

# Department of Social Work

**Charles Frost, Chair**  
**Peck Hall 309**

**Borasky, Fontanesi-Seime, Lancaster, Lee, Rucker, Sanborn, Shaw-McEwen, Taylor**

The social work profession is dedicated to helping all people develop their strengths, to helping build a more economically and socially just society, and to helping the world become a better place in which to raise our families. Student training is offered through class work and special student work experiences to demonstrate how to relate effectively to all types of people and to appreciate how emotional, social, economic, political, and spiritual forces influence the behavior of those we are helping.

The Social Work Department has a number of scholarships for majors and information about them can be obtained from the department.

Some social work courses are open to non-majors.

**In all curricular listings, (Area \_\_ ) refers to the General Studies requirements as outlined on pages 59-61.**

## Major in Social Work

The major in Social Work leads to a Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) degree which is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The program's primary objective is to prepare the student for beginning professional practice in social work. It also provides a foundation for students planning to pursue graduate study in social work.

Students who choose to pursue a major in Social Work must take a minimum of 60 hours including S W 2570, 2630, 3000, 3110, 3120, 3150, 3160, 3200, 4580, 4590, 4650, 4680, 4690, and 4700; and one of the following: S W 3050, 3170, 4150, 4430, 4440, 4620, 4640, 4720. Requirements also include SOC 1010 and PSY 1410. The student must earn a C or better in all courses in the major in order to graduate.

## Minor Required of Social Work Majors

Social Work majors are required to have a minor of 18 hours. They may select any minor; however, it is suggested that they discuss with their advisors the advantages of certain minors.

## Admission to the Social Work Program

All Social Work majors must be formally admitted to the Social Work Program in order to be admitted into the field work courses and to obtain a Bachelor of Social Work degree. Students who are not yet formally admitted will be identified as pre-social work majors.

- Requirements for admission to the Social Work Program:
  - completion of at least 60 semester hours toward a degree including at least 40 hours of General Studies requirements;
  - completion of S W 2570, Introduction to Social Work, and 3 additional hours in social work courses with a grade of C or better;
  - an overall GPA of 2.00 for degree credit courses;
  - completion of at least 40 hours of volunteer work in a social agency, hospital, or social service organization. A reference form will be utilized as documentation of performance. Full or part-time social work employment may be considered in lieu of volunteer work;
  - possession of personal qualities consistent with social work values and ethics and the ability to relate to others with warmth and emotional stability.
- Application procedure. Student must complete an application packet which consists of
  - application for Social Work major form;
  - three reference forms, at least one of which is from an MTSU social work professor;
  - personal essay on why a social work career has been chosen;
  - current official University transcript.
- Criteria for acceptance into the Social Work Program:
  - submission of completed application packet by deadline date of the appropriate semester;
  - judgment of satisfactory quality of essay and suitability for professional social work by Social Work Faculty Admissions Committee;
  - satisfactory performance of required number of volunteer hours based on reference form;
  - a majority of "above average" and "outstanding" ratings on reference forms.

In addition, acceptance into the Social Work Program will be based upon the Social Work Faculty Admissions Committee's assessment of the student's potential for graduating with a B.S.W. degree and the student's interest and commitment to the pursuit of a career in the field of social services. Before any student is denied, the entire faculty must vote on the recommendation of the admissions committee.

## Recommended Curriculum

<b>FRESHMAN</b>		<b>SOPHOMORE</b>	
English (Area I-A)	6	English (Area II-A)	6
Science (Area IV-A)	8	PHED (Area V)	2
PHED (Area V)	2	History (Area III-A)	6
MATH 1710	3	CSCI 1000	1
SOC 1010	3	S W 2570, 2630, 3150	9
PSY 1410 (Area III-B)	3	Electives (for minor)	9
Gen. Studies (Area I-B and II-B)	6		<b>33</b>
Electives	2		
	<b>33</b>		
<b>JUNIOR</b>		<b>SENIOR</b>	
S W 3000, 3110, 3120, 3160, 3200, 4700	18	S W 4580, 4590, 4650, 4680, 4690	24
Social Work elective	3	Electives (for minor or general requirements)	9
Electives (for minor or general requirements)	12		<b>33</b>
	<b>33</b>		

