

MSW Program Application – Essays

Two essays must accompany your application. Each essay should be no longer than three double spaced typewritten pages. These essays are weighted heavily in admissions decisions and are evaluated for writing mechanics, substance, and structure.

Essay #1: Career Goals

The first essay should identify what brought you to the field of social work, relevant life experiences, and implications for your career goals. Indicate how admission to the MSW program at UM-St. Louis will help you to achieve those goals.

Essay #2: Oppression and Discrimination

Drawing on academic literature (peer reviewed journal articles, academic texts, etc.) and using a minimum of three (3) sources, address the problem of oppression and discrimination in our society. Describe your understanding of the causes and consequences of oppression and discrimination. Discuss values you hold that will assist you in working with people of diverse backgrounds. Also discuss your biases and prejudices, whether you have tried to overcome them, and if issues regarding diversity still need your attention. Be sure to cite your sources using an APA or MLA referencing format.