



BSW HANDBOOK

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences
School of Social Work
479.575.5039 | socialwork.uark.edu

UA Commitment to Equal Opportunity Education

The University of Arkansas School of Social Work is committed to the policy of providing educational opportunities to all qualified students regardless of their economic or social status, and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, sexual orientation, disability, veteran's status, age, marital or parental status, or national origin.

The UA Campus Council

The Campus Council of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, does not condone discriminatory treatment of students or staff on the basis of age, disability, ethnic origin, marital status, race, religious commitment, sex or sexual orientation in any of the activities conducted upon this campus. Members of the faculty are requested to be sensitive to this issue when, for example, presenting lecture material, assigning seating within the classroom, selecting groups for laboratory experiments, and assigning student work. The University faculty, administration, and staff are committed to providing an equal educational opportunity to all students.

University of Arkansas Mission

The mission of the University of Arkansas is to provide an internationally competitive education for undergraduate and graduate students in a wide spectrum of disciplines; contribute to new knowledge, economic development, basic and applied research, and creative activity; and provide service to academic/professional disciplines and society, all aimed at fulfilling its public land- grant mission to serve Arkansas and beyond as a partner, resource, and catalyst.

Welcome

As Undergraduate Program Director, I would like to personally welcome you to the BSW Program. I hope the information in this handbook will provide guidance to you as you move through the program.

The School of Social Work (SSW) has one of the oldest undergraduate social work programs in the United States. We have offered undergraduate social work degrees since 1940 and we are fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). We take great pride in the contributions to the field of social work made by our graduates, faculty and students over the years.

The professional purpose of social work is the enhancement of human well-being and the alleviation of poverty and oppression for all peoples. The profession is dedicated to assisting individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social work is particularly concerned with achieving social and economic justice for all populations while respecting and valuing human diversity.

In order to achieve its basic purposes, the faculty, students, staff, and agency field instructors are involved in a variety of teaching, research, and outreach activities that involve them in the life of the university, communities around the state, and at the national level. I welcome you to join us in our efforts to achieve excellence in the preparation of professional social workers. The purpose of this handbook is to assist both prospective and current students with understanding the requirements, operations, and resources of the undergraduate Social Work Program. I hope it will be useful to you and I encourage your suggestions for its improvement.

While the School has a long history, it is also dedicated to change and growth as contexts and technologies change. A visit to our homepage will give you an opportunity to discover more about our faculty, students, goals, and current projects. Please visit the site at <http://socialwork.uark.edu>.

Thank you for your interest in social work and, again, welcome to the School of Social Work at the University of Arkansas.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Parker, LCSW". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Professor Betty Parker, BSW, MSW, LCSW
Undergraduate Program Director

Table of Contents

I: Introduction	5
School of Social Work Mission	5
BSW Program Mission	5
BSW Program Goals.....	5
Educational Goals.....	5
BSW Competencies	5
II: Admissions	6
Pre-Social Work and BSW Majors Distinction	6
BSW Admissions Policies and Procedures	6
III: Program Structure & Curriculum	10
BSW Orientation and Information Sessions	10
Declaring Social Work as a Major	11
Ongoing Academic and Professional Advising Policy	11
Transfer Students	12
International Students.....	12
Study Abroad Experiences	13
No Academic Credit for Work or Life Experience	13
Attendance Policy	13
Dropping a Course.....	14
Withdrawal from the University	14
Curriculum	15
Social Work Field Experience	20
Social Work Minor Requirements/Non-Major Restrictions	20
Graduation / Graduation with Honors.....	22
IV: Program Policies: Retention, Continuation, & Termination	23
Criteria for Retention and Continuation	23
V: STUDENTS RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES.....	24
Course Descriptions of Social Work Courses	26

I: Introduction

School of Social Work Mission

We are dedicated to fostering a community of culturally competent, anti-oppressive social work leader-practitioners. Through student-centered experiential learning, rigorous research, and committed community engagement, we prepare our students to become advocates for social and economic justice and equity. Our program integrates classroom knowledge with real-world application, embracing a Multi-Systems Life Course Perspective. We aim to empower social workers who will enhance the quality of life for vulnerable individuals, families, and communities both within Arkansas and globally, believing that through our efforts, Arkansas can truly be a land of opportunity for all.

BSW Program Mission

The mission of the BSW Program is to prepare culturally competent social workers who embody core social work values. Our program develops generalist leader-practitioners prepared for empirically based and multi-system practice through the integration of classroom, field education, and experiential learning. Learning takes place within an intentional collaborative community that promotes inclusion to improve the quality of life for all persons, families, groups, organizations and communities in Arkansas and globally.

BSW Program Goals

The BSW program is conceptualized in such a way that it has two primary educational goals. Accomplishment of these objectives provides the information and experiences necessary for student to demonstrate achievement of nine core competencies identified by the program (and the profession through Council of Social Work Education) as essential characteristics of beginning level generalist practitioners capable of continuing professional development.

Educational Goals

- (1) Prepare BSW graduates for ethically competent, empirically based, multi-system beginning level professional generalist practice across the life course.
- (2) Prepare BSW graduates for continuous life-long learning after graduation.

BSW Competencies

Upon Completion of all BSW Professional Core courses, students must demonstrate accomplishment of each of the BSW program Competencies 1-9 of the CSWE EPAS 2022.

II: Admissions

The UA School of Social Work is responsible to the social work profession and to the consumers of professional social work services for ensuring that it recruits, trains, and retains students with the potential and motivation for competent professional social work practice upon graduation from the program. One of the mechanisms for insuring this is the program's admission policies and procedures.

Pre-Social Work and BSW Majors Distinction

Students that have not yet been accepted to the BSW Professional Core Program are considered Pre-Social Work Majors. After applying and being accepted to the BSW Professional Core Program, students are designated as BSW Majors.

BSW Admissions Policies and Procedures

Criteria for Admission to the BSW Professional Core Program

For Pre-Social Work Majors to be eligible to enter the BSW Program's Professional Practice Core (Research and Technology I; Human Behavior and the Social Environment II; Social Work Practice I, II, and III; Field Internship I and II; Field Seminar I and II) and designation as BSW Majors each student must have completed the required pre-social work course work and complete the application process outlined below.

