

# SOCIAL WORK, MSW

for the degree of Master of Social Work Major in Social Work on campus and online

The MSW program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The MSW program offers courses on campus and online. (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/socw/social-work-phd/>)

The master's degree provides specialized study for advanced social work practice. Students take foundation and advanced courses in social work practice methods with individuals, families and organization, in policy and services, in research, and in human behavior and the social environment. Students are required to complete a one to two semester field placement/internship (minimum 900 hours) in an approved setting. A total of 44-72 hours of graduate coursework is required for the M.S.W. degree.

The determination of the number of hours needed within the range is determined on a case-by-case basis after considering each student's prior education, coursework and experience. The curriculum may be completed in 16 to 18 months of full-time study.

MSW students choose from one of these two concentrations:

- In the **Advanced Clinical Practice concentration**, students prepare for clinical practice with individuals, families and groups, and in one of the focus areas. These students' Methods coursework has a clinical focus.
- Students in the **Leadership & Social Change (LSC) concentration** prepare for advanced macro practice which focuses on work with communities and organizations rather than work with individuals and families. In the LSC concentration students are prepared to work in either leadership/administration or advocacy/policy. Methods coursework for this concentration has a Macro focus.

## Admission

**MSW program** applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university in the United States or from a recognized institution of higher learning abroad;
2. a grade point average of 3.0 (A = 4.0) or greater for the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate work;
3. 20 hours of completed coursework in a liberal arts core consisting of social and behavioral sciences, the humanities, and biological sciences
4. evidence of personal attributes that are suitable for the profession of social work;
5. a score of 103 or above on the TOEFL test;
6. provision of a written supplementary statement.

**Advanced Standing MSW** applicants who meet all above requirements who have earned a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from a CSWE-accredited program in the past seven years are considered for admission into the Advanced Standing MSW program. This is a three semester/44 hour program that may be completed in 12 months by most students.

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Students pursuing the Master of Social Work must apply to and complete a graduate concentration. The concentration selected determines the courses needed to fulfill the requirements below. Select a concentration in:

Advanced Clinical Practice (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/socw/social-work-msw/advanced-clinical/#degreerequirementstext>), or Leadership & Social Change (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/socw/social-work-msw/leadership-social-change/#degreerequirementstext>) (LSC)

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1. Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
  - a. Demonstrate Self-Awareness for Ethical Macro Practice
  - b. Demonstrate Critical Self-Awareness for Ethical Clinical Practice
2. Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice
  - a. Engage Diversity in Social Change Interventions
  - b. Engage Diversity in Clinical Practice
3. Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
  - a. Advance Human Rights and Justice in Social Policies and Programs
  - b. Advance Human Rights and Justice in Clinical Practice
4. Engage In Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
  - a. Engage in Research for Social Change Interventions
  - b. Engage in Research for Clinical Interventions
5. Engage in Policy Practice
  - a. Engage in Advanced Policy Practice.
  - b. Engage in Policy for Clinical Practice Settings.
6. Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
  - a. Engage with Groups, Organizations and Communities to Promote Social Change
  - b. Engage with Individuals, Families, and Groups in Clinical Practice.
7. Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
  - a. Assess Specialized Policies and Programs
  - b. Assess and Diagnose Individuals, Families and Groups
8. Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
  - a. Lead Change Interventions through Social Policies and Programs
  - b. Intervene Clinically with Individuals, Families and Groups
9. Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
  - a. Evaluate Specialized Social Policies and Programs
  - b. Evaluate Individuals, Families and Groups in Clinical Settings

## Graduate Degree Programs in Social Work

- Schools Specialization, CAS (online) (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/socw/schools-specialization-cas/>)
- Social Work, MSW (p. 1) (on campus and online)
  - concentration required:
    - Advanced Clinical Practice (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/socw/social-work-msw/advanced-clinical/>)

- Leadership & Social Change (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/socw/social-work-msw/leadership-social-change/>)
- Social Work, PhD (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/socw/social-work-phd/>)

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**School of Social Work**

Director of Graduate Studies: Associate Dean Min Zahn

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

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

1010 W. Nevada St., Urbana, IL 61801

(217) 244-5246

Social Work email ([undergradsocialwork@illinois.edu](mailto:undergradsocialwork@illinois.edu))

**Admissions**

Overview of Grad College Admissions & Requirements (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)