### Minor in Social Welfare

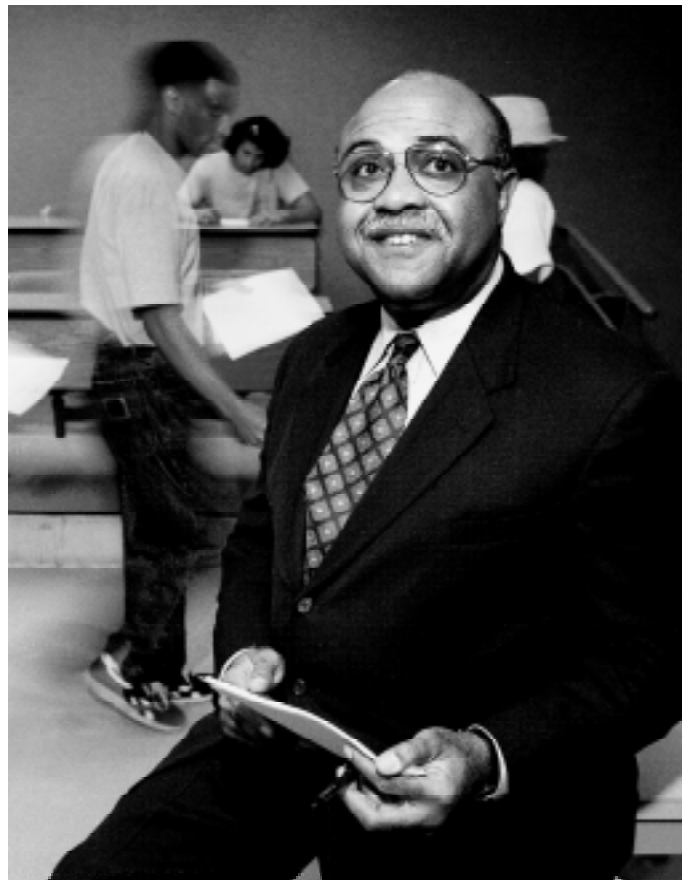
The Social Welfare minor requires 18 semester hours. The student may select either the policy option or the theory option.

Requirements for the policy option are S W 2570, 3000; SOC 2010; 9 additional hours from social work elective courses. (This option is appropriate for majors in political science, sociology, management, and mass communication.)

Requirements for the theory option are S W 2570, 2630, 3150, 3160, and 6 additional hours of social work elective courses. (This option is appropriate for majors in psychology, criminal justice administration, education, and human sciences.)