Students applying to the professional core must complete the following nine courses with a grade of 'C' or better:

- SCWK 21303 Introduction to Social Work
- PSYC 20003 General Psychology
- SOCI 20103 General Sociology
- SCWK 31903 Human Diversity and Social Work
- ENGL 10103 Composition I
- SPCH 10003 Public Speaking
- PLSC 20003 American National Government
- SCWK 40903 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I
- SCWK 41503 Social Welfare Policy

In addition, students must complete the following course with a 'D' or better: BIOL 1534 General Biology or ANTH 1013 Biological Anthropology

Students must have at least a 2.5 GPA in all the ten courses listed above. Students must also have an overall GPA of 2.5.

Note: Most students will also be enrolled in Statistics. The statistics requirement may be taken prior or during SCWK 40703: Social Work Research/Technology I. There are University and College requirements for general education, and the Social Work degree,

in addition to the courses listed above. Consult your University Catalog, Social Work Student Handbook, or your advisor if you have questions about these.

- Applications to the core for **the Fall Admissions Cycle** are due the **second Friday in October**.
- Applications for **the Spring Admissions Cycle** are due the **second Friday in March**.
- Late applications are not accepted.

The application process must be completed by the end of the semester prior to the semester in which the student will enroll in Social Work Practice I. The application is available at socialwork.uark.edu and requires the following:

1. **BSW Professional Core Application Form.** This form requires the signature of the academic advisor, but the applicant is responsible for uploading the completed form with the rest of application materials. Form available at socialwork.uark.edu.
2. **Personal Statement.** This narrative statement should address: motivation for becoming a social worker; relevant work, volunteer or life experiences; strengths and limitations for effective social work practice; career goals and indication of fields of practice preference or areas where you would not feel comfortable working. Personal statements should be prepared following the instructions outlined in the application process and fully respond to each portion of the prompt. Applicants are responsible for uploading the completed statement with the rest of the application materials. Additional details available at socialwork.uark.edu.
3. **Relevant Volunteer/Work Experience Form.** This form provides documentation of satisfactory completion of the volunteer experience assignment in Introduction to Social Work or equivalent volunteer/work experience and submission of a positive “Supervisor’s Reference Form” from the supervisor of the experience. A minimum of **30** hours of work or volunteer experience are required for admission to the Social Work Professional Core. Applicants are responsible for uploading the completed form with the rest of the application materials. Form available at socialwork.uark.edu.
4. **Ethical Principles / Guidelines for UA Social Work Students.** By signing this statement, you are acknowledging that you have read and understand the “Ethical Principles/Guidelines for Social Work Students”. A copy of this signed statement will be included in your advising file. Applicants are responsible for uploading the signed document with the rest of the application materials. Document available at socialwork.uark.edu.
5. **Student Standards for Social Work Education.** By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and understand the policies and guidelines outlined in the “Student Standards for Social Work Education”. Additionally, you are acknowledging that you are aware of the programs policies as they relate to the Student Retention and Success procedures. Applicants are responsible for

uploading the signed document when submitting application materials. Document is available at [Student Standards for Social Work Education](#).

- 6. Professional Habits Reference Form.** This form must be completed by the students instructors for Social Welfare Policy and HBSE I only and can only be completed by University of Arkansas School of Social Work professors. If the student needs to select another professor or if the student did not take these courses at the University of Arkansas, they must first obtain the Undergraduate Program Director's approval.

Applicants must send a timely and professional email request to professors to ask that the form be completed. Professors are provided with a form link and submit the feedback on the student's behalf. Professors may also have individual deadlines and processes for requesting the Professional Habits Forms. If this is the case, the student should follow the guidelines as they are lined out by that individual professor. Additional details available at socialwork.uark.edu.

- 6. Unofficial Copy of Current Transcript.** Documenting a 2.5 GPA for cumulative coursework as well as the 10 pre-professional courses. Applicants are responsible for uploading the document with the rest of the application materials. Additional details available at socialwork.uark.edu.

Additional Details Regarding Professional Habits Forms

If the student is unable to obtain forms from one or both of the specified instructors, the student should consult with the BSW Director to identify suitable alternatives.

Forms must be from courses taken within the last three semesters (including the admission or current semester). If the student's HBSE I and Social Welfare Policy courses were taken beyond three semesters, the student should consult with the BSW Director to identify suitable alternatives.

It is the student's responsibility to request the reference from the professors via email. The email should include the student's full name and student ID#. The instructor will submit the form directly to the BSW Director. In addition, students should be aware that feedback from other faculty will be taken into account during the admission process.

BSW Program Policies for Evaluating Applications

Applications for admissions will be evaluating based on several criteria, utilizing the BSW Admissions Application Rubric. To be considered for admissions, all applicants must have submitted all required application materials by the deadline, which includes the following:

- BSW Professional Core Application
- Personal Statement
- Relevant Volunteer/Work Experience Form

- Ethical Principles/Guidelines for UA Social Work Students
- Professional Habits Reference Form (from SCWK 4153 instructor and SCWK 4093 instructor)
- Unofficial Copy of Current Transcript

Additionally, applications will be evaluated based on having met the requirements for admissions:

- Students must have at least a 2.5 GPA in all the ten courses listed below:
 - SCWK 21303 Introduction to Social Work
 - PSYC 20003 General Psychology
 - SOCI 20103 General Sociology
 - SCWK 31903 Human Diversity and Social Work
 - ENGL 10103 Composition I
 - SPCH 10003 Public Speaking
 - PLSC 20003 American National Government
 - SCWK 40903 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I
 - SCWK 41503 Social Welfare Policy
- Students must have an overall GPA of 2.5.
- Students must have completed BIOL 10103/10101 Principles of Biology with Lab or ANTH 10143/ANTH 10141 Intro to Biological Anthropology with Lab with a D or better.

Personal Statement: The BSW Admissions Committee evaluates Personal Statements on the completeness of answers to the required prompts, the level to which it appears that the applicant understood the prompts and incorporated concepts already covered in required social work courses taken prior to applying to the BSW Professional Core (HBSE I, Social Welfare Policy, Human Diversity, Intro to Social Work), illustration of emerging critical thinking skills and understanding of and commitment to social work values and overall writing abilities.

