Social Work Courses (SW)

Courses

SW 1001. Introduction to Social Work and Social Services — 3 hrs.
This course will introduce prospective social work majors to the field of social work, its history, values, and populations that are served. Students will become familiarized with the various roles, functions, and tasks that generalist social workers perform. Presentations by social work professionals in different fields of practice will supplement classroom lecture, discussion and small group exercises. As part of the course assignments, students will engage in a service learning opportunity. Students are required to volunteer in a social service setting for a minimum of 30 hours throughout the semester. The activity serves as a microcosm into the social work profession; gaining insight into agency/program function with opportunity for direct client interaction. (Fall and Spring)

Comparative study of social welfare (social insurance, public welfare, charity and philanthropy, social services, and mutual aid) in the United States, and selected nations from five regions of the world as defined by the International Congress of Schools of Social Work (African, Asian, European, Latin American, and North American regions). (Same as SOC SCI 1041 (900:041)) (Fall and Spring)

This course will be a survey of cultural American minorities, with attention to minority groups in Iowa. It will involve a multi-disciplinary approach with particular emphasis on geographic origins, linguistic traditions and current modes of economic subsistence. Introduction to folkways and mores of each group will be covered. [Same as SOC SCI 1045 (900:045)] (Fall and Spring)

This course introduces students to descriptive and rudimentary inferential statistics for social workers. Emphasis is on understanding and calculations of central tendency measures, measures of dispersion and measures relating to the standard normal distribution. Students will review basic statistical methods (Descriptive and Inferential Statistics; Measures of Association), and become familiar with basic parametric and non-parametric techniques. Prerequisite(s): completion of mathematics requirement for the Liberal Arts Core. (Fall and Spring)

SW 2091 (450:091). Practice with Individuals — 3 hrs.
This course is one of three in the social work practice sequence. It provides students with beginning level knowledge, skills, and values for generalist social work practice with individuals. Students are exposed to diversity and difference in practice as they learn how to engage, assess, plan, prepare, implement, evaluate, and terminate. Professionalism is fundamental to this course and is guided by the Social Work Code of Ethics. Prerequisite(s) or corequisite(s): SW 1001; or consent of instructor. (Fall and Spring)

SW 3010 (450:102). Conflict Resolution — 3 hrs.
Survey of social science theory and research in conflict resolution with emphasis on development of less destructive modes of problem solving in social formations. Prerequisite(s): SW 1001 or PSYCH 1001 (400:001) or SOC 1000 (980:001) or SOC 1060 (980:060) or consent of instructor; junior standing. (Fall and Spring)

Application of research to social work practice including formulation of research questions and hypotheses, strategies of research design, measurement and methods of collecting data, questionnaire construction, data presentation, and report writing. Prerequisite(s): SOC 2020 (980:080) or STAT 1772 (800:072); junior standing. (Fall and Spring)

May be repeated only with consent of department. Prerequisite(s): 6 hours in social work; consent of department. (Fall and Spring)

SW 3192 (450:192). Practice with Groups and Families — 3 hrs.
This is the second of a three-course sequence on generalist social work practice. The course focuses on practice at the Mezzo level with an emphasis on solution focused group work. Prerequisite(s): declared Social Work major; completion of SW 2091 (450:091) with a minimum grade of C; minimum UNI and Cumulative GPA of 2.50. (Fall and Spring)

SW 4121 (450:121g). Social Work in Mental Health Settings — 3 hrs.
A history of mental health institutions, including deinstitutionalization, is covered in this course. Changing perceptions of mental illness and how those views determine the interventions we use is discussed. (Variable)

SW 4143 (450:143g). Self-Care and Stress Management in Helping Professions — 3 hrs.
Stress and stress management for helping professionals and their clientele. Physiological, psychological, social, and economic factors that produce stress and strategies for coping with those stressors. (Variable)

Policy development and the consequences of policy for social welfare institutions. Frameworks for policy analysis. Planning, program design, and policy decisions for administration of social services. Prerequisite(s): SW 1001; senior standing. (Fall and Spring)

SW 4163 (450:163g). Diversity and Difference — 3 hrs.
Study of interpersonal and social relations of minority groups within the larger American society. Prerequisite(s): SOC 1000 (980:001) or SOC 1060 (980:060); junior standing. (Fall and Spring)

SW 4164 (450:164g). Human Behavior and the Social Environment — 3 hrs.
Integrates multiple sources of knowledge in the analysis of models of human behavior from a person-environment perspective; attention is paid to structural components in oppression and the importance of difference in shaping life experiences. Prerequisite(s): a course in biology (BIOL 1014 (840:014) preferred). (Fall and Spring)

