

*Additional information may be obtained from:*

*UM-St. Louis Admissions Office  
One University Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri 63121-4400  
(314) 516-5451  
<http://www.umsl.edu/>*



*University of Missouri-St. Louis*

# Social Work

## *Why UM-SL?*

UM-St. Louis has one of two Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited undergraduate programs in St. Louis, and one of three CSWE accredited graduate social work programs. This accreditation assures graduates of placement in social service agencies and allows students to apply for a license to practice social work. Our faculty members are nationally and internationally recognized in their areas of specialization and are able to provide our students with the combination of academics and practical skills needed for professional social work practice in a wide range of fields and settings including hospitals, children's homes, victim services, juvenile court, legal services, corrections, policy and planning, community development, neighborhood centers, senior centers, schools, and state social services agencies.

## *Career Outlook*

The bachelor of social work program is designed to prepare persons for employment in social welfare agencies, schools, hospitals, mental health facilities, correctional institutions, day care, and rehabilitation centers. Individuals currently working in social welfare settings can improve their skills or increase their opportunities for job advancement.

## *Undergraduate Studies*

### **Degrees and Areas of Concentration**

The School of Social Work offers courses leading to a Bachelor of Social Work degree (BSW). The social work program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The faculty stresses the scientific and applied aspects of social work. Professional social work education enables students to integrate the knowledge, values, and skills of the profession into competent practice. Throughout, the contribution of arts and sciences toward a well-rounded liberal arts education are emphasized. A minor in social work is also offered.

The school's scientific approach is reflected in an emphasis on the development of adequate theoretical and methodological tools. There is a strong emphasis on practice, with community and social agency field work as important parts of the

program.

### **Faculty**

The social work faculty reflects a cross section of the social work profession. Many specialties are represented, including child welfare, social policy, community organization, and mental health. The faculty, in addition to maintaining high standards of teaching, provides many hours of community service and practice to the numerous social services agencies in St. Louis. Research is also an integral part of the faculty's activities and many scientific papers are given by our faculty to local, national, and international meetings. The faculty also publishes in many social work or related journals.

## *General Education Requirements*

Majors must satisfy the University and College general education requirements, except that proficiency in a foreign language is not required.

Courses required for the BSW degree may not be taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis except Social Work 4800 and 4850.

## *Degree Requirements*

### **Bachelor of Social Work**

Students completing this degree may enter beginning positions as social workers or choose to enter professional schools of social work, looking toward eventual careers in supervision, administration, research, and other specialized areas of practice. Candidates for this degree program must complete the following social work core requirements:

- 2000, Social Work and Social Problems
- 2200, Social Welfare as a Social Institution
- 2201, Social Welfare as a Social Institution Laboratory
- 3100, Introduction to Interventive Strategies for Social Work Practice
- 3210, Social Issues and Social Policy Development
- 3410, Research Design in Social Work
- 3510, Human Behavior in the Social Environment
- 3700, Diversity and Social Justice
- 4110, Interventive Strategies in Social Work with Individuals, Families and Groups

4300, Interventive Strategies for Social Work with Organizations and Communities  
4800 and 4850, Supervised Field Experience in Social Work I and II  
4801 and 4851, Integrative Field Experience Seminar I and II

Students who wish to take a practicum must set up an appointment with the practicum coordinator one semester prior to enrolling in the practicum and attend a series of pre-practicum classes.

A minimum of 39 hours and a maximum of 50 hours may be taken in Social Work. A minimum of 30 hours is required in related area departments.

Evaluation of transfer credits will be done by a social work adviser on an individual basis.

### **Related Area Requirements**

The following courses, or their alternatives, are required:

Biology 1012, General Biology, or Biology 1811,  
Introductory Biology I  
Economics 1000, Introduction to the American Economy  
Political Science 1100, Introduction to American Politics  
Psychology 1003, General Psychology  
Sociology 1010, Introduction to Sociology  
Sociology 2160, Social Psychology, or Psychology 2160,  
Social Psychology  
Sociology 3220, Sociological Statistics,  
2201 Psychological Statistics, 2220 CCJ Stats

At least nine additional hours must be taken in social work, sociology, political science, psychology, criminology and criminal justice, anthropology, women and gender studies, or economics at the 2000-level or above. Hours taken in social work will apply toward the maximum or 50 hours that may be taken in social work courses.

After fulfilling the general education and specific major degree requirements, students are to take the remaining 31 hours required to complete the Bachelor of Social Work degree from courses from one or more of the following areas or their university-quality equivalents at other institutions: anthropology/archaeology, art (appreciation, history, studio), biology, chemistry, communication, criminology and criminal justice, economics, English, foreign languages/literatures, history, mathematics/computer science, music (appreciation, history, performance), philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, social work, sociology, business, education, engineering, and interdisciplinary.

The School of Social Work may require students to pass a

placement test in order to enroll in the next level course, provided this or an equivalent test is administered to all students seeking to enroll in that course.

Social work majors must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better in all course work specifically required for the major, with satisfactory grades in practicum.

### **Admission Requirements**

Students entering UM-St. Louis as freshmen and as transfer students should indicate a pre-social work major. Students must apply to the program concurrently with Social Work 3100. Admission to the program is conditional upon the successful completion of all necessary requirements.

**Note:** Anthropology, biological sciences, and Spanish are strongly advised by graduate social work schools.

### **Requirements for the Minor in Social Work**

Candidates must complete the following social work courses:

2000, Introduction to Social Service  
2200, Social Welfare as a Social Institution  
3100, Interventive Strategies in Social Work Practice  
3210, Social Issues and Social Policy Development  
and one course above the 3000 level

### **Graduate Education**

The School of Social Work now offers a Master in Social Work degree (MSW); additional information can be obtained by calling the School of Social Work or Graduate School.

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*Toll-free in MO and IL 618 area code:*  
*1-888-GO-2-UMSL*  
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