

College: SSW
Department: Social Work
Degree: B.S.W.

Introduction

The Baccalaureate Social Work (BSW) Program prepares students to become professional entry-level generalist social workers to work in a variety of settings with client systems in different communities. The mission statement of the BSW Program emphasizes commitment to social justice, equity, and the eradication of poverty. The curriculum prepares professional entry-level generalist social workers to provide competent, value/ethics based, and effective services to individuals from a wide range of backgrounds. The BSW Program has five goals: (1) to provide a statewide program with the goal of preparing generalist social workers who are informed and effective leaders in challenging injustice and promoting social and economic change; (2) to prepare social workers to practice with at-risk individuals and families through strengthening the capacities of family and community systems; (3) to prepare social workers to assume the role of change agent regarding issues, policies, and community needs that affect individuals and their families and to contribute to the knowledge base of the profession; (4) to prepare generalist social workers able to work with diverse populations, integrating empirically informed practice and consumer voice within an established ethical framework; and (5) to provide a foundation for advanced graduate study in social work and prepare social workers to be lifelong learners.

The BSW Program was initiated in fall, 2008. The courses are taken within two years over six terms. The courses include social welfare history, social welfare policy, generalist social work practice, research, human behavior and the social environment, diversity electives, upper division program electives, and field education. The field practicum is taken at the same time as the generalist social work practice courses in which theory, application, knowledge, values and ethics, and practice skills are directly applied in a variety of field settings. Students in the BSW program complete three terms of field education supervised by a qualified social worker. The field education is based on a concurrent class-and-field plan with two days each week in practicum, and weekly social work practice classes and a one hour field seminar on campus. Some of the field placements include: social services agencies, health and wellness services, mental health settings, child and family services, substance abuse, runaway and youth services, homeless, elder services, and other generalist social work placements.

Undergraduate Program Learning Outcomes

L.O. #1 (Students will) have mastered a body of foundation generalist knowledge and can apply critical thinking within the context of professional social work practice.

L.O. #2: to practice within an established framework of social work values and ethics.

L.O. #3 be able to engage in anti-oppressive and non-discriminatory practice that reflects an awareness of interlocking dynamics of multiple identities (e.g. race, ethnicity, social class, gender, sexual orientation and (dis)abilities) and are committed to utilizing dialogue as a tool to cross cultural boundaries.

L.O. #4 understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and apply strategies of advocacy and social change that advance social and economic justice.

L.O. #5 to understand and interpret the history of the social work profession and its contemporary structures and issues.

L.O. #6 be able to apply a generalist perspective to recognize and understand the interactions among individuals, families, groups, and their organizations and communities and have entry-level professional social work skills to practice effectively with systems of all sizes.

L.O. #7: to apply theoretical frameworks supported by empirical evidence to understand individual behavior across the life span and the interactions among and between individuals and families, groups, organizations, and communities.

L.O. #8 to analyze, formulate, and influence policies.

L.O. #9 to evaluate research studies, apply research findings to practice, and evaluate their own practice interventions.

L.O. #10: to use communication skills differently across client populations, colleagues, and communities.

L.O. #11 use supervision and consultation for effective growth and professional development appropriate to generalist practice and useful in the pursuit of lifelong learning.

L.O. #12: to function within the structure of organizations and service delivery systems and seek necessary organizational change.