

Undergraduate Social Work

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Bachelor of Social Work

Social Work at SIUE

The undergraduate social work program in the College of Arts and Sciences focuses on the knowledge, values and skills needed for social work practice. Its primary purpose is to prepare graduates for entry-level direct practice in social work. The Department of Social Work prepares students for graduate studies in advanced social work practice. The undergraduate program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

The social work program prepares generalist social workers for many types of practice, and offers opportunities to explore specific interests through the selection of electives and the field placement setting. The primary professional purpose of social work is to promote social functioning and enhance social development at all systems levels. The social worker acts as a facilitator of change with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities; promotes improvement in social conditions; serves as an advocate for people who are subject to discrimination or social or economic injustice; and provides individuals access to needed resources and services. In addition to completing on-campus course work, social work students engage in field work in local social service agencies in several courses. This culminates in the senior field placement (SOCW 482 and 483), which requires a minimum of 400 hours of supervised social work practice in a local agency over two consecutive semesters.

Career Opportunities

The bachelor's degree in social work qualifies graduates for practice in entry-level positions in a wide range of social service settings. Most graduates work in child welfare, family service, mental health or health agencies. The bachelor's degree from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program qualifies graduates to take the licensed social worker (LSW) examination, as stipulated by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation. In addition, many graduate social work programs offer advanced standing to qualified students with a bachelor's degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the social work program is competitive. Students begin in the major during the fall semester of their junior year, and students must apply for admission in January of the preceding spring semester (e.g. for fall 2019 admission, students need to apply in January 2019). To be admitted to the BSW program, students must submit through the SIUE Office of Academic Counseling and Advising the following information after two semesters of full-time college or university enrollment:

- An application to SIUE, certifying their admission to the University;
- An academic transcript, certifying that the student has a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or better at the time of application for admission to the BSW Program;

In addition, students transferring to SIUE may apply for direct declaration when applying for admission to SIUE, but must go through the regular admissions process described herein.

To be eligible for admission to the BSW program, applicants must submit the following materials to the Department of Social Work by the end of January of the spring semester that precedes their junior year fall enrollment:

- An application form for the BSW Program, which includes; a) general information about the student, b) information related to pre-requisites taken and c) GPA (minimum of 2.5).
- A 400-word personal statement that discusses why s/he is interested in Social Work.
- A signed statement that s/he has read and agrees to abide by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics and the SIUE Social Work Department BSW Behavior Policy.

Students applying for entry into the program must:

- Have a GPA of at least 2.5 and have completed the equivalent (30 hours) of two full-time semesters at any college or university.
- Demonstrate written proficiency in English by completing English Comp I and II with a grade of C or better.
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly and effectively by completing a speech course in interpersonal communication with a grade of C or better.
- Read, sign and agree to abide by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics and the SIUE Social Work Department Standards for Social Work Education.

SIUE

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Social Work



Faculty

Roberto Aspholm, PhD

2016, University of Illinois-Chicago

Venessa Brown, PhD

1994, Clark Atlanta University

Kimberly A. Carter, PhD

2010, Washington University

Bryan C. Duckham, PhD

MSW Program Director

2007, Loyola University of Chicago

Gerald V. O'Brien, PhD

1997, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Jill Schreiber, PhD

MSW Program Director

2013, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Jayne R. Swanke, PhD

BSW Program Director

2009, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Carol A. Wesley, PhD

Director of Practica

1987, Saint Louis University

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Sample Four-Year Curriculum

Fall Semester

Spring Semester

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	BIOL 111 Contemporary Biology (BLS) 3 ENG 101 English Composition I 3 PSYC 111 Introduction to Psychology (BSS) 3 ACS 101 or 103 Oral Expression 3 QR 101 , MATH 150 or Higher 3 Total Credits 15	ANTH 111B Human Culture & Comm (BSS, EGC, EUSC) 3 ENG 102 English Composition II 3 RA 101 Reasoning & Argumentation 3 POLS 112 American National Government (BSS) 3 Total Credits 12
Year 2	HIST 201 U.S. History Since 1877 (BSS) 3 PSYC 206 Social Psychology (BSS) 3 Breadth Physical Science (BPS) with a lab (EL) 4 Foreign Language 101 or BICS Elective 4 Total Credits 14	Elective 3 Breadth Fine & Performing Arts (BFPA) 3 Lab (EL)/Health Experience (EH) 3 Foreign Language 102 /Elective 4 Total Credits 13
Year 3	SOCW 200 Foundations of Social Work I 4 SOCW 201 Foundations of Social Work II 3 SOCW 211 Micro Skills of Counseling 3 SOCW 302 Human Behavior in Social Environments I 3 ENG 201 Intermediate Composition (BHUM) 3 Total Credits 16	SOCW 301 Introduction to Social Welfare Policy 3 SOCW 303 Human Behavior in Social Environments II 3 SOCW 315 Social Work Practice I 3 SOCW 316 Social Work Practice II 3 SOCW 390 Diversity & Issues of Social and Economic Justice 3 Total Credits 15
Year 4	SOCW 400 Social Work Practice III 3 SOCW 480 Research Methods in Social Work 3 SOCW 482 Field Instruction I 4 SOCW Elective 3 Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) 3 Total Credits 16	SOCW 401 Social Welfare Policy Analysis 2 SOCW 481 Statistics for Social Work 3 SOCW 483 Field Instruction II 3 SOCW Elective 3 SOCW Elective 3 Total Credits 14

Transfer Students To maximize your transfer experience, complete the **bolded** courses/requirements pre-transfer **AND** satisfy either the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) General Ed Core or receive an AA, AS, or AAT (early childhood, special ed or math) degree from an IAI community college. If 'Minor' requirements are shown, discuss careful course selection with the academic advising contact listed. Transfer Credit Equivalency Guides are located at siue.edu/transfer.

Admission Requirements, Cont.

Application materials are reviewed for approval or denial by the BSW Admissions Committee, composed of the director of the BSW program and two members of the BSW curriculum policy and planning committee. Students who plan to enter the program are expected to meet with the director of the BSW program prior to admission into the program.

Decisions regarding admission to the major are made by the end of February, and students admitted will be allowed to declare as social work majors. Should spaces within the program remain after this date, the program will continue to consider applications until spaces are filled.

Only students who have been admitted into the program will be enrolled in the first major semester courses (SOCW 201, SOCW 211 and SOCW 302) in the fall term.

It is important that students become familiar with sequencing and required courses for this major, as well as the required supporting courses offered, which are listed in the sample curriculum.

Graduation Requirements

All undergraduate majors in social work are required to complete a senior assignment as part of the BSW program and the University's assessment process. The Social Work senior assignment is composed of two parts: a written case study and a final evaluation of students' achievement of learning objectives completed by their field instructors.

Contact Information

Social Work
 College of Arts and Sciences
 Phone: 618-650-5758