

Department of Social Work

(College of Social and Behavioral Sciences)

www.uni.edu/csbs/socialwork

The Department of Social Work offers the following undergraduate and graduate programs and program certificates. Specific requirements for these programs are listed within this Department of Social Work section in the following order:

Undergraduate Major (B.S.W.)

- Social Work (p. 1)

Minor

- Social Welfare (p. 2)

Graduate Major (M.S.W.)

- Social Work (p. 2)

Program Certificates

- Addictions Treatment (p. 4)
- Child Welfare (p. 4)

The Social Work Department at the University of Northern Iowa is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The undergraduate social work major prepares students for beginning level professional social work practice.

The mission of the UNI BSW in Social Work program is to prepare students for beginning generalist social work practice at the individual, family, small group, organizational and community levels while adhering to social work values and ethics. Students will learn to use research informed practice to advocate for social and economic justice. This commitment is supported by the promotion of multicultural responsiveness. Critical thinking is a fundamental component of the program that encourages students to examine challenging or opposing concepts and explore conflicting personal and professional values. Service learning requirements, to include volunteer and internship experiences, contribute to the sharing of knowledge between community partners, faculty and student.

Bachelor of Social Work Degree Program

Social Work Major

The Social Work major requires a minimum of 120 total hours to graduate. This total includes UNIFI/General Education requirements and the following specified major requirements, plus electives to complete the minimum of 120 hours.

Required

Prerequisites: 12

BIOL 1014 Life: Continuity and Change (or any BIOL course)

Any course in UNIFI/General Education Quantitative Reasoning *

PSYCH 1001	Introduction to Psychology	
SOC 1000 or SOC 1060	Introduction to Sociology Social Problems	
Social Work Required Courses:		
SOC SCI 2020	Social Sciences Statistics *	3
SW 1001	Introduction to Social Work and Social Services	3
SW 2091	Practice with Individuals	3
SW 3185	Social Work Research	3
SW 3192	Practice with Groups and Families	3
SW 4144	Social Policies and Issues	3
SW 4163	Diversity and Difference	3
SW 4164	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SW 4196	Practice with Communities and Organizations	3
SW 4200	Field Instruction (11 hours required)**	11
Social Work Electives. Select at least three of the following:		9
SW 1041	Global Social Work	
SW 2045	American Racial and Minoritized Populations	
SW 3143	Self-Care and Stress Management in Helping Professions	
SW 3175	Child Welfare Policy and Practice	
SW 3179	Cooperative Education (3 hours)	
SW 4121	Social Work in Mental Health Settings	
SW 4171/5171	Addictions Treatment	
SW 4173/5173	Social Services for Older Adults	
SW 4193	Models of Social Work Practice	
SW 4194/5194	Seminar in Social Work ***	
Total Hours		59

* STAT 1772 will substitute for SOC SCI 2020.

** SW 4200 can also be taken for 4 additional credit hours on an elective basis.

*** SW 4194/5194 may be repeated on different topics.

A minimum cumulative grade point average for all college work of 2.50 is required for admission to the Social Work major. A minimum cumulative and UNI grade point average of 2.50 is required to take SW 4200. All required courses for the Social Work major require a C (2.00) or higher to count towards the major. A minimum UNI grade point average of 2.50 is required for graduation as a Social Work major.

Department of Social Work

In order to enroll in SW 4200 , a student must be a Social Work major and the following must be present: senior standing (90 or more credit hours); completion of SW 1001; SW 2091; SW 3185; SW 3192; SW 4164; statistics course; and a minimum UNI and Total Cumulative grade point average of 2.50.

Students who graduate with a major in Social Work receive a Bachelor of Social Work degree.

Minor

Social Welfare Minor

The Social Welfare Minor provides a comprehensive understanding of the social welfare system, the values behind it, and the social issues facing individuals, families, groups and communities. It provides an understanding of social welfare and social service programs, and introduces students to the wide variety of Social Work positions.