Upon completion of the Admissions Committee's review of applications and applicant interviews (if necessary), students will receive an Admissions Status letter via email from the BSW Program Director. Students admitted with Conditional Admissions will be notified of the conditions of admission and the timeline for which these conditions must be met via the Admissions Status Letter. There are three possible admission decisions:

- **Unconditional admission:** These students have demonstrated, through their application materials (and interview, if required), that they have the motivation and potential for competent professional social work practice and that they agree to uphold the values and ethics of professional social work practice. In addition, these students have at least a 2.5 GPA in the pre-professional core courses and have an overall GPA of 2.5.
- **Conditional admission:** These students may continue in the major for a given period of time (usually one to two semesters) during which certain conditions

must be met. Students may be admitted conditionally with a lower GPA than 2.5 overall, but the student must attain a 2.5 overall GPA during the time period required by the University before being removed from academic probation. Conditional admission related to non-GPA issues may be granted if the student agrees in writing to correct the concern. Examples of non-GPA concerns for which corrective action may be required include writing skills, assertiveness, stress management, or ability to adhere to professional standards while interning at partner agencies. Students who are admitted conditionally must sign an agreement form detailing the conditions required to continue in the Social Work Professional Core. In the event that the conditions are not fulfilled, the BSW Director will have the discretion to decide how to proceed. This could include, but is not limited to, the student not being allowed to continue in the program until the conditions are fulfilled or dismissal from the program. Note: Students receiving a 'D' or an 'I' in a core social work course after being unconditionally admitted to the program are considered conditionally admitted until the deficiency is corrected. (See Criteria for Continuation below.)

- **Non-acceptance:** A decision of non-acceptance will be made when the student is found to be unsuited for professional social work practice or has not met the required minimum qualifications of the admissions process. A decision of non-acceptance will result in the student's inability to progress in the social work program. In the event of non-acceptance, an optional meeting with the undergraduate program director will be offered to the student and assistance with a transfer to another major will be provided upon request. Students that are denied admission upon first applying are eligible to reapply the following semester for a second review of newly submitted materials by the Admissions Committee.

Additional Admissions Considerations

Students are usually expected to apply for admission to the social work program only after completing the entire pre-professional core (pre-social work courses). However, in some cases a student may begin the admission process while still enrolled in one or more of the pre-professional core courses. This is especially true of students who decide to major in social work after they have completed a large part of the general education curriculum or who transfer to the university from another institution.

These students will not be granted unconditional admission status until final and satisfactory grades for these courses are presented to the Admissions Committee.

III: Program Structure & Curriculum

BSW Orientation and Information Sessions

Early in the Fall and Spring semesters, several orientation and information sessions are conducted by the BSW Program Director. Orientation for new admits to the BSW

Professional Core is held during the first semester in the core for all new admits. This orientation provides students with an overview of program policies, tips for navigating the School of Social Work, and covers other pertinent topics as well as a question-and-answer section. Informational sessions are held each semester with details on the application process to the BSW Professional Core as well as general information about the BSW Program. Any student who is interested in the major or applying to the core should attend. Emails will be sent via the BSW listserv announcing scheduled orientations/information sessions. In addition, schedules for these sessions will be shared in Introduction to Social Work courses as well as Human Behavior and the Social Environment I courses.

Declaring Social Work as a Major

To declare a Pre-Social Work major, the student must first meet with the Fulbright Center for Advising (or the BSW Program Director, when available) to explore the student's interests, the nature of the profession, and the requirements of the major. Students are initially classified as Pre-Social Work Majors prior to being admitted to the BSW Professional Core Program, after which they are classified as BSW Majors. The change of major form, signed by the student and the advisor, will be forwarded to the office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for processing. The Dean's Office will then process the request for a change of major and will forward a complete record of the student's work to the office of the School of Social Work.

Ongoing Academic and Professional Advising Policy

BSW Program prides itself on the thoroughness of our ongoing advising system. This advising policy ensures that all Pre-Social Work and BSW Majors are provided with the needed support to meet program requirements and goals for their social work educational experience. Advising is a multifaceted process and a shared responsibility of the student, the academic advisor and the BSW Program Director and faculty. Advising is separated into two categories working collaboratively—academic and professional/career advising.

Academic Advising

After declaration of the Pre-Social Work Major or BSW Major, students are assigned an academic advisor from the Fulbright Advising Center. It is the policy of the BSW Program that all social work majors must meet with their academic advisor at least one time each semester. The Fulbright advisor will assist students each semester with planning immediate and long-term course work schedule. This is especially important in the BSW Major because courses are sequenced and most courses require the completion of specific pre-requisites in preparation to proceed to the next required course. The Fulbright Academic Advisor can also provide students with general guidance on pre-social work course requirements and the process of applying to the BSW Professional Core Program. It is critical students understand that academic planning is a shared activity; one that demands the active participation of both advisor and student.

Professional/Career Advising

Professional/Career advising is offered by the BSW Program Director. Students are encouraged to meet with the BSW Program Director but are not required. Students can request professional advising by contacting the BSW Program Director. The BSW Program Director may assist students in exploring your interests in a particular field of practice, potential volunteer experiences, and future employment plans.

Transfer Students

Transfer students may be accepted into the BSW program. However, transfer students must meet the same admission and retention requirements as all other students in the program. Students transferring from another accredited social work program will not be required to re-take course work that is consistent with the requirements of the UA BSW Program. The program director will evaluate the content of transfer work to avoid duplication or redundancy of work previously taken. Students transferring from non-accredited social work programs will be closely evaluated to ensure that any courses being transferred are consistent with CSWE standards, policies, and the educational objectives and outcomes of the BSW Program. Students from non-accredited social work programs may not transfer field work courses in lieu of the field internship courses in the UA BSW Program.

Transfer course evaluation will involve review of course syllabi for objectives and content consistent with that of UA social work courses. Evaluation may also involve review of University Catalog course descriptions, textbooks and bibliographies. In cases where available materials are insufficient to determine course or content equivalency, program faculty may consult with faculty from the transferring institution.

Students are encouraged to visit the transfer course equivalency guide page at <https://registrar.uark.edu/transfer-and-test-credit/index.php> which is maintained by the registrar.

International Students

All students must apply to the professional core according to deadlines and criteria described above. Once admitted to the University of Arkansas, international students are eligible to take social work classes and to apply for the professional core.

International students are admitted to the University of Arkansas using the following criteria. Applicants with the equivalent of 12 years of schooling may be eligible for admission to the University if their secondary school record shows above average performance.

