

# SOCIAL WORK, BSW

for the degree of Bachelor of Social Work Major in Social Work

The Bachelor of Science in Social Work can be completed through our traditional program on the Urbana campus or through our upper-level completer program. The traditional program is open to freshmen, off-campus transfers, and inter-campus transfers. Courses are taken on the Urbana campus. The iBSW Program is open to junior-level transfer students. The iBSW program is a two-year degree completion program that allows students to earn their Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree while residing in students' home communities.

The purpose of undergraduate social work education at the School of Social Work is to provide a comprehensive educational experience for students that is grounded in a liberal arts tradition and prepares graduates for excellence in the areas of social work practice, policy, social engagement, and leadership.

Upon degree completion, graduates will be prepared for entry into generalist social work practice, advanced standing in graduate social work education, and a multitude of career opportunities. These can include careers in communications, corrections, education, government, healthcare, human resources, law, non-profit organizations, religious studies, and public service. Obtaining an undergraduate degree in Social Work gives students the opportunity to pursue a License of Social Work (LSW). A BSW degree also makes students eligible to pursue Advanced Standing status in many masters of Social Work (MSW) programs. The advanced standing status enables BSW graduates to receive an MSW in only one year.

The focus of undergraduate curriculum delivery is through a student-centered strengths-based educational model that fosters student understanding by providing a challenging, yet supportive environment of high expectations that encourage the development of well-informed and engaged citizens.

The social work major prepares practitioners for generalist social work practice with individuals, groups, families, and communities. The curriculum requires a minimum of 120 hours for graduation.

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**Departmental Distinction:** The top 10% of the BSW graduating class will graduate with distinction.

**Minimum required major and supporting course work:** A minimum of 53 course hours of social work coursework, which includes 15 credit hours of combined agency-based field practicum (internship) and field seminar.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Communication Skills and Composition</b>		
CMN 101 & RHET 105	Public Speaking and Writing and Research	6-7
or CMN 111 & CMN 112	Oral & Written Comm I and Oral & Written Comm II	
Advanced Composition - SOCW 300 will meet the Advanced Composition Requirement		3-4
<b>Language other than English</b>		

Complete of the third level or equivalent is required for graduation. American Sign Language is also acceptable. 0-9

<b>Humanities and the Arts</b>		
Literature and the Arts		3
Historical and Philosophical Perspective		3
<b>Social and Behavioral Science</b>		
Any course that has been approved as a Social and Behavioral Science course from the General Education course list.		9
<b>Cultural Studies</b>		
U.S. Minority cultures		3
Western cultures		3
Non-Western cultures		3
<b>Natural Sciences and Technology</b>		
Life Science		3
Physical Science		3
<b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>		
SOCW 225	Social Work Statistics	
STAT 100	Statistics	
ECON 202	Economic Statistics I	
EPSY 280	Elements of Statistics	
SOC 280	Intro to Social Statistics	
PSYC 235	Intro to Statistics	
From the approved campus list		3

## BSW Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
SOCW 200	Introduction to Social Work	3
SOCW 300	Diversity: Identities & Issues	3
SOCW 401	Practice I	4
SOCW 402	Practice II	3
SOCW 403	Practice III	3
SOCW 410	Social Welfare Pol and Svcs	3
SOCW 427	Social Work Research Methods	3
SOCW 451	HBSE I: Human Development	3
SOCW 461	Professional Practice Seminar I	4
SOCW 470	Field Practicum & Professional Seminar II	15
Social Work electives:		9
SOCW 310	UG Research Assistance	
SOCW 321	Social Entre & Social Change	
SOCW 325	International Development with Grassroots Organizations	
SOCW 330	International Perspectives	
SOCW 360	Social Work and the Military	
SOCW 370	Social Work and Disability Studies	
SOCW 380	Current Topics in Social Work (may be repeated)	
SOCW 404	Social Work Case Management Practice	
SOCW 412	Hispanics in the U.S.	
SOCW 416	Child Welfare Issues & Trends	
SOCW 417	Dementia Care for Older Adults	
SOCW 418	Independent Study	
SOCW 420	Subst Use in Social Context	
SOCW 436	Intl SW & Development	

SOCW 455	Social Work with Women	
SOCW 475	Undergraduate Research Abroad	
SOCW 480	UG Research Project	
Total SOCW hours		53
<b>Minimum hours required for graduation</b>		<b>120</b>

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This sample sequence is intended to be used only as a guide for degree completion. All students should work individually with their academic advisors to decide the actual course selection and sequence that works best for them based on their academic preparation and goals. Enrichment programming such as study abroad, minors, internships, and so on may impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a third level of a language other than English. This may require up to three semesters of language depending on high school coursework or placement. For more information, see the corresponding section on the Degree and General Education Requirements page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

#### First Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
SOCW 101		2 SOCW 200 (or General Education course)	3
SOCW 225 (or equivalent statistics course)		3 General Education course	3
General Education course		3 General Education course	3
Elective or Language Other Than English (3rd level)		4 General Education course	3
Composition I or General Education course		4 General Education course or Composition I	3
		<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>

#### Second Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
SOCW 300		3 SOCW elective course	3
CMN 101		3 General Education course	3
General Education course or SOCW 200		3 General Education course	3
General Education course		3 Elective	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

#### Third Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
SOCW 401		4 SOCW 402	3
SOCW 451		3 SOCW 410	3
SOCW elective course		3 SOCW elective course	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
Elective		2 Elective	3
		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

#### Fourth Year

First Semester	Hours	Second Semester	Hours
SOCW 403		3 SOCW 470	15
SOCW 427		3	
SOCW 461		4	
Elective		4	
		<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>

#### Total Hours 120

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Students graduating with the Bachelor of Social Work should be able to:

1. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior
2. Engage diversity and difference in practice
3. Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice
4. Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice
5. Engage in Policy Practice
6. Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities
7. Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities
8. Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities
9. Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

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#### School of Social Work

Director of BSW program: Carol Wilson-Smith  
 School of Social Work website (<https://socialwork.illinois.edu/>)  
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 (217) 244-5246  
 Social Work email ([undergradsocialwork@illinois.edu](mailto:undergradsocialwork@illinois.edu))

School of Social Work faculty (<https://socialwork.illinois.edu/directory/>)

## Advising

BSW Advising (<https://socialwork.illinois.edu/academics/undergraduate-programs/bsw-advising/>)

#### Admissions

School of Social Work Admissions (<https://socialwork.illinois.edu/academics/undergraduate-programs/>)

University of Illinois Undergrad Admissions (<https://www.admissions.illinois.edu/>)