

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Director: Sherry Edwards

Program Description

The mission of the Social Work Program at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke seeks to prepare students to become leaders in enhancing the quality of life and seeking solutions to rural problems. It is particularly concerned with the consequences of injustice, and thus focuses on the empowerment of populations-at-risk and the advancement of economic, political and social justice in all communities. Additionally the mission of the Master of Social Work (MSW) program at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke is to prepare students for professional social work practice within an advanced generalist model. Social workers prepared using an advanced generalist model have the capacity to practice in varied settings with diverse client populations. They are equipped to utilize resources available in rural areas and prepared for challenges faced when working with indigenous communities. They have an awareness of both historical and contemporary social issues that are embedded in a framework of a larger, more global reality. The MSW program offers a program for full-time and part-time students as well as an advanced standing program for students who have completed a Bachelor of Social Work degree from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited social work program.

Program-Specific Admissions Standards

Applications are welcome at any time during the year, but the MSW program will not admit new students for spring semester and will admit advanced standing students in the summer only. All admissions will be for summer or fall terms.

Request your recommendations from professional supervisors or university faculty who are not members of the UNCP Social Work Department.

Submit an essay which incorporates both autobiographical information and discussion of a social problem. Detailed directions are available on the Graduate School website and must be carefully followed.

Complete a criminal background check. Directions and a link to the URL are available on the Graduate School website.

Requirements for a Master of Social Work

Sem. Hrs.

Required Courses

27

- SWK 5000 Micro Human Behavior and the Social Environment
- SWK 5050 Foundations of Social Work
- SWK 5060 Social Work Practice with Individuals
- SWK 5070 Social Welfare Policies and Programs
- SWK 5100 Generalist Social Work Research
- SWK 5150 Macro Human Behavior and the Social Environment
- SWK 5200 Social Work in a Diverse Community
- SWK 5300 Foundation Practicum I and Seminar
- SWK 5400 Foundation Practicum II and Seminar

Concentration Courses

27

- SWK 5080 Advanced Generalist Practice in Rural Settings
- SWK 5410 Social Work Practice Administration in Rural Settings
- SWK 5430 Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families
- SWK 5450 Advanced Generalist Intervention Research
- SWK 5500 Concentration Practicum I and Seminar
- SWK 5580 Advanced Generalist Social Work Practice with Groups and Organizations in Rural Communities
- SWK 5600 Advanced Clinical Assessment and Intervention Methods
- SWK 5800 Concentration Practicum II and Seminar

Electives (If taken out of the department, must have special permission)	6
SWK 5320 Community Development and Social Planning in Rural Communities	
SWK 5700 Child Welfare	
SWK 5710 Grant Writing	
SWK 6200 Assessment and Treatment of Substance Abuse Disorder	
SWK 6300 Human Trafficking in the US	
SWK 6400 Forensic Social Work	
SWK 6500 Military Social Work	
SWK 6600 Advanced Social Work Practice in Integrative Healthcare	
SWKS xxxx	

**Program
Total: 60**

Requirements for a Master of Social Work —Advanced Standing	Sem. Hrs.
Required Courses	35

SWK 5330 Advanced Standing Bridge Course I
 SWK 5340 Advanced Standing Bridge Course II
 SWK 5080 Advanced Generalist Practice in Rural Settings
 SWK 5410 Social Work Practice Administration in Rural Settings
 SWK 5430 Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families
 SWK 5450 Advanced Generalist Intervention Research
 SWK 5500 Concentration Practicum I and Seminar
 SWK 5580 Advanced Generalist Social Work Practice with Groups and Organizations in Rural Communities
 SWK 5600 Advanced Clinical Assessment and Intervention Methods
 SWK 5800 Concentration Practicum II and Seminar

Electives (If taken out of the department, must have special permission)	3
SWK 5320 Community Development and Social Planning in Rural Communities	
SWK 5700 Child Welfare	
SWK 5710 Grant Writing	
SWK 6200 Assessment and Treatment of Substance Abuse Disorder	
SWK 6300 Human Trafficking in the US	
SWK 6400 Forensic Social Work	
SWK 6500 Military Social Work	
SWK 6600 Advanced Social Work Practice in Integrative Healthcare	
SWKS xxxx	

Program Total for Advanced Standing	38
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COURSES

SWK 5000. Micro Human Behavior and the Social Environment (3 credits)