Students' secondary school curriculum is expected to include:

- Studies of their native language
- English

- Mathematics
- Natural and/or physical science
- Social science
- The humanities

Applicants from countries where the primary-secondary system only includes eleven standard years may be considered for admission if they 1) have achieved a strong academic record and 2) can submit the final official leaving-school certificate. Those who have received Certificates of Education or Leaving School Certificates (i.e. GCSE, SPM, MCE, WASC), must have a minimum of five GCSE equivalent passes in subjects. These must be substantially equivalent to those studied in the U.S., including English.

Students should submit official copies of academic work. They are also encouraged to submit a letter from their headmaster or principal indicating their class ranking and the total number enrolled. We recommend that freshmen applicants sit for the SAT.

Study Abroad Experiences

Credits for study abroad experiences must be assessed on a case by case basis to be considered for SCWK credit. In general, course equivalency credit for BSW Professional Core courses does not apply to study abroad credits as these courses are required by the CSWE.

No Academic Credit for Work or Life Experience

The UA BSW Program does not offer academic credit for life experience or previous work experience in lieu of field internship or any of the courses in the required social work professional core (Introduction to Social Work, Human Diversity and Social Work, Social Welfare Policy, Human Behavior and the Social Environment I and II, Social Work Research and Technology I, Social Work Practice I, II, and III).

Attendance Policy

As per the [Undergraduate Student Catalog](#):

Education at the university level requires active involvement in the learning process. Therefore, students have the responsibility to attend classes and to actively engage in all learning assignments or opportunities provided in their classes. Instructors have the responsibility to provide a written policy on student attendance that is tied to course objectives and included in a course syllabus. There may be times, however, when illness, family crisis, or university- sponsored activities make full attendance or participation impossible. In these situations, students are responsible for making timely arrangements with the instructor to make up work missed. Such arrangements should be made in writing and prior to the absence when possible.

Examples of absences that should be considered excusable include those resulting from the following: 1) illness of the student, 2) serious illness or death of a member of the student's immediate family or other family crisis, 3)

University-sponsored activities for which the student's attendance is required by virtue of scholarship or leadership/ participation responsibilities, 4) religious observances (see Students' Religious Observances policy below), 5) jury duty or subpoena for court appearance, and 6) military duty. The instructor has the right to require that the student provide appropriate documentation for any absence for which the student wishes to be excused.

Dropping a Course

Social work students should consult their Fulbright academic advisors when considering dropping a course. Because of course sequencing requirements, dropping a course may prevent a student from proceeding to the next courses and may result in a delay of planned graduation date.

A currently enrolled student who has registered during the advance registration period should make necessary adjustments (dropping or adding courses) during the scheduled adjustment period for the same semester. Students may also add or drop courses during the first five class days of a semester.

If a current student registers for SCWK courses with prerequisites but does not successfully pass those SCWK pre-requisite courses it is the responsibility of the student to drop the SCWK course for which they have not met the pre-requisite requirements. For example, if a student is enrolled in SCWK 21303 Introduction to Social Work while registering for SCWK 40903 HBSE I but does not successfully complete Intro to Social Work (a pre-requisite for HBSE I), the student must unenroll in HBSE I until they have successfully passed Intro to Social Work. Failure on the student's part to do so could result in the student being delayed in continuing on with the BSW course work or delayed graduation.

A student may drop a course during the first 10 class days of the semester without having the withdrawal shown on the official academic record. After the first 10 class days, and before the drop deadline of the semester, a student may drop a course, but a mark of "W" indicating withdrawal, will be recorded. A student may not drop a full-semester course after the Friday of the tenth week of classes in a semester. Drop/add deadlines for partial semester courses are published in the schedule of classes. Drop/add deadlines for summer sessions are published in the summer sessions schedule of classes.

In some instances, taking a grade of "I" (Incomplete) may be an alternative to dropping a course. This option should be discussed with the Fulbright Center for Advising advisor and negotiated with the course instructor.

Withdrawal from the University

Withdrawing from the University means withdrawing from all classes that have not been completed up to that time. A student who leaves the University voluntarily before the end of the semester or summer term must complete an exit interview and then drop all classes on the student registration system or notify the Office of Registrar in writing.

Withdrawal may occur anytime during the semester through the last day of classes. Withdrawal deadlines for summer sessions are listed in the summer schedule of classes; summer withdrawals do not require an exit interview. Students who do not withdraw officially from a class they fail to complete will receive an “F” in that class. Students with holds on their registration should contact the Office of the Registrar for assistance in processing their official withdrawal from the University.

Curriculum

The BSW program curriculum is organized around the CSWE 2022 EPAS Competencies and Practice Behaviors