Students complete one required course and four elective courses offered by the Department of Social Work for a total of 15 credits. If a student chooses to Major in Social Work, all the courses taken for the Social Welfare Minor will apply to the Major; however, students cannot receive both a Minor in Social Welfare and a Major in Social Work at the same time. Only students who graduate with a degree in Social Work from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) are eligible to be licensed as social workers in the State of Iowa (LBSW) and can be considered for Advanced Standing in the MSW program.

Required Core Courses:

SW 1001	Introduction to Social Work and Social Services	3
Electives (Select four courses from the following):		12
SW 2045	American Racial and Minoritized Populations	
SW 3175	Child Welfare Policy and Practice	
SW 4121	Social Work in Mental Health Settings	
SW 4144	Social Policies and Issues	
SW 4163	Diversity and Difference	
SW 4164	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	
SW 4171/5171	Addictions Treatment	
SW 4173/5173	Social Services for Older Adults	

Total Hours **15**

Master of Social Work Degree

Major in Social Work

The Master of Social Work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

The Master's Degree in Social Work (M.S.W.) is available only on the **non-thesis** option. The M.S.W. program is designed to prepare students for advanced social work practice with a variety of populations across the practice continuum from direct services to policy work. There are two avenues to the M.S.W. degree: the

Foundation program, open to persons with baccalaureate degrees in other fields from an accredited college or university, and the **Advanced Standing program**, which is available only for qualified students who have graduated from a Council on Social Work Education (C.S.W.E.) accredited baccalaureate social work program.

Trauma Informed Practice is UNI's M.S.W. specialization. In this specialization students learn an integrated approach to treating both acute and complex forms of psychological trauma. This approach includes elements from various cognitive and body-centered psychotherapies and approaches, including mindfulness, eye-movement desensitization and reprocessing (EMDR), sensorimotor psychotherapy, somatic experiencing therapy, yoga, and tai chi. The Trauma Informed Practice specialization prepares students for direct practice with individuals, groups, families, organizations and communities.

Only graduate courses (course numbers 5000 or above) will apply to a graduate degree, even if the undergraduate course number (4999 or less) is listed. No exceptions will be made.

A minimum of 20 hours of 6000-level course work is required for the two-year and the advanced standing programs.

Any 5000 level social work course or any 6000 level MSW concentration course not required on the degree will apply as an elective to the student's Plan of Study.

The **Foundation program** requires a **minimum of 60 semester hours**, which consists of a generalist Foundation Core of 23 semester hours of coursework and field, followed by the trauma informed specialization (37 semester hours) including field practicum/ seminar. The program is offered in cohort groups and consists of five consecutive terms of course work and field practicum/seminar. An extended-enrollment option is available to students in the Two Year program who can attend classes at times offered (three-hour blocks) and participate in the field practicum at agencies that generally operate during regular business hours. An extended-enrollment distance education option is available for this track as well.

The **Advanced Standing program** requires a **minimum of 37 semester hours**. The program consists of three academic terms of concentration courses including field practicum/seminar. An extended enrollment option is available to Advanced Standing students who can attend classes at times offered (three-hour blocks) and participate in the field practicum at agencies that generally operate during regular business hours. An extended-enrollment distance education option is available for this track as well.

Students interested in the two-year or advanced standing program must submit a completed Application for Admission to Graduate Study and should refer to their MyUNIverse Student Center To-Do list or contact the Department of Social Work for any other application requirements. General graduate information and application for graduate admission can be found at <https://admissions.uni.edu/application>.

The Graduate Record Examination (General Test) **is not** required for admission to the program; however, applicants may wish to submit GRE scores in support of their application.

Admission to the M.S.W. is competitive. Applicants must comply with all of the policies and procedures pertaining to admission to graduate study as set forth in this University Catalog. *In addition*, applicants

are required to submit the following in order to be considered for admission.

1. The Department of Social Work M.S.W. application.
2. Three letters of reference.
3. A personal statement.
4. A resume'.
5. As part of normal admission to graduate study at UNI, official transcripts for **all post-secondary institutions** attended (with the exception of the University of Northern Iowa), must be sent directly from the college or university attended to the Office of Admissions at the University of Northern Iowa.

