

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 system 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 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 by the end of January of the preceding spring semester (e.g. for fall 2020 admission, students need to apply in January of 2020). 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 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 admission process described herein.

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

- An application for the BSW program form which includes; a) general information about the student, and b) information related to prerequisites taken and c) GPA (minimum of 2.5)
- A 400-word personal statement that discusses why s/he is interest 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.

SIUE

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Social Work



Department Administration

Roberto Aspholm, MSW, PhD

Director of BSW Program

Jill Schrieber, MSW, PhD

Graduate Program
Chair of Social Work

Jayne Swanke, MSW, PhD

Director of MSW Program

Carol Wesley, PhD

Director of Practica

Undergraduate Faculty

Roberto Aspholm, PhD

Assistant Professor
2016, University of
Illinois-Chicago

Venessa Brown, PhD

Professor, Associate
Chancellor for the Office of
Institutional Diversity and
Inclusion
1994, Clark Atlanta
University

Kim Carter, MSW, PhD

Associate Professor
2010, Washington
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Bryan Duckham, PhD

Associate Professor
2007, Loyola University
of Chicago

**Jennifer Erwin, MSW,
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Assistant Professor
2018, University
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Ariel Jones, MSW, PhD

Assistant Professor
2017, St. Louis University
School of Medicine

Gerald O'Brien, PhD

Professor
1997, University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign

**Jill Schrieber, MSW, LCSW,
PhD**

Associate Professor
2013, University of Illinois
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Jayne Swanke, PhD

Associate Professor
2009, Southern Illinois
University Carbondale

**Carol Wesley, MSW, ACSW,
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Director of Practica
Faculty
Assistant Professor
1987, Saint Louis University

MSW Instructors/ Faculty

Mary Plocher, MSW, LCSW

Field Liaison
1979, Aurora University

Angelia Ham, MSW, LCSW

Instructor
2003, Missouri State
University

Kelly Lasiter

Office Support Associate

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Sample Curriculum for the Bachelor of Social Work

	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 Public Speaking 3 QR 101 , MATH 150 or Higher 3 FST 101 Succeeding & Engaging at SIUE 1 Total Credits 16	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 Elective 3 Total Credits 15
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 2 Breadth Fine & Performing Arts (BFPA) 3 Lab (EL)/Health Experience (EH) 3 Foreign Language 102 /Elective 4 Total Credits 12
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 3 SOCW 481 Statistics for Social Work 3 SOCW 483 Field Instruction II 4 SOCW Elective 3 SOCW Elective 3 Total Credits 16
		Total Hours 120

Transfer Students: To maximize your transfer experience, complete the **bold** course 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. Visit siue.edu/transfer to find course equivalency guides.

Admission Requirements, Cont.

- Demonstrate written proficiency in English by completing English composition I and II with a grade of C or better.
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly and effectively by completing an applied communication studies 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

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 undergraduate catalog and the BSW handbook.

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
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