

Social Work

<http://www.und.edu/dept/socialwo/>

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Degree Granted: Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)

The Department of Social Work offers the following degrees: a Bachelor of Science in Social Work and a Master of Social Work. The mission of the Department of Social Work at the University of North Dakota is to prepare entry-level and advanced generalist Social Workers within the region to advance practice knowledge, values and skills consistent with the highest ideals of the profession by:

- empowering vulnerable, oppressed, disadvantaged, and rural populations;
- maximizing opportunities for every individual to realize his or her highest potential; and
- promoting respect, awareness, and appreciation for culture and social justice at every level of society.

Graduates of the MSW program will:

- Engage in advanced-level social work practice that is informed by the best available evidence.
- Understand the impacts of culture, oppression, and human diversity in a multi-cultural society.
- Apply social work ethical principles to guide their professional practice.
- Advance social and economic well-being and deliver effective social work services through policy practice.
- Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment to work with individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities.
- Identify themselves as professional social workers and act accordingly.

Social Work courses were first offered at the University of North Dakota in 1905; the Social Work program was formally established in 1939. The Council on Social Work Education (2002) states, "The purposes of social work education are to prepare competent and effective professionals, to develop social work knowledge, and to provide leadership in the development of service delivery systems. Social work education is grounded in the profession's history, purposes, and philosophy and is based on a body of knowledge, values, and skills. Social work education enables students to integrate the knowledge, values, and skills of the social work profession for competent practice."

The Master of Social Work program at the University of North Dakota is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. All MSW students must complete both Foundation and Advanced Generalist Concentration social work courses. Foundation courses are not offered through the Campus Program; instead, students who have a bachelor's degree in a related field may apply to the Second Degree BSSW Program. Advanced Generalist Concentration courses may be completed through the Campus Program, or the part-time Distance Program. The Campus Program can be completed in three semesters, and the Distance Program can be completed in two years for students with a BSW, or as few as three years for students without a BSW.

Details pertaining to admission requirements, degree requirements and courses offered can be found in the Degree section.

Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)

The MSW program has an Advanced Generalist Concentration, preparing students for leadership roles in service, administration, and policy-making positions. Graduates master competencies that prepare them for effective practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Graduates work in a diverse array of human service settings, including mental health, family services, child welfare, schools, criminal justice, gerontology, and health care organizations and agencies.

The Advanced Generalist Concentration equips students for effective practice in highly under-served areas, including rural and reservation communities. These settings demand that students be able to synthesize and apply inter- and multi-disciplinary knowledge and skills to address needs in complex, multi-system service environments.

Mission Statement

The University of North Dakota's Master of Social Work Program provides broad access to quality graduate education that prepares versatile advanced generalist practitioners with the necessary knowledge, values, and skills to enhance human well-being, to meet basic human needs, and to serve as leaders in their communities in North Dakota, the region, and beyond.

Program Goals

To prepare advanced generalist social work practitioners who:

- Have a strong identification with the social work profession, are committed to its highest ethical ideals, and inspire others to do the same.
- Continually strive to increase their cultural competence and understand and respect the inherent value of human diversity.
- Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and advocate for social and economic justice.
- Synthesize and effectively apply a broad range of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary knowledge and skills across practice levels.
- Have a passion for critical inquiry and a commitment to lifelong learning.
- Embrace their roles as change agents and leaders.

The MSW Concentration builds on a generalist foundation curriculum (typically attained from a BSW program) to prepare advanced generalist practitioners who assess, intervene, and evaluate to promote human and social well-being, while advancing practice and the broader goals of the Social Work profession. Advanced practitioners can tailor actions to changing circumstances, and continually refine their own practice through experience and self-improvement.

All MSW students must complete both generalist Foundation and Advanced Generalist Concentration social work courses. Foundation courses are not offered through the Campus Program; instead, students who have a bachelor's degree in a related field may apply to the Second Degree Program. Upon successful completion of the Second Degree Program, students are eligible to apply to the MSW Concentration Program. Advanced Generalist Concentration courses may be completed through the Campus Program (full-time or part-time), or the part-time Distance Program. The Campus Program may be completed in as few as three semesters, and the Distance Program may be completed in two years for students with a BSW, or in as few as three years for students without a BSW.

Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)

Admission Requirements for the M.S.W. Foundation Program

(For students without a B.S.W.)

The applicant must meet the School of Graduate Studies' current minimum general admission requirements as published in the graduate catalog. Applicants for the Foundation courses (offered only through the part-time Distance Program for students without a BSW) must meet the following standards:

1. Satisfactory completion of a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
2. At least 30 credit hours of liberal arts courses in such fields as biology, music, languages, anthropology, economics, political science, history, literature, sociology, psychology, and philosophy.
3. A grade of C or higher in a statistics course prior to entering the Advanced Generalist Concentration portion of the MSW program.
4. Willingness to abide by the National Association of Social Worker's Code of Ethics and the University of North Dakota Code of Student Life.
5. An undergraduate GPA of 3.00 overall or a GPA of 3.00 in the last two years of the undergraduate program.

- Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies' English Language Proficiency requirements as published in the graduate catalog.

Admission Requirements for the M.S.W. Concentration Program (For students with a B.S.W.)

Applicants for the Concentration courses must meet the following standards:

- BSW from a CSWE accredited program.
- An undergraduate GPA of 3.00 overall or a GPA of 3.00 in the last two years of the undergraduate program.
- A grade of C or higher in a statistics course.
- Willingness to abide by the National Association of Social Worker's Code of Ethics and the University of North Dakota Code of Student Conduct.
- Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies' English Language Proficiency requirements as published in the graduate catalog.
- Students who have received a bachelor's degree or higher from the United States or English-speaking Canada are not required to submit the TOEFL.

Admission Schedule

- Campus Program: Annual application deadline is January 15. Classes begin the following Fall Semester (August).
- Distance MSW Foundation Courses: Applicants without a BSW must apply for Foundation courses. Annual application deadline is June 15. Classes begin the following Spring Semester (January).
- Distance Program Concentration Courses: Applicants with a BSW are considered "Advanced Standing" applicants and apply for Concentration courses. Annual application deadline is November 15. Classes begin the following Summer Semester (May).

The Department of Social Work will continue to accept applications after the deadline if the cohort is not full.

Degree Requirements (For students without a B.S.W.)

Students seeking the Master degree at the University of North Dakota must satisfy all general requirements set forth by the School of Graduate Studies as well as particular requirements set forth by the Social Work Department. Credit is not granted for life or work experience.

Degree Requirements for Students Completing Both Foundation and Concentration Courses:

- Successful completion of 60 credit hours of courses approved by the social work faculty with at least a 3.00 grade point average. The number of electives required is dependent on whether a student selects the independent study or the thesis option.
- Satisfactory completion of Foundation courses (24 credit hours).

Foundation Courses

SWK 501	Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	2
SWK 502	Human Behavior in the Social Environment II	2
SWK 503	Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families	2
SWK 504	Generalist Practice with Treatment and Task Groups	2
SWK 505	Generalist Practice with Communities and Organizations	2
SWK 506	Social Policy	2
SWK 507	Generalist Research Methods and Analysis	2
SWK 515	Generalist Practice Field Education I	3
SWK 516	Generalist Practice Field Education Seminar I	1
SWK 517	Generalist Practice Field Education II	5
SWK 518	Generalist Practice Field Education Seminar II	1
Total Credits		24

- Satisfactory completion of the Advanced Generalist Concentration courses (36 credit hours).

- Completion of the research capstone, SWK 997 Independent Study (2 credits), or SWK 998 Thesis (4 credits).
- Successful completion of comprehensive exam requirements.
- Completion of at least 52 semester credits at UND. A maximum of 8 credits will be allowed for transfer.
- The development of a program of study in the semester in which the full-time student first enrolls in Concentration courses, or the second semester in which the part-time student enrolls in Concentration courses.

Degree Requirements

(For Students with a B.S.W.)

- Successful completion of 36 credit hours of courses approved by the social work faculty with at least a 3.00 grade point average. Students who complete SWK 997 Independent Study must complete 5 elective credit hours; students who choose to complete SWK 998 Thesis must take 3 elective credit hours.
- Satisfactory completion of the Advanced Generalist Concentration core courses listed below:

Concentration Courses

SWK 527	Advanced Generalist Human Behavior and the Social Environment I	2
SWK 528	Advanced Generalist Human Behavior and the Social Environment II	2
SWK 529	Advanced Generalist Research Methods and Analysis	2
SWK 530	Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals	2
SWK 533	Advanced Generalist Practice with Families	2
SWK 534	Advanced Generalist Practice with Treatment Groups	2
SWK 535	Advanced Generalist Practice with Communities	2
SWK 536	Advanced Generalist Practice with Organizations	2
SWK 537	Advanced Generalist Tools for Policy	1
SWK 580	Advanced Generalist Practice Field Education I	5
SWK 581	Advanced Generalist Practice Field Education Seminar I	1
SWK 582	Advanced Generalist Practice Field Education II	5
SWK 583	Advanced Generalist Practice Field Education Seminar II	1
Electives		3-5
Total Credits		32-34

- Completion of the research capstone, SWK 997 Independent Study (2 credits), or SWK 998 Thesis (4 credits).
- Successful completion of comprehensive exam requirements.
- Completion of at least 28 semester credits at UND. A maximum of 8 credits will be allowed for transfer.
- The development of a program of study in the semester in which the full-time student first enrolls in concentration courses, or the second semester in which the part-time student enrolls in concentration courses.