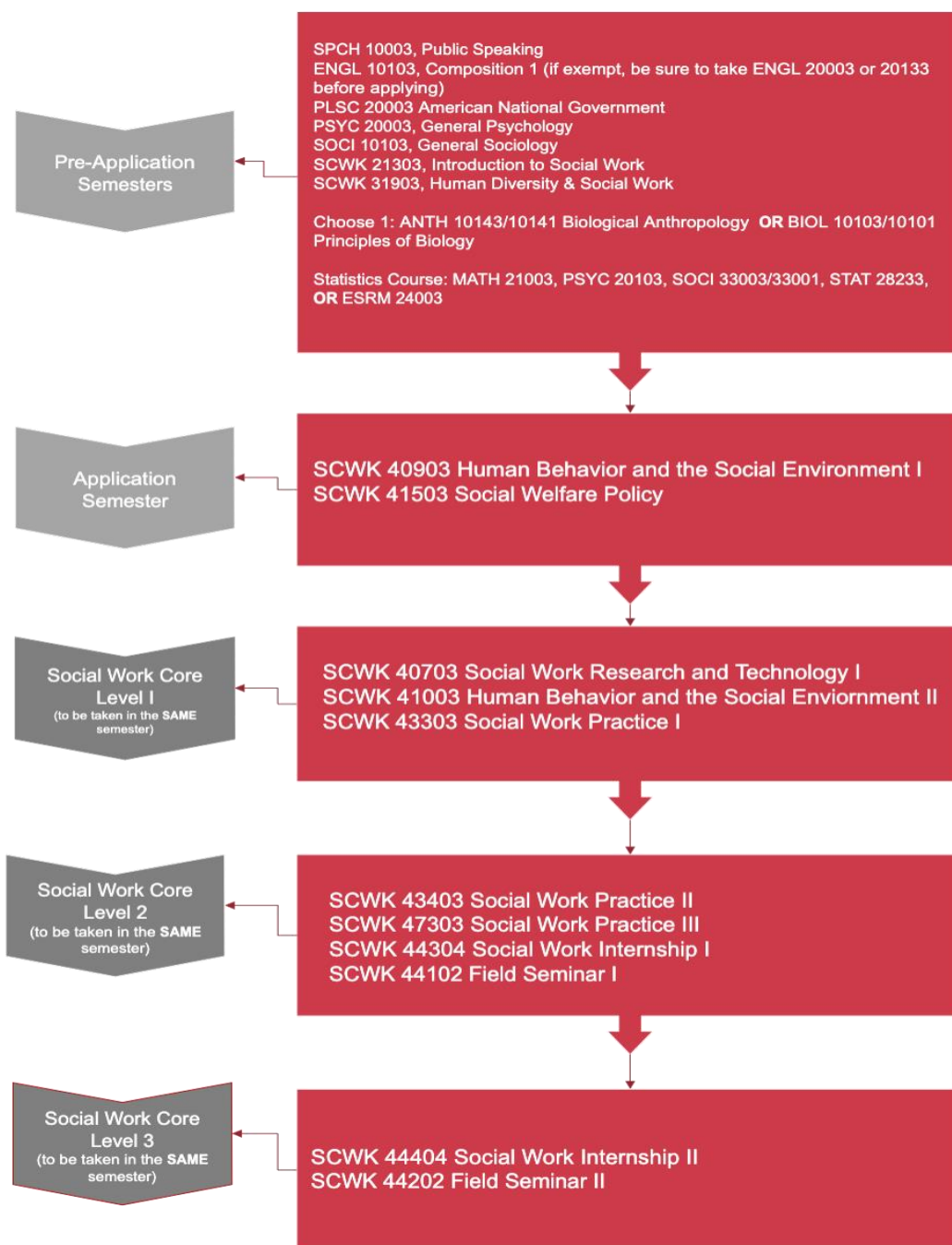
These areas build upon a liberal arts base to provide social work students with the necessary competencies to perform at the entry level of generalist social work practice. The curriculum consists of general education requirements, prerequisites in the liberal arts and sciences, social work core (classroom and field) courses and social work and social science electives. The following is a visual representation of the building blocks of the curriculum design.

Senior Writing Requirement

Social work students complete the research/analytical writing requirement by passing SCWK 40703 with a C or better.

PRE-SOCIAL WORK & BSW MAJOR COURSE SEQUENCE

This flow chart is designed for a typical four-year plan. However, major changes and transfers are very common. Work with your advisor to create your own plan.



Required Social Work Courses	
SCWK 21033	Introduction to Social Work
SCWK31903	Human Diversity & Social Work
PLSC 20003	American National Government
PSYC 20003	General Psychology
SOCI 20103	General Sociology
BIOL 10103/10101	Principles of Biology with Labor
ANTH 10143/10141	Intro to Biological Anthropology
SCWK 40903	Human Behavior & Social Environment I
SCWK 41503	Social Welfare Policy
SPCH 10003	Public Speaking
MATH 21003, PSYC 20103, SOCI 33003/33001, STAT 28233, or ESRM 24003	Statistics
ENGL10103	English Composition I
ENGL 20003/20103	Advanced Composition
SCWK40703	Social Work Research/Technology
SCWK43303	Social Work Practice I
SCWK 41003	Human Behavior & Social Environment II
SCWK43403	Social Work Practice II
SCWK47303	Social Work Practice III
SCWK44304	Social Work Internship I
SCWK44102	Field Seminar I
SCWK44404	Social Work Internship II
SCWK44202	Field Seminar II
SCWK Elective	Select from SCWK Electives List (3 hours)
SCWK Elective	Select from SCWK Electives List (3 hours)
Upper Level Social Science*	Select 30000-40000 level social science electives (3 hours)
Upper Level Social Science*	Select 30000-40000 level social science electives (3 hours)
*Six hours total of 30000-40000 level social science electives to be selected from SOCI, PSYC, ANTH, PLSC, COMM, HIST, HESC, HUMN 425 and GEOS (other options by BSW Program Director approval).	

NOTE: Other SW degree requirements include 6 hours of SW electives, 6 hours of upper level (3000 or 4000) social sciences (non-social work), Advanced Composition, and Foreign Language (as required by the catalog guiding your degree plan). See the following pages for course pre-requisites.

Additional Graduation Requirements

ENGL10203	HIST 11203	MATH 12003 or 13003	Fine Art (3 credit hrs)
PHIL 20003 or 20130	FLAN 10103	Science (3/4 hour)	
HIST 11103	FLAN 20003	Science (3/4 hour)	

Social Work Courses, Electives and Pre-Requisites

SCWK Courses	Pre-Requisites/ Enrollment/ Restrictions
21303 Intro to Social Work	None
31903 Human Diversity and Social Work	None
41503 Social Welfare Policy	Pre: SCWK 21303, SCWK 31903, PLSC 20003
40903 Human Behavior & Social Envir. I	Pre: SCWK 21303, SCWK 31903, SOCI 20103, PSYC 20003, ANTH 10143/10141 Biological Anthropology BIOL 10103/10101 Principles of Biology
41003 Human Behavior & Social Envir. II	Pre: SCWK 40903, SCWK 41503
40703 Social Work Research/Tech. I	Pre/Co: MATH 21003, PSYC 20103, SOCI 33003/33001, STAT 28233, or ESRM 24003
43303 Social Work Practice I	Pre/Co: SCWK 41003 Pre: SCWK 41503, SCWK 40903
43403 Social Work Practice II	Pre/Co: SCWK 41003, SCWK 43303, SCWK 40703