This course reflects a critical perspective on understanding individuals, families, and their interpersonal and group relationships; lifespan development; theories of well-being, stress, coping and adaptation. The emphasis within this course is on knowledge about individuals and small social systems and the implications of this knowledge for all domains of social work practice. Major components will be concerned with the processes of oppression, privilege, and discrimination and factors that help people and small social systems change. **PREREQ:** Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5050. Foundations of Social Work Practice (3 credits)

This course provides the context for advanced generalist social work practice. Students will learn about the historical development of the social work profession. The course offers an overview of contemporary social work practice and the need for social services in a modern society. It reviews social work methods and fields of practice with an emphasis on professional values and ethics. The objectives are realized through an Ethical Dilemma Paper, a person model of advanced generalist social work practice paper, class discussions, and experiential exercises. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5060. Social Work Practice With Individuals (3 credits)

This course emphasizes social work concepts and fundamental skills of practice with individuals and their families. Students will learn a problem solving process that includes problem identification, needs and strengths assessments, planning, intervention, termination, and evaluation. Skills in relationship building, interviewing, and recording and documentation will be reviewed. Knowledge and skills relevant to practice with populations at risk including women, people of color, those who are gay and lesbian, and/or are economically impoverished will be emphasized. Issues of oppression, diversity, social justice, values, and ethics will be integrated throughout the course. Attention will also be given to the evolution of social work practice from an historical perspective. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5070. Social Welfare Policies and Analysis (3 credits)

This course provides students with an overview of the history and development of social policy and programs in the United States. Students will learn how to analyze contemporary social policy issues and social programs and to understand the relationship between social policy and law. The course focuses on political, economic, and other social conditions that influence policy and law with an emphasis on social justice. Students will learn basic legal research and will become familiar with laws that provide the foundation for many social policies. Students will develop skills necessary to function within the legal system on behalf of various vulnerable populations. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5080. Advanced Generalist Practice in Rural Settings (3 credits)

This course presents the unique challenges to social work with populations in rural settings, with an emphasis on rural areas of North Carolina. The course will examine the history of the rural experience and how it is affected by changes in the ethnic, economic, technological, and political landscape. The course will include implications of these changes for the practice of social work using an advanced generalist approach. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5100. Generalist Social Work Research (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to increase students' knowledge of various research and evaluation methods that can be used in social work settings across a number of populations and modalities. The course will focus on how ethics apply to research and evaluation, how research problems are formulated, how hypotheses or research questions are derived, and the specific designs that researchers may use in addressing specific research topics. Students will learn the processes involved in carrying out social work research, examine social work research issues, evaluate research findings, and assess research. PREREQ: SWK 3910 or a statistics course.

SWK 5150. Macro Human Behavior and the Social Environment (3 credits)

This course stimulates student thinking about the role of privileged and oppressed statuses and their influence on human development. This emphasis is supported by the NASW Code of Ethics, which states: "Social workers should obtain education about and seek to understand the nature of social diversity and oppression with respect to race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political belief, religion, and mental or physical disability" (NASW Code of Ethics, 1.05c). PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5200. Social Work in a Diverse Community (3 credits)

This course is designed to present students with an overview of the complex issues surrounding social work with diverse populations. Students will explore the impact of sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, ability, and/or gender, and examine the consequences of marginalizing members of oppressed groups. Students will play an active role in their own learning through the use of writing, electronic discussion groups, and other experiential exercises. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5300. Foundation Practicum I and Seminar (3 credits)

This is the first course of two foundation practica that enable students to apply master's level coursework in a generalist practice setting. Students, agency supervisors, and faculty field instructors plan activities that will support the development of generalist skills as specified in individualized learning contracts. Students will be exposed to a variety of social work roles and responsibilities. The graduate field instruction includes a seminar that will meet four times throughout the semester. The purpose of the seminar will be for students to share field experiences and to relate them to real world experiences. Open to MSW students only. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5320. Community Development & Social Planning in Rural Communities (3 credits)

This course examines methods of organizing people for social and political advocacy on their own behalf or on behalf of others to bring about change in rural communities. Rural community advocacy is an empowering process to bring together underrepresented groups to generate power and create a more socially just society. This course builds on the foundation course work.

SWK 5330. Advanced Standing Bridge Course I (4 credits)

This course is for advanced standing students in the Department of Social Work who have completed the Bachelor of Social Work degree from an accredited social work program, and have been admitted into the Advanced Standing program. This course is designed to provide a conceptual orientation to the Advanced Standing Concentration year. This course is intended to supplement the knowledge, skills, and values foundation developed in a CSWE accredited BSW program. This course will also address the skills needed in order to be successful in the MSW field placement including an understanding of the required professional and ethical standards that are necessary for social work practice. PREREQ: Acceptance into the Advanced Standing Program.