### Courses in Social Work [S W]

- 2570 (257) Introduction to Social Work.** Three credits. The methods, history, philosophy, and present organization of the social work profession.
- 2630 (263) Interviewing Skills for Social Work Practice.** Three credits. An introduction to principles and processes of social work practice including interviewing and developing relationships.
- 3000 (300) Social Policy.** Three credits. Prerequisite: S W 2570. Emphasis on recurring themes in social welfare policy development processes, historical turning points; societal ethics; causal relationship—social problems, social change, and social welfare policy analytical frameworks for assessing social welfare policy and programs.
- 3050 (305) Women and Poverty.** Three credits. (Same as WMST 3050.) Prerequisite: WMST 2100 or S W 2570. Predominant theories, policies, and programs dealing with poverty among women. Explores the effects of poverty on women in addition to a general knowledge of poverty; ageism, sexism, and racism in relation to poverty; historical treatment of women and views of poverty.
- 3110 (311) Research Methods for Social Work Practice.** Three credits. Prerequisites: SOC 1010 and S W 2570. Research processes; includes information about values for research, knowledge of methods, and opportunities for skill development.
- 3120 (312) Data Analysis for Social Work Practice.** Three credits. Prerequisite: S W 3110. Data analysis and interpretation. Opportunities for skill development in the use of statistical procedures and knowledge of the meaning of results of such procedures. Instruction in computer use for data entry and data analysis, including the development of programming skills using the SPSS-X software package on the University computer system.
- 3150 (315) Life Cycle and the Social Environment.** Three credits. Prerequisites: PSY 1410, SOC 1010, and 2010 or 3 hours of biology. An overview of the entire life cycle from biological, sociological, and psychological perspectives with social work applications.
- 3160 (316) Human Behavior and the Social Environment.** Three credits. Prerequisites: SOC 1010 and PSY 1410. An overview of a range of explanations concerning human behavior, especially that which indicates a need for social work intervention.
- 3170 Family Caregiving Across the Life Span.** Three credits. Prerequisite: S W 2570, PSY 1410, SOC 1010, or HLTH 2600. Caregivers—gender roles, cost of caregiving, managing stress, respite care, finding recourses, financial and legal matters, establishing support groups, differential caregiving tips for various illnesses and disabilities from infancy to old age, emerging trends, and long distance caregiving.
- 3200 (320) Cultural Diversity: Competency for Practice.** Three credits. (Same as AAS 3200.) Prerequisites: S W 2570 and 2630. An examination of culturally appropriate practice issues that are essential considerations for effective service delivery, including African-American families and ethnic subcultures predominant in the U.S.
- 4150 (415) Topics in Social Work.** Three credits. Selected topics important in current social work practice, but too specialized to be taught as regularly scheduled courses.
- 4430 (443) Social Work with the Terminally Ill.** Three credits. Factors and principles involved with the terminally ill which should stimulate students to learn and think about what he/she values and anticipates experiencing in the area of Medical Social Work.
- 4440 (444) Social Work with the Disabled Individual.** Three credits. The effects of disability on the individual, the family, and society. An examination of a variety of intervention strategies from a social work perspective.
- 4580 (458) Social Work: Practice I.** Three credits. Corequisite: S W 4590; prerequisites: S W 2570, 2630, 3000, 3150, 3160, and



senior standing. Theories and related techniques for beginning-level social work. (Majors only.)

- 4590 (459) Field Instruction I.** Six credits. Corequisite: S W 4580; prerequisites: S W 2570, 2630, 3000, 3110, 3150, 3160, 3200; completion of all General Studies requirements; and senior standing. Student is assigned to a social agency under the joint supervision of agency and instructor with concurrent seminar. Application must be made the preceding semester. (Majors only.)
- 4620 (462) Child Welfare Services.** Three credits. The contemporary child welfare system and services designed to strengthen families. Historical trends, policy issues, and child advocacy.
- 4640 (464) Health: Organizations, Policy, and Ethics.** Three credits. (Same as SOC 4640.) A resource allocation assessment of U.S. health care systems. Applied ethics topics (i.e., justice, virtue, and informed consent) included.
- 4650 (465) Social Work: Practice II.** Three credits. Corequisite: S W 4680; prerequisites: S W 3110, 3120, 4580, 4590, senior standing, and all other major requirements. Theories and related techniques for advanced-level social work practice. (Majors only.)
- 4680 (468) Field Instruction II.** Nine credits. Corequisite: S W 4650; prerequisites: S W 4580, 4590, senior standing, and all other major requirements. Second field placement for social work majors. Application must be made the preceding semester. (Majors only.) Pass/Fail.
- 4690 (469) Integrative Seminar in Social Work.** Three credits. Prerequisites: S W 4650 and 4680 or concurrent enrollment. An opportunity for the student, with instructor and peers, to explore the knowledge, values, and skills gained from academic and field experiences and to synthesize and integrate theory and practice. (Majors only.)
- 4700 (470) Social Work with Groups.** Three credits. Prerequisites: S W 2570, 2630; corequisite: S W 3200. Group process and group techniques as they apply to social work practice, including both treatment and task groups.
- 4720 (472) Crisis Intervention.** Three credits. The basis of crisis theory applied to intervention services for suicide, rape, natural disasters, and other crises.
- 4800 (480) Special Projects.** One to six credits. Field experiences or reading courses through which special interests or needs of the student may be pursued under individual supervision. Arrangements must be made with an instructor prior to registration.