Students learn skills for fund raising, grant writing, budgeting, accounting, human relations, and board and volunteer management; practice proposal writing, and have hands-on experience using computer applications. Prerequisite: Advanced-year placement. Fall (661), Spring (662)

Graduate Electives
SOWK620 Alt (2)

School Social Work
Required for students who wish to practice social work in a school setting. Various aspects of practice included: the students, the community, the school staff, and innovative social-work-practice techniques. Offered alternate years

SOWK628 (2)

Treatment of Adult Mental Disorders
Exposure to the primary clinical social goals of assessment, diagnosis, and treatment by examining the common adult and mental disorders. Emphasis placed on assessment factors, including cultural, psycho-social and evaluation of symptoms. Specific treatment techniques for each diagnosis explored. Prerequisites: SOWK501, 502 or advanced placement.

SOWK629 (2)

Social Work in Health Care
Various roles for advanced practitioners in the health-care environment are explored. Current issues and the challenges created by managed care upon health-care social workers are emphasized.

SOWK640 (2)

Intervention in Marital Conflict
Preparation for solution-focused brief marital therapy. It seeks to uncover and utilize counselee’s strengths to improve marital communication and satisfaction. Research-based techniques applied through role-playing and other experiential activities. Prerequisite: SOWK402 or SOWK501 or an equivalent graduate course in social-work methods or counseling.

SOWK647 (2)

Crisis Intervention
Survey of brief treatment models. Direct application of the different approaches to populations in crisis. Prerequisite: SOWK502 or advanced placement.

SOWK657 (2)

Cognitive and Behavioral Theory
The research-based theory and techniques of cognitive and behavioral therapy. Focuses on the use of cognitive behavioral therapy with individuals, couples, or groups experiencing problems related to depression, pain, addictions, anxiety disorders, and phobias. Ethical and legal implications considered. Prerequisite: SOWK502 or advanced placement.

SOWK690 (1-3)

Independent Study/Research
Open to qualified students who show ability and initiative. See the department policy for specific requirements. Prerequisites: Permission of Graduate Program Director and instructor.