



SOCIAL WORK

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

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Department of Social Work

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BSW & MSW Outstanding Graduates 2009 with BSW & MSW Program Directors

Program Accreditation: Council on Social Work Education

Degree Offering: Bachelor of Social Work and Minor

Program Description: The mission of the BSW program at WKU is to prepare culturally competent professionals who work with diverse, multigenerational populations and client systems of various sizes. The program promotes a commitment to social justice and life long learning in order to work successfully in a global society. The social work curriculum is organized to ensure that students receive a sound foundation in the liberal arts. The liberal arts foundation is integrated with, and forms, a significant part of the social work pre-professional core. The liberal arts foundation, other prerequisites, and the core social work courses provide students with opportunities to acquire the social work knowledge needed for a professional career.

Career Opportunities in Social Work: Social workers are concerned with the issues that affect the population and generate our current social problems. As a social worker, a person must be willing to confront these issues and work towards changing them. To accomplish this, social workers may work with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and/or the entire community. They must also be flexible enough to work with people of various ages, backgrounds and cultures.

Bachelor of Social Work The social work major (reference number 594) consists of 120 hours, including 54 hours within the major, typically 45 hours of general education and 21 hours of general electives. Areas of study include human behavior and social environment, social welfare policy and services, populations at risk, research, social work practice, values and ethics, human diversity, social and economic justice and a field placement. It is not necessary to have a minor for graduation as the social work major fulfills all the requirements for a major and a minor.

Minor The social work minor (reference number 459) consist of 21 semester hours. The student is required to take Social Work 101, 205, 330, 331 and 395. The other six hours consist of social work elective courses. Only the major prepares the student for beginning professional social work practice. Social work practice courses and the social work field placement are not available to students with a minor in social work. A minor in social work does not qualify students as professional social workers, as a member of the professional organization, for licensure by the State of Kentucky, for advanced studies in a graduate school of social work, nor for social work practice in an employment situation.

Social Work Student Organizations

Student Social Workers (SSW)

For more information contact Jan Peeler at 745-5049 or jan.peeler@wku.edu

Phi Alpha Honor Society

For more information contact Jay Gabbard at 745-8749 or jay.gabbard@wku.edu

Social Work

Department of Social Work
College of Health and Human Services
2009-2010

Fall			First Year			Spring		
ENG	100*	3	Intro to College Writing	MATH	116*	3	Fund. of College Algebra	
CHHS	175	3	CHHS-Univ. Experience			3	General Education Course	
SWRK	101*	3	Found. Of Human Services	PS	110*	3	American National Government	
SOCL:	100*	3	Intro to Sociology			3	General Education Course	
		3	General Education Course	PSY	100*	3	Intro to Psychology	
Credit	Hours	15		Credit	Hours	15		

Fall			Second Year			Spring		
BIOL	113*	3	General Biology			3	General Education Course	
ECON	150*	3	Intro to Economics	HIST		3	HIST 119 or 120	
SWRK	205*	3	Intro to Social Work	COMM		3	COMM 145 or 161	
ENG	200	3	Intro to Literature			3	General Education Course	
		3	General Elective			3	General Education Course	
Credit	Hours	15		Credit	Hours	15		

Fall			Third Year			Spring		
ENG	300	3	Writing in the Disciplines	SWRK	331	3	Human Behavior in the Social Envir. II	
SWRK	330	3	Human Behavior in the Social Envir.	SWRK	345	3	Social Work Research Methods	
SWRK	344	3	Social Work Stats & Data Analysis	SWRK	379	3	Intro to Social Work Comm Skills	
SWRK	375	3	Social Work Practice I	SWRK		3	SWRK 395 OR SWRK 378	
		3	General Elective			3	Advisor Consent Elective+	
Credit	Hours	15		Credit	Hours	15		

Fall			Fourth Year			Spring		
SWRK	381	3	Social Work Practice II	SWRK	480	3	Social Work Field Practicum I	
SWRK		3	SWRK 378 OR SWRK 395	SWRK	481	3	Social Work Field Seminar I	
		3	Advisor Consent Elective+	SWRK		3	SWRK Elective+	
		3	General Elective			3	General Elective	
Credit	Hours	12		Credit	Hours	12		

Summer Session

SWRK	482	3	Social Work Field Practicum II
SWRK	483	3	Social Work Field Seminar II
Credit	Hours	6	

Total Credit Hours= 120

*** Required prerequisite for major. + See social work faculty advisor.** Students should also see their social work faculty advisor in order to discuss suggested general electives. The above plan is a sample. There is some flexibility with the social work course plan, however, students need to work closely with their advisors regarding admission to the social work program, completion of general education requirements, as well as following the appropriate course sequence for the major. Interested students are encouraged to contact the program director for further information.