44304 Social Work Internship I	Co: SCWK 44102 Pre: SCWK 40703, SCWK 41003, SCWK 43303 Pre/Co: SCWK 44304, SCWK 47303
44102 Field Seminar I	Co: SCWK 44304
47303 Social Work Practice III	Pre/Co: SCWK 44304 Pre: SCWK 41003, SCWK 43303
44404 Social Work Internship II	Co: SCWK 44202 Pre: SCWK 47303, SCWK 44304, SCWK 44102
44202 Field Seminar II	Co: SCWK 44404
Social Work Electives	Pre-Requisites/ Enrollment/ Restrictions
30103 Child Advocacy I: Perspectives on Child Maltreatment and Child Advocacy	None
31603 On Death and Dying	None
32303 Contemporary Issues in Juvenile Justice	None
36303 Child Welfare: 21st Century Perspectives	None
399HV Honors Course	Consent
40103 Child Advocacy II: Professional and System Responses to Child Maltreatment	Pre: SCWK 30103
40203 Child Advocacy III: Responding to the Survivor of Child Abuse	Pre: SCWK 30103, SCWK 40103
46403. Child Advocacy IV: Global Issues in Child Welfare	None
41403 Addiction & the Family	None
41703 Social Work with African American Families	None
41803 Social Work with Elders	None
42103 The Diagnosis and Treatment of Substance Abuse Disorders	None
42503 Spirituality and Social Work Practice	Pre: SCWK 3193 or Consent
4050V Seminar: Special Topics in SCWK	None
4960V Independent Study	Consent

45203 Ethics and Aging	None
47503 Grant Writing for Social Work	None
42403 Impact of Policy on Addiction	None

Social Work Field Experience

Field Experience Overview

Field Experience I and II (SCWK 44304 /44102 and 44404 /44202) are courses social work majors take consecutively in their senior year once they have completed the prerequisites. The field internship affords the student the opportunity, under the supervision of a licensed social worker, to gain valuable pre-professional practice experience in an agency setting. The weekly field seminar is a co-requisite designed to maximize the integration of theory with practice, classroom learning with agency experiences.

The [BSW Field Manual](#) is a comprehensive guide to the process of field advising and placement. BSW students who have completed all of the pre-requisites to Field will also be contacted by the Field Education Director with instructions on how to proceed, including proposed appointment times for field advising.

Because of the number of agency hours (220 per semester, 16-20 per week) and seminar hours (2 per week) required each field semester, students are urged to consult early and regularly with their advisors to develop a proposed course schedule that will minimize the number of hours taken concurrently with field. The following are general areas of practice of which field internships are usually available:

Fields of Practice		
Adoption & Foster Care	Aging	Child Welfare
Community Organization	Corrections	Developmental Disabilities
Domestic Violence	Family Services	Homelessness
Hospice	Legal Services	Medical Work
Mental Health	Planning/Administration	Poverty
Substance Abuse	Veterans	Youth Services

Social Work Minor Requirements/Non-Major Restrictions

For a minor in social work students must complete 18 hours including Introduction to Social Work (SCWK 21303), Human Diversity (SCWK 31903), and Social Welfare Policies (SCWK 41503). In addition to the nine hours of required courses, the student must take nine hours of social work electives. The social work minor is not recognized by the Council on Social Work Education. Courses for the minor are largely available online.

Social work minors and other non-majors may not enroll in any of the Social Work Practice courses (SCWK 43303, 43403, 47303) or in any of the Field Internship courses (SCWK 44304, 44102, 44404, 44202).

Graduation / Graduation with Honors

Graduation

The registrar provides information about graduation which may be obtained at: <http://registrar.uark.edu/graduation/index.php>.

Note: A “degree audit” or “degree plan” is automatically generated by the Dean’s office when a student accumulates a minimum of 85 hours and applies for graduation. The plan is based on the student’s declared major and degree program and reflects all of the courses completed (including transfer credits) and indicates which requirements remain to be met. Students are notified by email when the degree audit has been sent to the program office.

Students will receive instructions via email about graduation and its associated tasks and process. Failure to meet the deadlines may result in the names of late applicants not appearing in the graduation program.

Graduation with Honors

A student who has successfully completed a program of Honors Studies within Fulbright College is eligible to receive a baccalaureate degree with the distinction Fulbright College Scholar Cum Laude, or Departmental Scholar Cum Laude in the major field of study. Higher distinctions of Magna Cum Laude or Summa Cum Laude may be awarded to outstanding honors students by recommendation of the Fulbright College Honors Council. Refer to the “Honors Studies” and “Graduation with Honors” section of the University Undergraduate Studies Catalog for more information (<http://honorscollege.uark.edu/>).

Senior Scholar Award

The Senior Scholar Award is given to graduates of the Fulbright College who have a 3.80 GPA with at least 50% of their credits from the University of Arkansas.

First-Ranked Senior Scholars

First-ranked senior scholars are recognized at the University of Arkansas Commencement. To be recognized, the scholar(s) must have a cumulative GPA of 4.00 on all course work completed at the time selection is made and must have completed all courses required for the baccalaureate degree at UA or in an approved program of study in the college in which the student is enrolled. In determining the cumulative GPA grade-renewal is not accepted.

IV: Program Policies: Retention, Continuation, & Termination

Criteria for Retention and Continuation

In addition to the admission process, the BSW Program also has requirements for retention and continuation in the major. All students' academic performance is evaluated based on the criteria outlined in the [Standards for Social Work Education](#).

Retention

1. Maintain overall GPA of 2.5.
2. Maintain of a 2.5 GPA in social work courses.
3. Students must abide by and behave in accordance with the ["Ethical Principles/Guidelines for UA Social Work Students"](#) and the [Standards for Social Work Education](#).
4. Refrain from engaging in any activity or behavior which would, according to University policy or regulations, result in dismissal from the University community. Such activity or behavior includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, physical or sexual assault, and academic dishonesty. (See Undergraduate Studies Catalog for description of Academic Dishonesty, and Undergraduate Studies Catalog, Appendix C: Student Handbook for details).

Continuation & Grading Policies

A grade of C or better must be earned in all core social work courses. If a student receives a grade of D or F in one of the professional social work core courses, the course must be retaken with a grade of C or better prior to taking the course for which this course serves as a prerequisite.

- (1) Once matriculated into the BSW program, BSW students who earn a D or F will be allowed to repeat the failed course one time. Students can repeat up to two different social work courses.
- (2) A student may repeat a course in which they received a W no more than one time.
- (3) Any professional social work core course in which the student receives a grade of I (Incomplete) must be satisfactorily completed (with a grade of C or better) prior to entering the course for which that course receiving the Incomplete is a prerequisite. For example, a student receiving an I in HBSE I may not take HBSE II or Social Work Practice I until HBSE I is completed with a final grade.
- (4) If a student's core and/or overall GPA falls below the 2.5 GPA required for retention, the student may remain in the BSW program and take up to an additional 15 credit hours to raise their GPA to the required level. Failure to do so within these parameters will result in dismissal from the BSW program. Students will be referred to the Fulbright Advising Center to change their major course of study.

