

CUW MSW Program Curriculum 66 credits

Generalist Year	27 credits
Specialization Year	39 credits
Advanced Standing Year	39 credits

Prerequisites

- Anatomy & Physiology BIO 146 (or a comparable class)
- Statistics (completed within 7 years – Math 205 or comparable)
- Life Span Development (Non – BSW students only)

MSW Curriculum

Generalist Year

MSW 600 Advanced Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3
MSW 610 Generalist Practice I: Individuals & Families	3
MSW 615 Generalist Practice II: Groups & Communities	3
MSW 650 Research Methodologies	3
MSW 620 Social Policy & Advocacy	3
MSW 670 Advanced Field Education I	3
MSW 675 Advanced Field Education II	3
MSW 680 Advanced Field Seminar I	3
MSW 685 Advanced Field Seminar II	3
Generalist Year Total	27

Specialization Year/ Advanced Standing

MSW 700 Administration, Organizations & Supervision	3
MSW 710 Advanced Practice: Families	3
MSW 715 Advanced Practice: Vulnerable Populations	3
MSW 750 Research Project I	3
MSW 752 Research Project II	3
MSW 754 Research Project III	3
MSW 790 Social Work Ethics & Christianity	3
MSW 770 Advanced Field Education III	3
MSW 775 Advanced Field Education IV	3
MSW 780 Advanced Field Seminar III	3
MSW 785 Advanced Field Seminar IV	3
2 – MSW 599 Special Topics (3 credits each)	6

Specialization Year/Advanced Standing Total 39

Regular Program Total 66

***MSW 599 Special Topics - Elective.** The special topics electives are designed to illuminate important issues or hot topics facing society and Social Work practitioners, or areas of practice such as theoretical application. The topics will be announced the semester prior to the course offering.

Foundation Courses (First Year Graduate Program)

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 600 Advanced Human Behavior in the Social Environment This course examines human development from birth to death through the systemic lens of the family and larger society. It examines the development of relationships and the effect on individual development. Utilizing a systemic perspective students will learn how diversity, culture, changes in family patterns and life-styles, and expanding life expectations have impacted individuals, families, and the larger society.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 610 Generalist Practice I: Individuals & Families Students learn a variety of foundational skills, methods and theories needed to work with individuals and families at all systemic levels. Students will learn to use the Generalist Practice Model in assessment, planning, and implementation of services for clients, and the importance of evaluating the effectiveness of one's own practice. They engage in discussions of the ethical framework that guides Social Work practice, and the tensions encountered in practice. Among the knowledge established is a solid understanding of the Strengths Perspective, Systems Theory, and Solution focused interventions.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 615 Generalist Practice II: Groups & Communities This course uses the generalist practice model to examine groups and group processes. Students will learn the skills and techniques of group practice, the process of planning, engagement, and assessment of group members. They will examine how groups are manifest in communities, and how to create and promote community change. Theoretical frameworks utilized include Systems Theory and the Strengths Perspective.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 650 Research Methodologies This basic research methods course introduces students to the important role that research holds in Social Work practice. This course provides basic knowledge on the differences between qualitative and quantitative research designs and when mixed methods designs are utilized. The course examines the process of proposal development, the selection of a research question/hypothesis and a design appropriate for exploration and response to the question/hypothesis. Design methods include exploratory research, explanatory research, descriptive designs, evaluative designs, and single-subject designs. The course also examines survey research and instrument development. Students learn to read research articles and identify various components of the article that represent the design.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 620 Social Policy & Advocacy The course provides a framework for macro practice, analyzing social policy, developing and implementing policy, evaluating the effectiveness of policy, and advocating for change. The theoretical base for this class is the Strengths Perspective. Used in policy practice, the Strengths Perspective is grounded in Social Work values of self-determination, social justice, and respect for diversity. The text focuses on the strengths and resources of people, their environments rather than pathologies. The text focuses on developing critical thinking, applying knowledge to practice, and analyzing the potential impact of policies.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 680 Advanced Field Seminar I is taken concurrently with MSW 670 Advanced Field Education I. A seminar format will provide for the sharing of practice experiences and practice issues that occur during field practicum. Discussion topics will focus on agency orientation, self-awareness issues, engagement skills, critical thinking skills, ethical dilemma awareness and the development of the professional self. The seminar will provide for the integration of field experience with classroom learning through discussion and assignments.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 685 Advanced Field Seminar II is taken concurrently with MSW 675 Advanced Field Education II. A seminar format will provide for the sharing of practice experiences and practice issues that occur during field practicum. Discussion topics will focus on agency orientation, self-awareness issues, engagement skills, critical thinking skills, ethical dilemma awareness and the development of the professional self. The seminar will provide for the integration of field experience with classroom learning through discussion and assignments.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 670 Advanced Field Education I is taken concurrently with MSW 680 Advanced Field Seminar I. This course engages the student in the practice of beginning Social Work skills and tasks within an agency setting over a period of one semester (15 weeks). It is designed for the master-level student and requires an average of 16 hours per week in the agency for a minimum of 225 hours.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 675 Advanced Field Education II is taken concurrently with MSW 685 Advanced Field Seminar II. This course engages the student in the practice of beginning Social Work skills and tasks within an agency setting over a period of one semester (15 weeks). It is designed for the master-level student and requires an average of 16 hours per week in the agency for a minimum of 225 hours.

