

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

WISCONSIN & ANN ARBOR

PERSONAL NARRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS (REQUIRED FOR ACCEPTANCE TO THE BSW PROGRAM)

Narrative is due with application to the BSW Program

Please complete a formal narrative of 2-3 pages that provides the Social Work Department faculty with information about yourself. This information will provide the department with the knowledge of where you're coming from, where you are, and where you want to be.

Please use the outline to complete your narrative. If there is additional information you would like to provide that does not seem to fit the outline, please include it in the section that you think is the most appropriate. Take time to reflect before you write and please be open and honest.

Contact Professor Nichole Ostrowski, BSW Program Director, with any questions or concerns at nichole.ostrowski@cuw.edu

NARRATIVE OUTLINE

A. Description of self

1. Self-awareness (through continual exploration of self) is a key component to ethical social work practice. Include information that will provide insight as to who you are. Include a discussion of the intersectionality of your identified dimensions of diversity.
2. Relationships are integral to the social work profession. Describe your significant relationships, people who have had a strong influence on you, and your role models.

B. Life experiences and socialization

1. As you think about your life, what is important to you (values, beliefs, purpose)?
2. Service is a core value of the social work profession. What is your employment and volunteer history, including mission trips, church programs, community outreach, etc.?

C. Choosing Social Work as a career

1. What experiences inspired your interest in Social Work and what prompted your final decision to pursue the BSW degree?
2. Describe your commitment to social justice.
3. In what ways do you think you are particularly suited to becoming a Social Worker?
4. Why did you choose Concordia University?

D. Long range goals

1. Are there particular areas of Social Work practice that interest you? Why those areas?
2. What are your goals once you complete the BSW degree?

E. Criminal History*

1. Do you have any criminal charges pending against you, or were you ever charged and/or convicted of any crime anywhere? Please explain.
2. What have you done since the incident(s) to make positive changes in your life?

**For all prospective Social Work students, a criminal background check will be completed. Section E is your opportunity to be completely honest and explain items that may show up on your background check. If you do not have any criminal history, you may omit this section.*