SW 4171/5171 (450:171g). Addictions Treatment — 3 hrs.
Social, legal, political, psychological, biological, spiritual, and ethical factors related to the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs, eating disorders, and behavioral additions such as shopping and gambling. Various intervention models with an emphasis on harm reduction, stages of change, and a strengths perspective. The role of a professional social work in the field of addictions treatment, application of social work ethical principles to guide professional professional
practice, and response to contexts that shape practice. Prerequisite(s): junior standing. (Variable)

SW 4173/5173 (450:173g). Social Services for Older Adults — 3 hrs.
This course will provide an introduction to the various programs and services designed to serve older Americans. Related literature on population demographics and trends, social perceptions of the elderly, and current and projected needs of an increasingly older population will be discussed. Examination of the legislative bases and policies formulated to create administrative structures and programs will be included. Prerequisite(s): junior standing. (Variable)

Review of development of family and children’s services and practice, focusing on current services, programs, and social work practice issues. Examination of policies and legislation, emphasizing how such policies affect family functioning and the delivery of services. Prerequisite(s): junior standing. (Variable)

Survey of practice approaches with individuals, examination of integrative approaches to practice (common factors, and technical, theoretical, and assimilative integration); and, analysis of the advantages and limitations of using empirically supported treatments. Prerequisite(s): junior standing. (Variable)

In-depth exploration of an advanced topic in social work practice or social welfare policy. May be repeated on different topics. Prerequisite(s): junior standing. (Variable)

SW 4196 (450:196g). Practice with Communities and Organizations — 3 hrs.
This course is designed for students to develop a knowledge base and practice skills fundamental to effect social change within communities and organizations. Students will learn methods of assessing macro systems as well as developing, implementing, and evaluating appropriate intervention strategies to advance human rights and socio-economic and political justice for the society as a whole, especially, for populations at risk. Prerequisite(s): junior standing. Prerequisite(s) or corequisite(s): SW 3192 (450:192). (Fall and Spring)

SW 4200. Field Instruction — 11-15 hrs.
Field instruction provides a learning experience in a community setting where the student has the opportunity to integrate classroom learning into practice, to develop skills in interpersonal relationships and intervention techniques, and to participate in the role of social worker. The minimum required clock hours are 440 and the class is credit/no credit. Credits are limited to 11-12 for Summer semester field experience. Prerequisite(s): SW 1001; SW 4164 (450:164g); SW 3185 (450:185) and a statistics course; completion of SW 2091 (450:091) and SW 3192 (450:192) with a minimum grade of C in each course; Declared Social Work major; minimum UNI and Cumulative GPA of 2.50; senior standing. (Fall, Spring, Summer)

SW 4240. Field Supplement — 1-8 hrs.
A field instruction supplement course that provides a learning experience in a community setting where the student has the opportunity to integrate classroom learning into practice, to develop skills in interpersonal relationships and intervention techniques, and to participate in the role of social worker. A range of 1-8 credits or 40 to 320 hours are required. Prerequisite(s): SW 1001; SW 4164 (450:164g); SW 3185 (450:185); SW 2091 (450:091) and SW 3192 (450:192) with a minimum grade of C in each course; Social Work major; minimum UNI and Cumulative GPA of 2.50; senior standing; accepted into the UNI Social Work program as a Study Abroad student; or consent of instructor. (Fall, Spring, Summer)

Overview of systemic factors that shape behavior across the life span of the individual with particular attention to diversity and oppressed populations. Examination of person-environment interactions as they relate to generalist social work. Prerequisite(s): admission to graduate program in Social Work or written consent of instructor. (Fall)

Emphasis on macro systems - groups, organizations, communities, and societal and global influences - through investigation of various cultural responses to macro-level traumatic events, including war, genocide and natural disasters. Exploration of strengths and resiliency perspectives for coping strategies and creative post-traumatic growth, including the transformative and healing role of the arts, spirituality, advocacy, and conflict resolution. Prerequisite(s): completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Variable)

Introduces foundation core of the generalist social work practice approach. Students learn about diversity and difference in practice as they apply skills in engaging, assessing, planning, preparing, implementing, evaluating and terminating. Professionalism is fundamental to this course and is guided by the Social Work Code of Ethics. Prerequisite(s): admission to graduate program in Social Work or written consent of instructor. (Fall)

Building on SW 6214 (450:214), students develop mezzo-system knowledge and practice skills in utilizing the strengths perspective and applying solution-focused interventions for working with small groups and families. Prerequisite(s): SW 6214 (450:214). (Spring)

