School of Graduate Studies at UNC Pembroke

The School of Graduate Studies emphasizes depth of study, academic rigor, and reflection. As you strive for excellence within our academic community, you are encouraged to commit yourself to lifelong learning, remain open to change, develop your social consciousness, and respect human diversity. Campus academic and support services are designed to assist you in your studies.

The University: One of the fastest-growing, public, four-year, master’s degree-granting institutions in the University of North Carolina system. Founded in 1887 as the Cretan Normal School.

Location: Pembroke, North Carolina. Just off Interstate 95 and Highway 74, Midway between Boston and Miami.

Apply online at: www.uncp.edu/grad, click on “Apply to Graduate School.”

Powerful, Personal, Practical.
Graduate Study in Social Work

Certainly one of the noblest of professions is that of the social worker. Because the world is not a perfect place, it will always be the socially minded who come forth to help individuals, families, and populations—who struggle with emotional distress, economic difficulty, and social injustice—to see the light ahead and find the strength to persevere. The social worker is the guardian advocate.

The UNC Pembroke graduate program in Social Work is designed to help meet the urgent need for advanced generalist social work professionals in public, private, and social service agency settings, with an emphasis on working with rural, disadvantaged, and indigenous populations.

Designed for the working student, we offer a full and part-time 60-credit hour program 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. Your studies will provide you the skills and awareness to take a leadership role in the mobilization of available resources for the advancement of economic, political and social justice, and find and devise solutions that enhance the quality of life. You will also be prepared to face the challenges of working with at-risk populations.

What can I expect in the Social Work Program?

◊ A distinguished and collaborative faculty, small class sizes, and dynamic exchange with peer practitioners.

◊ A rigorously advanced curriculum emphasizing work with diverse at-risk populations, and social and economic justice.

◊ Research and field practice that build an awareness of historical and contemporary social issues in a global context.

◊ Core courses include advanced practice with individuals, families, and groups; program management, supervision, and evaluation; child welfare; and human behavior.

Further, the Campus Association of Social Workers gives students an opportunity to discuss trends and topics in the social work field, and provides a forum in which to share their thoughts with the university community.

What Can I Do With a Master’s Degree in Social Work?

With demand increasing between 14 and 20 percent through 2016, employment prospects for generalist social workers are outpacing the national average. The UNC Pembroke M.S.W. program will enhance your abilities in areas such as clinical and administrative social work, employee assistance programs, and school and psychiatric social work. Likely employment opportunities include family service agencies; child welfare departments; social service agencies; probation departments; and local, state, and federal government agencies. Completion of the program satisfies requirements for licensure and/or registration in all 50 states.

Master of Social Work Admission Requirements:

◊ Bachelor's degree

◊ Minimum GPA of 3.0 in major or 2.5 overall

◊ Competitive GRE or MAT scores

◊ Transcripts from every college/university attended

◊ Application form and fee

◊ Three professional and academic recommendations (not UNCP Social Work faculty)

◊ Essay that demonstrates your ability to construct an argument and indicates that your professional and academic goals match the values and ethics of social work

◊ Criminal background check

◊ Completion of an undergraduate or graduate course of study reflective of a liberal arts education including the humanities, social and behavioral sciences, physical sciences (specifically human biology), and statistics

MSW Admission Requirements for Advanced Standing Program:

All of the above AND the following:

◊ B.S.W. degree within the last five years from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited social work program

◊ Minimum GPA of 3.2 in the major