For information concerning admission or required courses for the M.S.W., contact the Department of Social Work, M.S.W. Program, 235 Sabin, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0405, or phone 319-273-5910, or visit www.uni.edu/csbs/socialwork/msw-graduate-degree.

Required for Foundation Program:

Social Work foundation core: (for all two year students)

SW 6212	Human Behavior and the Social Environment Micro	3
SW 6214	Social Work Practice I	3
SW 6215	Social Work Practice II	3
SW 6216	Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities	3
SW 6278	Social Intervention: Policies and Services	3
Social Work practicum and seminar:		
SW 6220	Foundation Practicum	4
SW 6221	Foundation Practicum Seminar	4
Or students may substitute the following for SW 6220 and SW 6221:		
SW 6222	Foundation Practicum I	
SW 6223	Foundation Practicum Seminar I	
SW 6224	Foundation Practicum II	
SW 6225	Foundation Practicum Seminar II	
Total Hours		23

Trauma Informed Practice Specialization:

Social Work:

SW 6218	Introduction to Social Work Research	3
SW 6234	Primary and Secondary Trauma	3
SW 6236	Diversity & Human Rights	3
SW 6246	Trauma Informed Practice I	3
SW 6248	Advocacy & Social Justice	3
SW 6249	DSM: Balancing Strengths and Differential Diagnosis	3
SW 6265	Advanced Social Work Research	3

SW 6268	Advanced Practicum I	3
SW 6269	Advanced Practicum Seminar I	2
SW 6270	Advanced Practicum II	3
SW 6271	Advanced Practicum Seminar II	2

Or students may substitute the following for SW 6268, SW 6269, SW 6270, and SW 6271:

SW 6266	Advanced Practicum	
SW 6267	Advanced Practicum Seminar	
*Elective to be selected in consultation with program advisor		6

* Elective for the distance education program will be predetermined at enrollment.

Total Hours **37**

*** Any 5000-level social work course or any 6000-level MSW concentration course not required on the degree will apply as an elective to the student's Plan of Study.**

Successful applicants for admission must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale for the two-year (five-term) MSW program and a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.20 on a 4.00 scale for the one-year (three-term) Advanced Standing MSW Program. For those students who do not meet this requirement, application materials list criteria that may be considered as an alternative.

Licensure Preparation Endorsement 240 School Social Worker Birth to Age 21

University of Northern Iowa also provides an endorsement pathway for MSW graduates to apply to the Iowa Department of Education to obtain *Endorsement 240 School Social Worker Birth to Age 21*. The following courses meet the requirements for Endorsement 240:

Following courses taken within the MSW program:

SW 6218	Introduction to Social Work Research	3
SW 6234	Primary and Secondary Trauma	3
SW 6236	Diversity & Human Rights	3
SW 6246	Trauma Informed Practice I	3
SW 6248	Advocacy & Social Justice	3
SW 6249	DSM: Balancing Strengths and Differential Diagnosis	3
SW 6265	Advanced Social Work Research	3

Practicum in an Area Education Agency setting:

SW 6268	Advanced Practicum I	3
SW 6269	Advanced Practicum Seminar I	2
SW 6270	Advanced Practicum II	3
SW 6271	Advanced Practicum Seminar II	2

OR students may substitute the following for SW 6268, SW 6269, SW 6270, and SW 6271:

SW 6266	Advanced Practicum	
SW 6267	Advanced Practicum Seminar	

Department of Social Work

Students pick two of the three electives offered: 6

SPED 6240	Collaborative Consultation I: The Relationship (SPED will not be offering Masters classes until further notice) *
SPED 6260	Special Education Law and Policy (SPED will not be offering Masters classes until further notice) *
SPED 6285	Readings in Special Education (SPED will not be offering Masters classes until further notice.)

Total Hours 37

* Satisfies the two (2) elective requirement for the M.S.W. degree.