SW 6216 (450:216). Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities — 3 hrs.
Students develop a knowledge base and practice skills fundamental to effect social change within communities and organizations. Students master macro system assessment approaches, then identify and practice methods for developing, implementing, and evaluating intervention strategies to advance human rights as well as socio-economic and political justice. Prerequisite(s): Admission to graduate program in Social Work or consent of instructor. (Fall)

Students will: 1) review the literature on a topic of their choice, 2) identify and compare the different social work research methods, both qualitative and quantitative, 3) design an evaluation proposal, including formative, process, outcome and impact components, and 4) select a research design for the evaluation, which includes a methodology appropriate to meet the goals of the evaluation, and including data collection and analysis. Students will demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking skills in both their review of the literature and evaluation proposal. Prerequisite(s): Admission to graduate program in Social Work or written consent of instructor and completion of a college level course in statistical methods. (Spring and Summer)
SW 6220. Foundation Practicum — 4 hrs.
Field instruction provides a learning experience in a community setting where the student has the opportunity to integrate classroom learning into practice, to develop skills in interpersonal relationships and intervention techniques, and to participate in the role of social worker. The minimum required clock hours are 400 and the course is credit/no credit. Students need a minimum of a 3.0 GPA after their first semester to be cleared for field. Prerequisite(s): Admission to graduate program in Social Work or written consent of instructor; SW 6212 (450:212); SW 6214 (450:214); SW 6216 (450:216); SW 6278. (Spring)

SW 6221. Foundation Practicum Seminar — 4 hrs.
The Foundation Practicum Seminar accompanies SW 6220 Foundation Practicum as it includes a minimum of 12 hours of seminar content integrating and applying knowledge acquired throughout the MSW foundation curriculum to their field practicum. Seminars scheduled throughout the semester provide opportunities to critically reflect upon placement experiences, and to link these experiences with concepts from class and related readings. This graded portion of the field practicum requires, but is not limited to, participation in the field seminars, submission of summaries of learning and completing an agency report. (Spring)

SW 6222. Foundation Practicum I — 2 hrs.
Field instruction provides a learning experience in a community setting where the student has the opportunity to integrate classroom learning into practice, to develop skills in interpersonal relationships and intervention techniques, and to participate in the role of social worker. The minimum required clock hours are 200 and the course is credit/no credit. Students need a minimum of a 3.0 GPA to be cleared for field. Prerequisite(s): admission to graduate program in Social Work or written consent of instructor; SW 6212 (450:212); SW 6214 (450:214); SW 6216 (450:216); SW 6278. (Variable)

SW 6223. Foundation Practicum Seminar I — 2 hrs.
The Foundation Practicum Seminar accompanies SW 6220 Foundation Practicum I as it includes a minimum of 6 hours of seminar content and activities integrating and applying knowledge acquired throughout the MSW foundation curriculum to their field practicum. Seminars scheduled throughout the semester provide opportunities to critically reflect upon placement experiences, and to link these experiences with concepts from class and related readings. This graded portion of the field practicum requires, but is not limited to, participation in the field seminars, submission of summaries of learning and completing an agency report. (Variable)

SW 6224. Foundation Practicum II — 2 hrs.
Field instruction provides a learning experience in a community setting where the student has the opportunity to integrate classroom learning into practice, to develop skills in interpersonal relationships and intervention techniques, and to participate in the role of social worker. The minimum required clock hours are 200 and the course is credit/no credit. Students need a minimum of a 3.0 GPA to be cleared for field. Prerequisite(s): SW 6215 (450:215); SW 6222; SW 6223. (Variable)

SW 6225. Foundation Practicum Seminar II — 2 hrs.
The Foundation Practicum Seminar accompanies SW 6220 Foundation Practicum II as it includes a minimum of 6 hours of seminar content and activities integrating and applying knowledge acquired throughout the MSW foundation curriculum to their field practicum. Seminars scheduled throughout the semester provide opportunities to critically reflect upon placement experiences, and to link these experiences with concepts from class and related readings. This graded portion of the field practicum requires, but is not limited to, participation in the field seminars and submission of summaries of learning. (Variable)

Examination of the psychological, social, and economic genesis of the conditions, dynamics, and consequences of social and economic injustice. Social work commitment of advocacy in addressing social and economic injustice and institutionalized oppression. Prerequisite(s): admission to graduate program in Social Work or consent of instructor. (Variable)