Thesis Option:

- Full-time students select a Faculty Advisory Committee by the end of the first semester of enrollment in Concentration courses. Part-time students select a Faculty Advisory Committee during the second semester of enrollment in Concentration courses.
- A proposal must be submitted no later than the semester prior to the student's final semester.

Non-Thesis Option:

- Full-time students select a faculty adviser by the end of the first semester in Concentration courses. Part-time students select a faculty adviser by the second semester they are enrolled in Concentration courses.
- A proposal must be submitted no later than the semester prior to the student's final semester.

Courses

SWK 501. Human Behavior in the Social Environment I. 2 Credits.

Generalist Human Behavior in the Social Environment I (HBSE I) provides students with foundational knowledge relevant to human life span development, and an introduction to social work systems perspectives. Students critique and apply various frameworks to case scenarios that exemplify client differences in biological, psychological, social, spiritual, and cultural domains. Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW program. Prerequisite or Corequisite: SWK 507.

SWK 502. Human Behavior in the Social Environment II. 2 Credits.

In Human Behavior and the Social Environment II (HBSE II), students acquire foundational knowledge of social work theories relevant to group, community, and organizational practice. The course emphasizes applications of theory to practice for purposes of enhancing economic, social, and environmental well-being. Students learn to recognize diversity through multiple factors, and deepen understanding of how these differences can influence poverty and marginalization, as well as power and privilege. Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW program. Prerequisite or Corequisite: SWK 507.

SWK 503. Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families. 2 Credits.

Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families provides foundational knowledge, values, and skill development for generalist social work practice with individuals and families using a strengths-based perspective. Students develop skills in relationship-building, assuming collaborative partnerships, describing problems, accessing resources, developing intervention plans, and evaluating progress with individuals and families. Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW program. Prerequisite or Corequisite: SWK 501.

SWK 504. Generalist Practice with Treatment and Task Groups. 2 Credits.

In Generalist Practice with Treatment and Task Groups, student develop foundational knowledge, values, and skills necessary for assessing, intervening, and evaluating with the context of group practice. The course emphasizes the identification, analysis, and implementation of evidence-based interventions. Students also learn to apply a social justice framework to group practice. Prerequisites or Corequisites: SWK 501 and SWK 502.

SWK 505. Generalist Practice with Communities and Organizations. 2 Credits.

Generalist Practice with Communities and Organizations acquaints students with the historical roots of social work in community and organizational practice, and with the changing landscape of organizations within the human service sector. Students develop skills relevant to engaging, assessing, intervening, and evaluating community and organizational practice and develop strategies for macro-practice with diverse populations. Prerequisite or Corequisite: SWK 502.

SWK 506. Social Policy. 2 Credits.

Provides a basic understanding of the history and current patterns of social welfare services in the United States. Students apply a policy analysis framework to identify key issues, understand policy development, and assess the role of social policies and political processes on the well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Students also learn to identify opportunities for actively engaging in the policy arena. Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW program.

SWK 507. Generalist Research Methods and Analysis. 2 Credits.

This introductory course provides students with foundational knowledge of research methods and analysis, and prepares them for the development of advanced research skills. Students gain knowledge of the methods of scientific inquiry and how to construct and utilize evidence-informed research for practice. The course emphasizes ethical approaches to research and the effective communication of empirically-based knowledge. Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW program.

SWK 515. Generalist Practice Field Education I. 3 Credits.

Generalist field internship placement in a human service organization. Students apply foundation coursework, emphasizing core competencies and demonstration of practice behaviors. Prerequisite: Admission to field program. Corequisite: SWK 516. S/U grading. F.

SWK 516. Generalist Practice Field Education Seminar I. 1 Credit.

Integration of foundation coursework with field internship placement in a human service organization. Continued development of identification with the Social Work profession is emphasized, as is application of Social Work ethics and values. Corequisite: SWK 515. F.

SWK 517. Generalist Practice Field Education II. 5 Credits.

Generalist field internship placement in a human service organization. Students apply foundation coursework, emphasizing core competencies and demonstration of practice behaviors. Prerequisite: SWK 515. Corequisite: SWK 518. S/U grading. S.

SWK 518. Generalist Practice Field Education Seminar II. 1 Credit.

Integration of foundation coursework with field internship placement in a human service organization. Continued development of identification with the Social Work profession is emphasized, as is application of Social Work ethics and values. Corequisite: SWK 517. S.

SWK 527. Advanced Generalist Human Behavior and the Social Environment I. 2 Credits.

In Advanced Generalist Human Behavior and the Social Environment I (AG HBSE I), students learn to synthesize and differentially apply relevant conceptual frameworks to guide advanced generalist practice with individuals and families. This course builds upon developmental theories and the social work ecological and systems perspectives. Prerequisite: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration.