Criteria for Termination

Students may be terminated from the BSW Program for the following reasons:

- (1) Failure to maintain GPA requirements (2.5 overall, 2.5 social work courses).
Note: If a student's core GPA and/or overall GPA falls below the required 2.5 GPA for retention, the student may remain in the BSW program and take up to an additional 15 credit hours to raise their GPA to the required level. Failure to meet retention requirements regarding repeating failed BSW Professional Core courses as outlined in Continuation and Grading Policies.
- (2) Engaging in any activity or behavior incompatible with the "Ethical Principles/Guidelines for UA Social Work Students" or the Standards for Social Work Education which is documented, investigated, and confirmed by a committee composed of social work faculty.
- (3) Engaging in any activity or behavior which, according to University policy or regulations, would result in dismissal from the University community. Such activity or behavior includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, physical or sexual assault, and academic dishonesty. (See Undergraduate Studies Catalog, description of Academic Dishonesty and, Undergraduate Studies Catalog, Appendix C: Student Handbook for details).
- (4) Students in field are governed by the UA School of Social Work Field Manual and the UA student handbook.

Other Admission/Retention Details

- (1) Students denied admission to the BSW Program may re-apply for admission at a later date if they are able to demonstrate that they have resolved the issues resulting in the original denial of admission.
- (2) Students should be aware that records of criminal convictions will pose an obstacle to finding professional social work employment in some agencies and fields of practice and will be a possible obstacle to attaining a social work license.
- (3) If a student should withdraw from the program voluntarily then the student should schedule a meeting with the BSW Program Director at the time at which they decide to return. The BSW Director will then determine the student's readiness to continue in the program.

V: STUDENTS RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Students in the BSW Program have the following rights:

- (1) The right to an environment that is conducive to learning.
- (2) The right to all academic complaint and appeal procedures provided by the University of Arkansas.
- (3) The right to participate in the life of the BSW Program through involvement in student organizations (see SWAG and Phi Alpha) and appropriate decision-making entities relevant to policies, regulations, and procedures affecting the welfare of students.

- (4) The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. Students in the School of Social Work may access their records in accordance with FERPA guidelines. See Undergraduate Course Catalog.

See the School of Social Work website, socialwork.uark.edu for additional details:

- [Standards for Social Work Education](#)
- Please pay close attention to Section 3.2: Student Standards & Support: 3 Levels of Review

Additional Materials

See the School of Social Work website, socialwork.uark.edu for additional materials:

- [BSW Admissions Documents](#)
- [Resources](#)

Course Descriptions of Social Work Courses

SCWK 21303. Introduction to Social Work. 3 Hours.

Introduction to social work as a profession and to social welfare institutions from the perspective of the generalist, entry level social worker. Emphasis on empowerment function of social work. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 30103. Child Advocacy I: Perspectives on Child Maltreatment and Child Advocacy. 3 Hours.

Introductory course in child advocacy studies training. Covers the history, comparative perspectives, legal framework, responses to child maltreatment, skills necessary to do the work, other pertinent issues pertaining to child maltreatment and child advocacy. (Typically offered: Fall)

SCWK 31603. On Death and Dying. 3 Hours.

Reviews the theory and humanistic importance of the concepts of death and dying in society. An experimental option and interdisciplinary faculty presenters will be part of the format. (Typically offered: Irregular)

SCWK 31903. Human Diversity and Social Work. 3 Hours.

An introduction to information basic concepts related to human diversity and social work. Provides content on differences and similarities in the experiences, needs, and beliefs of people distinguished by race, ethnicity, culture, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, physical or mental ability, age or national origin. Prerequisite: On-campus sections for Social Work major, minor, or Pre-SCWK students only; Online sections are open to all majors. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 32303. Contemporary Issues in Juvenile Justice. 3 Hours.

This course is designed as a discussion of contemporary issues in juvenile justice. The focus is on the child and family system, including various theories related to underlying causes for involvement in the juvenile courts. This course will also describe the current workings of the juvenile court system and implications for the future. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 36303. Child Welfare: 21st Century Perspectives. 3 Hours.

Study of the needs of deprived children with some attention to methods and standards of care. Cultural competence and family-centered practice are emphasized. (Typically offered: Irregular)

SCWK 399HV. Honors Course. 1-18 Hour.

Honors course. Prerequisite: Junior standing. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 12 hours of degree credit.

SCWK 40103. Child Advocacy II: Professional and System Responses to Child Maltreatment. 3 Hours.

Continuation of Child Advocacy Studies I. Focuses on the responses of professionals to allegations of child maltreatment. Covers competency-based skills training including forensic interviewing and documentation. Prerequisite: SCWK 30103. (Typically offered: Spring)

SCWK 40203. Child Advocacy III: Responding to the Survivor of Child Abuse. 3 Hours.

Continuation of Child Advocacy Studies II. Provides training to recognize the effects of child maltreatment and to develop intervention strategies for children and their families. Outside experiential activities for this course involve court room observations. Prerequisite: SCWK 30103 and SCWK 40103. (Typically offered: Summer)

SCWK 4050V. Special Topics in Social Work. 1-6 Hour.

Comprehensive study of various topics of importance in contemporary social welfare and social work practice. Prerequisite: Junior standing. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for degree credit.

SCWK 40703. Social Work Research and Technology I. 3 Hours.

An overview of forms and sources of social work research including existing social data, techniques for collecting original social data, and techniques of organization, interpretation, and presentation of data. Students will also become proficient in the use of current technology for social work research and practice. Pre- or Corequisite: One of the following: MATH 21003, SOCI 33003 and SOCI 33001, PSYC 20103, or ESRM 24003. Prerequisite: SCWK 40903, SCWK 41503, and SCWKBSW major. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

SCWK 40903. Human Behavior and the Social Environment I. 3 Hours.