SW 6234. Primary and Secondary Trauma — 3 hrs.
This course serves as an introduction to understanding the key concepts of trauma informed systems of care in generalist social work practice. Students will learn to identify and understand the various types of trauma along with the behaviors and responses seen in survivors of trauma, diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other trauma reactions, basic neurological and biological effects of trauma, and the relationships between trauma and other mental health disorders. An overview of the central principles and key concepts of trauma informed care along with examples will also be provided, including a review of the concept of secondary (or vicarious) trauma affecting caregivers and professionals. This will involve knowledge and skills related to self-exploration and awareness and self-care. Prerequisite(s): Completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Summer)

SW 6235. Systems Redesign and Community Collaboration — 3 hrs.
The purpose of this course is to increase knowledge and skills that students will need as employees, change agents, or consultants of organizations. Students are provided opportunities to increase their knowledge of organizational change to reduce secondary trauma to clients and collaboration between agencies to become more user-friendly to clients with multiple issues. In addition, students learn about their behavior and the behavior of others in the organizational setting and how that may influence clients, staff, and administration, especially those with traumatic histories. Interventions that promote safety and reduce vulnerability of clients and staff are explored and skills to effectively communicate with interdisciplinary teams are reviewed. Agency policies and procedures and advocacy strategies are examined with the goal of reducing secondary trauma. Prerequisite(s): Completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Summer)

SW 6240 (450:240). DSM V: Balancing Strengths and Differential Diagnosis — 3 hrs.
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to prevalent psychiatric disorders using the DSM-5. Understanding the DSM categories, along with the combination of bio-psycho-social causes for the diagnostic labels, is a vital part of treatment planning and, ultimately, providing effective services. Prerequisite(s): Admission to the graduate program in Social Work. (Fall and Spring)

SW 6244 (450:244). Advanced Social Work Practice with Families — 3 hrs.
Development of advanced social work practice skills, techniques, and interventions with families, building on the core foundation of generalist social work practice. Special attention is given to culturally-diverse and rural families using a trauma informed approach to practice. Prerequisite(s): completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Fall and Spring)
SW 6246. Trauma Informed Practice I — 3 hrs.
Trauma Informed Practice I is the preliminary course in the practice sequence at the specialty level of the Trauma Informed Care Concentration. The practice sequence has three interrelated foci: Violence and Trauma; Mental Health and Recovery; and Health and Wellbeing. This provides a multi-level social work perspective based on best practices and theory that promote healthy individual development as well as environments that support human development. Practice I introduces the sequential model of trauma treatment and recovery, specifically focusing on the first phase regaining a sense of safety, non-toxic self-regulation and self-smoothing and transitioning into the second phase, starting active work upon the trauma. The language of trauma is interpreted as an adaptational coping response to violence. The student becomes an interpreter of the language of what maladaptive behavior is trying to tell us, and how a more humanistic use of biological-psychological-social-cultural/spiritual interventions is synchronous with social work ethics and values. Specific methodologies practiced may include Motivational Interviewing, Seeking Safety, Mindfulness, Creating Sanctuary and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy using both individual and group modalities. Prerequisite(s): Completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Fall)

SW 6247. Trauma Informed Practice II — 3 hrs.
Trauma Informed Practice II builds on Trauma Informed Practice I and continues coverage of the three interrelated foci: Violence Trauma; Mental Health and Recovery; Health and Wellbeing. Practice II expands the sequential model of trauma treatment and recovery, specifically focusing on the second phase, active work upon the trauma through the development of the trauma narrative and addressing the resulting grief and loss by employing any of a range of psychological techniques, as well as the final stage of fostering integration, an advance to a new post-traumatic life, possibly broadened by the experience of surviving the trauma and all it involved. Strong emphasis is placed on healthy professional development through self-awareness, self-reflection and self-care, including being attuned to the signs and symptoms of secondary traumatic stress and compassion fatigue and developing self-care strategies, techniques and supports. Practice entails further refine of methodologies introduced in Practice I as well as dialectical behavior therapy and collaborative practice strategies with schools, foster families, courts, health, behavioral health and social service agencies as a framework for multi-level practice incorporating individual and group modalities. Prerequisite(s): Completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Spring)

SW 6262 (450:262). Program Planning and Design — 3 hrs.
Development of skills to strategically plan, assess and design programs and services in human service organizations. Trauma-informed theoretical contributions, strategic planning, collaboration, systemic assessment, financial literacy, program design and monitoring. Prerequisite(s): completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Variable)