* SPED will not be offering Masters courses until further notice.

Program Certificates

The University of Northern Iowa makes available, in addition to traditional programs, the opportunity for students to earn program certificates. Program certificates provide an alternative to programs leading to a degree, a major, or a minor; they certify that an individual has completed a program approved by the university. For information on the following program certificates, contact the Department of Social Work or the Office of the Registrar, which serves as the centralized registry.

Addictions Treatment Certificate

This UNI certificate program is designed to prepare Social Work majors for the field of substance abuse treatment. To receive a UNI certificate, a student must complete the requirements for the Social Work major (including graduation with the BSW) and the specific course work and field instruction experiences as indicated.

For any student who received a previous degree and returns for the Addictions Treatment Certificate, all requirements of the certificate apply. The returning student must do Field Instruction in an inpatient or outpatient treatment program. Courses may be waived if they were completed for an earlier degree.

Required

Social Work:		
SW 4171/5171	Addictions Treatment	3

Electives: select three of the following 9

SW 3175	Child Welfare Policy and Practice
FAM SERV 3145/5145	Violence in Intimate Relationships
FAM SERV 3160/5160	Family Assessment and Intervention
CRIM 3228	Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System *
FAM SERV 1020	Family Relationships

PSYCH 3102/5102 Drugs and Individual Behavior

Total Hours 12

Student will do their field placement (11-15 hours) at a site approved by the Director of Field Instruction.

* CRIM 3228 has prerequisite of CRIM 2022 or SOC 1000.

Child Welfare Certificate

Must be a major in Social Work to complete this program certificate.

Required:

SW 3175	Child Welfare Policy and Practice	3
POL AMER 4142/5142	Problems in Juvenile and Family Law	3
SW 4200	Field Instruction *	11-15
Select two of the following: 6		
SW 4171/5171	Addictions Treatment	
SW 4193	Models of Social Work Practice	
PSYCH 3403/5403	Abnormal Psychology	
PSYCH 3603/5603	Child and Adolescent Psychopathology	

Total Hours 23-27

Students will do their field placement (11-15 hours) at a site approved by the Director of Field Instruction.

*Prerequisites for SW 4200: SW 1001; SW 2091; SW 3185 SW 3185SW 3185; SW 3185; SW 3192; SW 4164; Declared Social Work major; minimum UNI and Total Cumulative GPA of 2.50; senior standing.

Social Work, BSW

1. Communication

Goal: Students will communicate professionally.

Outcome: Use of words and mechanics of writing (spelling, grammar, punctuation).

Outcome: Use APA style 7th edition style (citation, references, margins, layout).

2. Critical Thinking

Goal: Students will critically evaluate practice.

Outcome: Use compelling, relevant sources.

Outcome: Demonstrate thoughtful and skillful understanding of literature regarding the client population and intervention effectiveness.

3. Program Content Knowledge/Skills

Goal: Students will have knowledge and skills essential for beginning generalist social work practice.

Outcome: Clearly describe an intervention that addresses the issue.

Outcome: Evaluate intervention.

Outcome: Evaluate intervention.

Master of Social Work, MSW

1. Communication

Goal: Student will communicate professionally.

Outcome: Use accurate syntax and mechanics of writing in APA format.

Outcome: Clearly and comprehensively, describe a social issue/problem.

Outcome: Demonstrate an understanding of how diversity and difference shape client experiences.

2. Critical Thinking

Goal: Students will critically evaluate how evidence based literature informs practice effectiveness.

Outcome: Identify similarities and differences in evidence-based literature.

Outcome: Draw conclusions about how evidence based literature shapes practice.

3. Program Content Knowledge/Skills

Goal: Students will have knowledge and skills essential for advanced social work practice.

Outcome: Demonstrate clinical practice behaviors that can help calm and stabilize clients.

Outcome: Demonstrate clinical practice behaviors that can help client process emotional and somatic traumatic sensations.

Outcomes: Demonstrate an understanding of when to use specific types of trauma therapy techniques depending on differing levels of trauma.