

Department of Social Work

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The Social Work Department offers the Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) with a concentration in Advanced Generalist Social Work Practice. The M.S.W. is offered through a partnership among MTSU, Austin Peay State University, and Tennessee State University. Applicants holding a B.S.W. from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education may be eligible for admission to advanced standing.

Requirements for the Master of Social Work

The purpose of the Master of Social Work program is to prepare students for advanced generalist social work practice with systems of all types and sizes in both rural and urban areas, to prepare knowledgeable and competent professionals, and to provide leadership in the development of social delivery services, especially public social services.

The M.S.W. degree is a 60-hour program as outlined below, including 30 hours of foundation courses and 30 hours of concentration courses. There are 9 hours of electives (3 from foundation courses and 6 from concentration courses). This is a nonthesis program with a capstone course culminating in a written comprehensive examination.

Admission Requirements

Candidate must

1. be admitted to the graduate college of his/her home campus (MTSU, APSU, or TSU).
2. have a minimum GPA of 2.75 for admission to the program.
3. apply for admission to the M.S.W. program at the social work department of the selected home campus.
4. submit an application which includes an essay and resume.
5. submit three letters of recommendation from professionals who can address the applicant's interest in social work, potential for successfully completing a master's program, and potential for professional social work practice.
6. have completed a bachelor of social work from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education to be admitted to advanced standing (requires a minimum GPA of 3.0).

Admission to Candidacy

All M.S.W. students will be reviewed for candidacy by the social work faculty prior to beginning their second practicum. Students must obtain a favorable candidacy recommendation to remain in the program.

M.S.W. Foundation Courses (30 hrs.)

SW	6000	MSW Practice I
SW	6010	Human Behavior and the Social Environment (online)
SW	6020	Research I
SW	6030	Social Welfare Policy and Services (online)
SW	6100	MSW Practice II
SW	6110	Social Justice and Equity for Multicultural Populations (online)
SW	6120	Research II
SW	6130	Practicum IA
SW	6140	Practicum IB

M.S.W. Concentration Courses (30 hrs.)

SW	6200	Advanced Practice with Individuals
SW	6210	Advanced Practice with Families**
SW	6220	Advanced Group Practice**
SW	6230	Advanced Macro Practice
SW	6240	Social Policy Analysis (online)
SW	6300	Empirical Social Work Practice
SW	6310	Practicum IIA
SW	6320	Practicum IIB

**Either course meets requirement; the other one may be taken as an elective.

Electives (9 hours)

SW	5000	Special Topics (online)
SW	6410	Aging Issues and Controversies (online)
SW	6420	Adult Mental Health (online)

Courses in Social Work [SW]

- 5000 Special Topics.** Three credits. Prerequisites: Permission of department. Special topics in social work and social welfare. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 hours. *online delivery*
- 6000 MSW Practice I.** Three credits. A social work methods course designed to enable the student to understand and apply social work methods within the context of the generalist perspective with individuals and families.
- 6010 Human Behavior and the Social Environment.** Three credits. An introduction to the theories and knowledge of the human bio-psycho-social development including theories and knowledge about the range of social systems in which individuals live (families, groups, organizations, agencies, and communities).
- 6020 Research I.** Three credits. This is a basic research and statistical methods course utilizing research in general inquiry and practice evaluation in social work with the generalist perspective.
- 6030 Social Welfare Policy and Services.** Three credits. The historical development, philosophical orientation, and analysis of U.S. social welfare policy and services including the global context. *online delivery*
- 6100 MSW Practice II.** Three credits. Prerequisite: MSW Practice I and SW 6010. A social work methods course designed to enable the student to understand and apply social work methods within the context of the generalist perspective with groups, agencies, and communities.
- 6110 Social Justice and Equity for Multicultural Populations.** Three credits. Prerequisite: SW 6010. An overview of the professional commitment of social work to oppressed peoples. *online delivery*
- 6120 Research II.** Three credits. Prerequisite: Research I. An advanced discussion of program evaluation strategies and single-system design issues. The student will conduct a research project.
- 6130 Practicum IA.** Three credits. Prerequisites: MSW Practice I, HBSE, Research I, and Policy. May be taken concurrently with SW 6140. A 200-hour field practicum experience within the generalist perspective.
- 6140 Practicum IB.** Three credits. Prerequisites: SW 6000, 6010, 6020, and 6030. May be taken concurrently with SW 6130. A 200-hour field practicum experience within the generalist perspective.
- 6200 Advanced Practice with Individuals.** Three credits. Prerequisites: Practicum IA (SW 6130) and IB (SW 6140) or advanced standing admission. An advanced social work methods course that prepares students for practice with individuals including client assessment, intervention, and evaluation.
- 6210 Advanced Practice with Families.** Three credits. Prerequisites: Practicum IA (SW 6130) and IB (SW 6140) or advanced standing admission. Advanced practice with families including client system assessment, intervention, and evaluation.
- 6220 Advanced Group Practice.** Three credits. Prerequisites: Practicum IA (SW 6130) and IB (SW 6140) or advanced standing admission. Advanced practice with groups including client system assessment, intervention, and evaluation.
- 6230 Advanced Macro Practice.** Three credits. Prerequisites: Practicum IA (SW 6130) and IB (SW 6140) or advanced standing admission. The advanced generalist practice social work course designed to enable the student to understand and apply social work methods at the advanced generalist level.
- 6240 Social Policy Analysis.** Three credits. Prerequisites: Practicum IA (SW 6130) and IB (SW 6140) or advanced standing admission. A study of the design, implementation, and analysis of social policies and their impact on social work practice. *online delivery*
- 6300 Empirical Social Work Practice.** Four credits. Prerequisites: Advanced Direct Practice with Individuals (SW 6200) and Advanced Practice with Families (SW 6210), or Advanced Group Practice (SW 6220), Advanced Macro Practice (SW 6230), and Social Policy Analysis (SW 6240). A seminar in the integration of theoretical perspectives and the application of research findings and empirical outcome evaluation techniques to advanced generalist social work practice.
- 6310 Practicum IIA.** Four credits. Prerequisites: Advanced Practice with Individuals (SW 6200) and Advanced Practice with Families (SW 6210) or Advanced Group Practice (SW 6220), Advanced Macro Practice (SW 6230), and Social Policy Analysis (SW 6240). May be taken concurrently with Practicum IIB (SW 6320). A 250-hour field practicum experience. Must be taken concurrently with Empirical Social Work Practice (SW 6300).
- 6320 Practicum IIB.** Four credits. Prerequisites: If taken concurrently with SW 6310, prerequisites are the same. If not taken concurrently, SW 6310 is the prerequisite. May be taken concurrently with Practicum IIA (SW 6310) and Empirical Social Work Practice (SW 6300).
- 6400 Independent Study.** Three credits. Prerequisites: Permission of department required. Independent study allows a student to

develop more fully an area of his or her particular interest. Topics for intensive study are chosen in joint consultation between the student and the instructor.

6410 Aging Issues and Controversies. Three credits. An examination of the biological, psychological, and social issues affecting older adults. The field of gerontology is explored with special attention to current controversies in health care, independence, and social status with application of ethical theories to these problems.

6420 Adult Mental Health. Three credits. Prerequisites: Permission of department required. This course offers preparation for students for advanced generalist practice by integrating foundation-level knowledge of policy, research, HBSE, and practice with substantive knowledge from the field of mental health. This course provides the basics of DSM-IV-TR diagnosis, biopsychosocial assessment, and treatment planning. They will be exposed to the skills necessary to conduct strengths and competency-based assessments and interventions.