Specialization Courses (Second Year Graduate Program)

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 700 Administration, Organizations & Supervision This course provides students with the skills and knowledge that will assist them in the ability to work in administrative Social Work positions. Students learn about the team building, communicating, and the development of skills such as mediation and negotiation. Students will learn how to plan, implement, manage and evaluate projects designed to meet community needs. Students will learn about the implementation of policies into practice. They will integrate Social Work ethics into their knowledge base as it pertains to leadership roles, accountability, and professional supervision. Students will learn about strategic planning and risk management, understanding and managing the decision-making processes, and actions needed to improve client experiences. They will learn about the everyday politics of organizational life, the importance of respectful conduct between colleagues, and the management of a continuously changing environment.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 710 Advanced Practice: Families This course addresses the challenges that face contemporary families in society and presents the importance of encouraging and seeking areas of resilience when working with families. Among issues addressed are key family processes that help to sustain couples, dual-earners, divorced, single-parent, remarried, adoptive and kinship care families, and gay and lesbian families. Among the family issues discussed, students will examine cultural diversity, adversity, trauma, poverty, and chronic illness, spirituality, and immigration. Students will learn about families in a changing world. They will learn how to conduct a family assessment and the importance of spirituality and spiritual assessments and the utilization of theories for intervention and understanding.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 715 Advanced Practice: Vulnerable Populations This course addresses issues of vulnerability and social justice experienced by individuals and families in today's world. The material covers categories of vulnerability such as AIDS, Alcoholism, Personality Disorders, and Depression. Other discussions will cover issues of life circumstances such as Immigrants and refugees, Returning servicewomen and veterans, survivors and victims of terrorism, homelessness, children in foster care or bullying. Students will also explore and discuss the problems facing Social Work professionals. Issues to be discussed will include the significantly increasing difficulty of providing services to vulnerable populations, the concern serious problems continue to emerge in modern society and resources are not as available as experienced by previous generations.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 750 Research Project I This is the first in a series of three research classes designed for an agency-based evaluation of a Social Work program. The research will take place over three semesters through a series of three research classes. Using the specialization year of the MSW program, students will work with their field agency to identify an appropriate Social Work program to evaluate. During this first class students will identify a Social Work program to evaluate and conduct a literature review to educate themselves on the issues addressed by the Social Work program, providing a solid foundation for the development of a methodology. Student will also develop the research question.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 752 Research Project II This is the second Research Project course in a series of three courses. Students will utilize the Literature Review developed in Research Project I to refine their research question, develop their methodology for research, and submit an application for IRB approval to conduct their research.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 754 Research Project III This is the third Research Project course in a series of three courses. Students will collect data for their study. They will analyze the data and write the research report to be disseminated to the agency. They will develop a poster to be presented at the CUW student research poster presentation event.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 790 Social Work Ethics & Christianity This course will provide students with the ability to balance their own morals and values and Christianity with those of the Social Work profession using the NASW Code of Ethics as a foundational document. The study of Social Work values and ethics allows student to enhance the quality of services that are provided to clients and communities. Students will learn to reflect on their own values, analyze case situations, role-play Social Work-client interviews, and ponder over challenging ethical dilemmas. Students will learn that the correct response to an ethical dilemma is not always clear and that ethical decisions often are guided by existing policy, and practices, and balanced with one's own morals and value system. Students will study the NASW Code of Ethics, theory, decision-making frameworks, and the applicability of the Code of Ethics across all levels of practice, and balanced within the framework of the Christian faith.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 780 Advanced Field Seminar III is taken concurrently with MSW 770 Advanced Field Education III. A seminar format will provide for the sharing of practice experiences and practice issues that occur during field practicum. Discussion topics will focus on agency orientation, self-awareness issues, engagement skills, critical thinking skills, ethical dilemma awareness and the development of the professional self. The seminar will provide for the integration of field experience with classroom learning through discussion and assignments.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 785 Advanced Field Seminar IV is taken concurrently with MSW 775 Advanced Field Education III. A seminar format will provide for the sharing of practice experiences and practice issues that occur during field practicum. Discussion topics will focus on agency orientation, self-awareness issues, engagement skills, critical thinking skills, ethical dilemma awareness and the development of the professional self. The seminar will provide for the integration of field experience with classroom learning through discussion and assignments.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 770 Advanced Field Education III is taken concurrently with MSW 780 Advanced Field Seminar III. This course engages the student in the practice of beginning Social Work skills and tasks within an agency setting over a period of one semester (15 weeks). It is designed for the master-level student and requires an average of 16 hours per week in the agency for a minimum of 250 hours.

***Course Number and Name:**

MSW 775 Advanced Field Education IV is taken concurrently with MSW 785 Advanced Field Seminar IV. This course engages the student in the practice of beginning Social Work skills and tasks within an agency setting over a period of one semester (15 weeks). It is designed for the master-level student and requires an average of 16 hours per week in the agency for a minimum of 250 hours.