SW 6263 (450:263). Grant Writing, Fund Raising, Contracting, and Marketing — 3 hrs.
Securing funding for human service agencies and programs. Grant writing to private foundations and public agencies, fund-raising from individuals and corporations, planning and implementing comprehensive fund-raising programs, and developing service contracts. Prerequisite(s): completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Fall and Spring)

SW 6265. Advanced Social Work Research — 3 hrs.
This course is designed to build on Introduction to Social Work Research (SW 6218 (450:218)). Students apply concepts they learn in this class using real-world examples from their field experiences. Prerequisite(s): Completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Fall)

SW 6266. Trauma Informed Practice Practicum — 8 hrs.
Field practicum for second year M.S.W. Trauma Informed Practice concentration students. 500 clock hours required. Practicum established by arrangement with Department of Social Work Field Director. Offered on credit/no credit basis only. Prerequisite(s): Completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Spring and Summer)

SW 6267. Trauma Informed Practice Practicum Seminar — 2 hrs.
This seminar complements SW 6266 Trauma Informed Practice Practicum. This is a graded portion of field practicum. (Spring and Summer)

SW 6268. Trauma Informed Practice Practicum I — 3 hrs.
Fall semester practicum for second year M.S.W. Trauma Focused Clinical Practice concentration students. 250 clock hours required; concurrent with classes. Practicum established by arrangement with Department of Social Work Field Director. Offered on credit/no credit basis only. Prerequisite(s): completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Fall)

SW 6269. Trauma Informed Practice Practicum I Seminar — 2 hrs.
This seminar complements SW 6268 Trauma Informed Practice Practicum I. This is a graded portion of field practicum. (Fall)

SW 6270. Trauma Informed Practice Practicum II — 3 hrs.
Practicum placement for second year M.S.W. Trauma Informed Practice concentration students, spring semester or summer. 250 clock hours required; concurrent with classes or summer following second year classes. Practicum established by arrangement with Department of Social Work Field Director. Offered on credit/no credit basis only. Prerequisite(s): SW 6268; SW 6269. (Spring)

SW 6271. Trauma Informed Practice Practicum II Seminar — 2 hrs.
This seminar complements SW 6270 Trauma Informed Practice Practicum II. This is a graded portion of field practicum. (Spring)

SW 6272. Advanced Social Administration Practicum — 8 hrs.
Field practicum for second year M.S.W. Social Administration Concentration students. 500 clock hours required. Practicum established by arrangement with Department of Social Work Field Director. Offered on credit/no credit basis only. (Spring and Summer)

SW 6273. Advanced Social Administration Practicum Seminar — 2 hrs.
This seminar complements SW 6272 Advanced Social Administration Practicum. This is a graded portion of field practicum. (Spring and Summer)

SW 6274. Advanced Social Administration Practicum I — 4 hrs.
Practicum placement for second year M.S.W. Social Administration Concentration students, fall semester. 250 clock hours, concurrent with classes. Practicum established by arrangement with Department
of Social Work Field Director. Offered on credit/no credit basis only. Prerequisite(s): completion of first year of M.S.W. program, or graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited undergraduate curriculum. (Fall)

**SW 6275. Advanced Social Administration Practicum I Seminar**  
— 1 hr.  
This seminar complements SW 6274 Advanced Social Administration Practicum I. This is a graded portion of field practicum. (Fall)

**SW 6276. Advanced Social Administration Practicum II — 4 hrs.**  
Practicum placement of second year M.S.W. Social Administration concentration students, spring semester or summer. 250 clock hours. Practicum established by arrangement with Department of Social Work Field Director. Offered on credit/no credit basis only.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 6274; SW 6275. (Spring)

**SW 6277. Advanced Social Administration Practicum II Seminar**  
— 1 hr.  
This seminar complements SW 6276 Advanced Social Administration Practicum II. This is a graded portion of field practicum. (Spring)

**SW 6278. Social Intervention: Policies and Services — 3 hrs.**  
Analyzes components of past and present social welfare policies, programs, and services in the United States, with consideration of how well they respond to the needs of marginalized and high-risk individuals, families, and communities. Focus on consequences of policies for administration of social services, weighing financial costs against benefits, programmatic alternatives, and various approaches to advocacy and social reform. Prerequisite(s): admission to graduate program in Social Work or written consent of instructor. (Fall)

**SW 6285 (450:285). Readings — 1-6 hrs.**  
Prerequisite(s): consent of instructor. (Fall and Spring)

**SW 6299. Research — 1-3 hrs.**  
May be repeated for maximum of 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): Consent of department. (Spring)