SWK 5340. Advanced Standing Bridge Course II (4 credits)

This course is for advanced standing students in the Department of Social Work who have completed the Bachelor of Social Work degree from an accredited social work program, and have been admitted into the Advanced Standing program. This course is a continuation of SWK 5330. This course will address scholar skills that are necessary to successfully complete the MSW program, specifically in the area of writing and research. PREREQ: Acceptance into the Advanced Standing Program and SWK 5330 completed with a "B" or better.

SWK 5400. Foundation Practicum II and Seminar (3 credits)

This is the second course of two foundation practica that enable students to apply master's level coursework in a generalist practice setting. Students, agency supervisors, and faculty field instructors plan activities that will support the development of generalist skills as specified in individualized learning contracts. Students will be exposed to a variety of social work roles and responsibilities. The graduate field instruction includes a seminar that will meet four times throughout the semester. The purpose of the seminar will be for students to share field experiences and to relate them to real world experiences. Open to MSW students only. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School and SWK 5300.

SWK 5410. Social Work Practice Administration in Rural Settings (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to equip students to perform a variety of management functions in a broad range of human service organizations and other non-profits. The course will focus on areas that include the role of the manager, theories of management, specific approaches to management of the organization, motivating workers, management of data, information and budgets, and supervision. Emphasis will be on the integration of theory and the practical application of management tools and techniques for effective functioning of the organization. This course builds on the foundation course work. PREREQ: Admission to the Graduate School

SWK 5430. Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families (3 credits)

This course examines practice with individuals and families. Mastery of tasks that enhance social functioning will be examined. Students will learn effective strength-based interviewing skills. The course will also address family and community-centered assessment within an ecological framework. Special attention is given to the needs of families affected by poverty and oppression in rural communities. PREREQ: SWK 5060 or Advanced Standing.

SWK 5450. Advanced Generalist Intervention Research (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a thorough understanding of the research design techniques necessary to evaluate the effects of services on clients, community needs, and address the needs for accountability, as well as practice evaluation. The themes of diversity and social work values and ethics are addressed in relation to macro research methods, program evaluation, and community-based research. Attention is placed on diversity concerns related to indigenous populations. This course covers the applications of research design techniques to data collection in human service agencies and communities, including the use of statistical analysis for program evaluation and needs assessment. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School and SWK 5100 or 5130.

SWK 5500. Concentration Practicum I and Seminar (4 credits)

This is the first practicum in the concentration curriculum. This course enables students to apply Advanced Generalist master's level coursework in an advanced generalist practice setting. Students, agency supervisors and faculty field instructors plan activities that will support the development of generalist skills as specified in individualized learning contracts. Students will be exposed to a variety of social work roles and responsibilities. Open to MSW students only. PREREQ: SWK 5300 and 5400 or Advanced Standing.

SWK 5580. Advanced Generalist Social Work Practice with Groups and Organizations in Rural Communities (3 credits)

This advanced generalist course builds on the content presented during the foundation year. It focuses on the processes of intervention in task and individual change groups. Particular attention will be given to the recruitment and composition of group members, leadership structure of small groups and organizations, phases of group development, and such group processes as decision-making, tension reduction, conflict resolution, goal setting, contracting, and evaluation in the rural setting. Organizational theories will be covered as well. Theories that support social justice will be emphasized. The course will also consider how gender, ethnicity, race, social class, sexual orientation, and different abilities will impact on various aspects of group functioning such as purpose, composition, leadership, selection of intervention strategies, and group development. A variety of experiential assignments and exercises will be used to help students enhance their leadership knowledge and skills. PREREQ: Admission to the Graduate Program and SWK 5060 or Advanced Standing.

SWK 5600. Advanced Clinical Assessment and Intervention Methods (3 credits)

An advanced course in the assessment skills required for professional social work practice in mental health and other clinical settings. The course will focus on clinical assessment as described in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, DSM IV-TR. Students will be expected to become conversant with the clinical descriptions used in mental health diagnosis and to master the basic assessment skills required of social workers in clinical settings. Students will apply assessment knowledge and skills in planning practical and effective treatment strategies. Clinical assessment skills are not only necessary for the social worker in many areas of direct practice but are of use to all social workers as they deal with other helping professionals (i.e., psychiatrists, psychologists, school counselors, etc.). This may be particularly true in rural settings where the social work generalist may be called upon to function in multiple roles and fields of practice. PREREQ: SWK 5060 or Advanced Standing.