Provides a conceptual framework for knowledge of human behavior and the social environment with a focus on individuals. Social systems, life-course, assets, and resiliency-based approaches are presented. Special attention is given to the impact of discrimination and oppression on the ability to reach or maintain optimal health and well-being. Prerequisite: SPCH 10003, PSYC 20003, SOCI 10103, SCWK 21303, and SCWK 31903 and (BIOL 10103 and BIOL 10101, or ANTH 10143 and ANTH 10141). (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

SCWK 41003. Human Behavior and the Social Environment II. 3 Hours.

This course applies the basic framework for creating and organizing knowledge of human behavior and the social environment acquired in HBSE I to the understanding of family, group, organizational, community, and global systems. Attention is given to discrimination, oppression, the impact of technology, and poverty at each system level. Prerequisite: SCWK 40903, SCWK 41503, and SCWKBSW major. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

SCWK 41403. Addiction and the Family. 3 Hours.

Introduction to the biophysical basis of chemical and behavior compulsions with special focus on family impacts. Childhood development within addictive families is also examined. Social work intervention with substance abusing families is highlighted. (Typically offered: Irregular)

SCWK 41503. Social Welfare Policy. 3 Hours.

Describes and analyzes the policies and services rendered by local, state, regional, national, and international agencies as well as the policy implications for social work practice. Students prepare to advocate social policy changes designed to improve social conditions, promote social and economic justice, and to empower at-risk populations. Prerequisite: SPCH 10003, PLSC 20003, SCWK 21303, and SCWK 31903. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

SCWK 41603. African American Perspectives of Trauma, Loss, and Recovery. 3 Hours.

Explores dimensions of trauma, loss, and recovery within the lived experiences of African American individuals, families, and communities in the United States. Prerequisite: Junior standing or instructor consent. (Typically offered: Fall)
This course is cross-listed with AAST 41603.

SCWK 41703. Social Work with African American Families. 3 Hours.

An overview of historical and contemporary issues of African American families using culturally competent and strengths based frameworks. Focuses on the Black family as a social institution. Covers current trends affecting Black families, historical influences, evaluation of social policies, and programs of today. Prerequisite: Junior standing or instructor consent. (Typically offered: Irregular)
This course is cross-listed with AAST 41703.

SCWK 41803. Social Work With Elders. 3 Hours.

Survey of theories of gerontology, service programs and unmet needs of the aging citizen. (Typically offered: Irregular)

SCWK 42103. The Diagnosis and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders. 3 Hours.

Explores the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol with an emphasis on evidence-based treatment approaches to help engage and treat chemically dependent clients. Best practices to be reviewed will include Motivational Interviewing (MI), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), harm reduction approaches, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), and Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT). (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 42403. Impact of Policy on Addiction. 3 Hours.

Explores the history of drug policy in the United States, focusing on the relationship between people, drugs, and the criminalization of certain substances. Examines how other countries have developed and utilized harm reduction and decriminalization approaches and policies. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 42503. Spirituality and Social Work Practice. 3 Hours.

This course prepares students to respond competently and ethically to diverse spiritual and religious perspectives. Utilizing social work ethics and values as a guide, students will develop a comparative, critically reflective approach to practice. Prerequisite: SCWK 31903 or instructor consent. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

SCWK 43303. Social Work Practice I. 3 Hours.

This is the first in the sequence of practice courses introducing students to the generalist approach to micro social work. This course focuses on developing a solid foundation for practice with individuals, including learning basic communication and helping skills, values, principles, and the connection of theory to practice. Pre- or Corequisite: SCWK 41003. Prerequisite: SCWK 40903, SCWK 41503, and SCWKBSW major. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

SCWK 43403. Social Work Practice II. 3 Hours.

This is the second course in the social work practice sequence, emphasizing theories, models, and techniques related to generalist practice with families and groups. The course elaborates on system theory as it impacts groups and families, and use of experiential teaching methods. Prerequisite: SCWK 41003 and SCWK 43303. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

SCWK 44102. Field Seminar I. 2 Hours.

An integrative seminar to assist students in comparing their practice experiences, integrating knowledge acquired in the classroom, and expanding knowledge beyond the scope of the practicum setting. Corequisite: SCWK 44304 and social work majors only. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 44202. Field Seminar II. 2 Hours.

An integrative seminar to assist students in comparing their practice experiences, integrating knowledge acquired in the classroom, and expanding knowledge beyond the scope of the practicum setting. Corequisite: SCWK 44404. Prerequisite: Social Work majors only. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 44304. Social Work Internship I. 4 Hours.

Arranged in connection with social service agencies. Credit is based on completion of all course objectives, including a minimum of 220 hours of field work under the supervision of a licensed social worker. Corequisite: SCWK 44102. Prerequisite: Social work major, SCWK 40703, SCWK 41003, and SCWK 43303. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 44404. Social Work Internship II. 4 Hours.

Arranged in connection with social service agencies. Credit is based on completion of all course objectives, including a minimum of 220 hours of field work under the supervision of a licensed social worker. Corequisite: SCWK 44202. Prerequisite: SCWK majors only, SCWK 43403, SCWK 47303 and SCWK 44304. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 45203. Ethics and Aging. 3 Hours.

Explores the complexities of aging and ethical decision making with older adult clients. Students learn to identify ethical dilemmas and to appreciate structured ethical decision making, generalizing the information learned across all populations served. (Typically offered: Irregular)

SCWK 46403. Child Advocacy IV: Global Issues in Child Welfare. 3 Hours.

Prepares students to identify, assess, and respond to the various historical and contemporary factors impacting the welfare of children around the world and focuses on factors such as health, maltreatment, culture, policy, education, and social advocacy. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer)

SCWK 47303. Social Work Practice III. 3 Hours.

Students acquire and practice the skills, knowledge, and values necessary for culturally competent generalist social work practice with organizations and communities. Special attention is given to the implications of discrimination and oppression for attaining social and economic justice. Pre- or Corequisite: SCWK 41003 and SCWK 43403. Prerequisite: SCWK 43303. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

SCWK 47503. Grant Writing. 3 Hours.

Provides advanced theoretical and practical approaches to program planning and development in order to write grant applications. Emphasis is placed on the importance

of developing the practice skills of program planning, understanding program performance, identifying funders, responding to requests for proposals and writing successful grant proposals. (Typically offered: Irregular)

SCWK 4960V. Independent Study. 1-6 Hour.

Independent Study designed to meet the particular needs of individual students. (Typically offered: Irregular) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.