SWK 528. Advanced Generalist Human Behavior and the Social Environment II. 2 Credits.

Advanced Generalist Human Behavior and the Social Environment II (AG HBSE II) considers practice theories in relation to social and economic justice. Complexity theory builds upon traditional social systems theory to provide and advanced framework for analyzing practices within the social, economic, and natural environments. Prerequisite: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration.

SWK 529. Advanced Generalist Research Methods and Analysis. 2 Credits.

Advanced Generalist Research Methods and Analysis prepares students to build on foundation research knowledge to further refine and advance the quality of social work practice and that of the larger social work profession. The course emphasizes program as well as practice evaluation. Students use research methods to generate surveys; learn to choose, utilize, and interpret reliable and valid measurement instruments; and apply both qualitative and statistical analysis. Prerequisite: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration.

SWK 530. Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals. 2 Credits.

Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals helps students refine and deepen their conceptual and technical knowledge of social work practice with individuals. The course equips students with advanced generalist skills to guide engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation with individual clients. Course assignments promote ethical and evidence-based practice relevant to diverse populations. Prerequisite: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration. F,SS.

SWK 533. Advanced Generalist Practice with Families. 2 Credits.

Advanced Generalist Practice with Families teaches students advanced generalist skills in working with families to engage, assess, intervene and evaluate client systems. This class builds upon family therapy theories and their practical applications. Activities and assignments build skills necessary to work with families in therapeutic settings. Prerequisite: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration. F,S.

SWK 534. Advanced Generalist Practice with Treatment Groups. 2 Credits.

Advanced Generalist Practice with Treatment Groups uses an interpersonal perspective as a theoretical foundation for understanding group dynamics. Students build upon foundational knowledge and skills, and develop and demonstrate advanced techniques for engaging individuals in the group process, assessing appropriateness for group membership, developing interventions, and evaluating the treatment group process. Prerequisites or Corequisites: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration, SWK 527, SWK 528, and SWK 529.

SWK 535. Advanced Generalist Practice with Communities. 2 Credits.

Advanced Generalist Practice with Communities equips students with theoretical frameworks and models for community and policy practice, and prepares students to be effective change agents and leaders in community contexts. Students develop a deeper social and economic development orientation, and gain a greater understanding of the changing socio-political contexts of practice, including globalization and the human rights movement. Prerequisites or Corequisites: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration, SWK 528 and SWK 529.

SWK 536. Advanced Generalist Practice with Organizations. 2 Credits.

Advanced Generalist Practice with Organizations develops practice behaviors related to organizational leadership, managing various organizational systems, and developing an integrated practice approach for the purpose of promoting effective service delivery. Prerequisites or Corequisites: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration, SWK 528 and SKW 529.

SWK 537. Advanced Generalist Tools for Policy. 1 Credit.

Advanced Generalist Tools for Policy emphasizes the development of skills for effective policy action to promote social, economic, political, and environmental well-being. Prerequisites or Corequisites: Admission to the Advanced Generalist Concentration, SWK 528, SWK 529, and SWK 535.

SWK 560. Topics Of Social Work Practice. 1-3 Credits.

Repeatable to 9 credits.

SWK 580. Advanced Generalist Practice Field Education I. 5 Credits.

Advanced generalist field internship placement in a human service organization. Students apply concentration coursework, emphasizing core competencies and demonstration of practice behaviors. Prerequisite: Admission to field program. Corequisite: SWK 581. S/U grading. F,S,SS.

SWK 581. Advanced Generalist Practice Field Education Seminar I. 1 Credit.

Integration of concentration coursework with field internship placement in a human service organization. Understanding the role of the MSW-level Social Worker is emphasized, as is advanced application of Social Work ethics and values. Corequisite: SWK 580. F,S,SS.

SWK 582. Advanced Generalist Practice Field Education II. 5 Credits.

Advanced generalist field internship placement in a human service organization. Students apply concentration coursework emphasizing core competencies and demonstration of practice behaviors. Corequisite: SWK 583. Prerequisite or Corequisite: SWK 580. S/U grading. F,S,SS.

SWK 583. Advanced Generalist Practice Field Education Seminar II. 1 Credit.

Integration of concentration coursework with field internship placement in a human service organization. Understanding the role of the MSW-level Social Worker is emphasized, as is advanced application of Social Work ethics and values. Corequisite: SWK 582. F,S,SS.

SWK 593. Individual Study. 1-2 Credits.

Variable topics in social work related areas carried out individually or in small groups under the supervision of the instructor. Repeatable for a maximum of 4 credits. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Repeatable to 4 credits.

SWK 996. Continuing Enrollment. 1-12 Credits.

Repeatable. S/U grading.

SWK 997. Independent Study. 2 Credits.

SWK 998. Thesis. 2-4 Credits.

Total of 4 credits required in thesis option. Repeatable to 4 credits.