SWK 5700. Child Welfare (Rural/Indigenous Communities) (3 credits)

This course is designed to provide practice knowledge and skills for students preparing for positions in public child welfare. The competencies taught in the course will also give social workers in a variety of settings that serve children a better understanding of the child welfare system and its services in North Carolina. The course is designed to acquaint the student with the tools and techniques necessary to enhance their ability to think critically in a variety of situations and experiences. PREREQ: Admission to the MSW Program.

SWK 5710. Grant Writing (3 credits)

This course will seek to develop research and grant writing skills and competencies to aid the student in assisting communities, Community Based Organizations, non-profit agencies, etc., in meeting the needs of the communities and/or associated publics. The focus of this course is the practical applica-

tion of social analysis, critical thinking, and the development of related skill-sets such as community mapping/research, resource identification, program planning/development, capacity building, and change/intervention strategies to aid in the creation of grant proposals designed to address specific community or constituency needs. Students should expect a major time investment in regards to research, writing, and weekly group discussions/activities. PREREQ: Admission to Graduate School.

SWK 5800. Concentration Practicum II and Seminar (5 credits)

This is the second practicum in the concentration year. This course enables students to apply Advanced Generalist master's level coursework in an advanced generalist practice setting. Students, agency supervisors, and faculty field instructors plan activities that will support the development of generalist skills as specified in individualized learning contracts. Students will be exposed to a variety of social work roles and responsibilities. Open to MSW students only. PREREQ: SWK 5300, 5400, 5500 or Advanced Standing.

SWK 6200. Assessment and Treatment of Substance Abuse Disorder (3 credits)

Our understandings of substance use, dependence, abuse, and treatment are some of the most rapidly evolving and also controversial areas of knowledge in the mental health and medical fields. This course is designed to cover the key content necessary for developing a comprehensive understanding of a complex body of knowledge that is filled with certainties and uncertainties, science and speculation, dogma and theory, as well as opinion and silence. It will also provide students with a reflective grasp of a confusing body of knowledge. Topics covered include ethnocultural influences in addiction, socio-cultural aspects of addiction, definitions of addiction, profiles in addiction, substances of addiction, models of treatment, family work, group support and self-medication theories of addiction.

SWK 6300. Human Trafficking in the US (3 credits)

This course emphasizes social work practice in relation to the various forms of human trafficking within the United States. Students will learn relevant terminology, the process of human trafficking, and the systemic effects on those who are victimized. Knowledge and skills relevant to trauma-focused practice and interventions at various levels of social work practice will be emphasized. The role of systemic factors including culture and social media will be explored.

SWK 6400. Forensic Social Work (3 credits)

This course develops the understanding of the role of social workers with clients within the criminal justice system and legal system. This course will focus on theory, practice, intervention, and advocacy with diverse forensic populations including offenders, victims, juveniles, and related systems. The role of social workers as expert witnesses, in child welfare, etc., is also explored. This course assumes a justice-oriented multisystems and interdisciplinary approach.

SWK 6500. Military Social Work (3 credits)

This course introduces the student to the complexities involved in military culture, combat and post-war experience. It analyzes the field of military social work practice placing particular emphasis on the diversity of military/veteran families, their resiliencies, and challenges in modern societies. The course has an empowerment, family-centered focus and aims to advance a non-judgmental, culturally-sensitive, ethical understanding and treatment of military personnel/veterans and their families. The importance of creativity and innovation in designing and evaluating theory-grounded, practice-informed micro-, mezzo-, and macro-level interventions, adherence to professional ethics, and adoption of best-evidence modalities in the field are also highly accentuated.

SWK 6600. Advanced Social Work Practice in Integrative Healthcare (3 credits)

The course will introduce students to the essential practice skills needed to effectively address the challenges of integrating services, care, and support for persons with health, mental health, and substance use problems. Students will become fluent in the language and culture of health and will develop a working knowledge of a wide variety of chronic health conditions. Students will examine the challenges of multidisciplinary team practice and current best practices for effective interventions.

SWKS 6xxx. Special Topics in Social Work (3 credits)

These courses will exam a special area or topic of relevance within the field of social work. Topics to be considered will be announced prior to registration and may vary. This course may be repeated for different topics. PREREQ: Permission of Instructor.