Welcome to the UNC Chapel Hill

School of Social Work

Curriculum and Field Education Overview
Welcome Program, April 2020

Lisa de Saxe Zerden, PhD, MSW
Senior Associate Dean for MSW Education

Sarah M. Naylor, Ph.D., MTS
Associate Dean for Student Affairs
Our Mission

Advancing equity,

transforming systems,

improving lives
What is the MSW Curriculum?

- Fixed Generalist Curriculum
- Flexible Specialization Curriculum
- Concurrent Field
- Beyond Academics: Professional Development
Overview of the Curriculum by Credit Hours

12-Month Advanced Standing Program:

- 40 credit hours = 27 credit hours coursework + 13 field credit hours
- Summer Bridge Program (13 credit hours)
- Specialization Curriculum (27 credit hours)

2-Year and 3-Year Programs:

- 62 credit hours = 42 credit hours coursework + 20 credit hours field
- Generalist Curriculum (29 credit hours)
- Specialization Curriculum (33 credit hours)
Field Education

- Apply knowledge & skills learned in the classroom
  - Integrate theory & practice

- Structured learning environment
  - Focused on learning specific social work skills

- Experiential learning
  - Repeated transactions between the learner & the environment
Overview of the Advanced Standing Curriculum: Summer Bridge Program (13 credit hours)

**Summer Session I:**
- SOWO 772: Social Work Practice (1.5 credit hours)
- SOWO 732: Brief History of Oppression & Social Welfare Policy (1.5 credit hours)
- SOWO 702: Human Development in Context (1.5 credit hours)
- SOWO 712: Research and Evaluation (1.5 credit hours)

**Summer Session II:**
- SOWO 709: Pre-Specialization Field Planning (1 credit hour)
- Specialization elective(s) (3 credit hours)
- SOWO 740: Implementing Evidence-Informed Practice w/ Individuals, Families & Groups (3 credit hours)
  **OR**
- SOWO 770: Implementing Evidence-Informed Practice with Organizations and Communities (3 credit hours)
Overview of the Curriculum: Courses in the Generalist Curriculum, 2-year Full-time Program

Generalist Courses, Fall Year One:
- SOWO 500 Human Behavior in Context: Infancy to Adolescence (3)
- SOWO 501 Confronting Oppression & Inst. Discrimination (3)
- SOWO 540 Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families & Groups (3)
- SOWO 570 Social Work Practice with Organizations & Communities (3)
- SOWO 520 Social Work Field Practicum I (3)
- SOWO 523 Foundation Field Seminar I (1)

Generalist Courses, Spring Year One:
- SOWO 505 Human Behavior in Context: Adulthood & Older Adulthood (3)
- SOWO 510 Foundation for Evidence-Based Practice & Program Eval. (3)
- SOWO 530 Social Welfare Policy (3)
- SOWO 521 Social Work Field Practicum II (3)
- SOWO 524 Foundation Field Seminar II (1)

Specialization Curriculum Course, Spring Year One:
- SOWO 740 Implementing Evidence-Informed Practice with Ind.s, Fam.s, and Gp.s (3)
  OR
- SOWO 770 Implementing Evidence-Informed Practice with Org.s and Comm.s (3)
## Overview of the Curriculum:
Courses in the Generalist Curriculum, 3-year MSW Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR 1 FALL</th>
<th>YEAR 1 SPRING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOWO 500 Human Behavior in Context: Infancy to Adolescence (3)</td>
<td>SOWO 505 Human Behavior in Context: Adulthood and Older Adulthood (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWO 501 Confronting Oppression and Institutional Discrimination (3)</td>
<td>SOWO 530 Social Welfare Policy (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 2 FALL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWO 570 Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities (3)</td>
<td>SOWO 510 Foundation for Evidence-Based Practice and Program Evaluation (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWO 540 Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups (3)</td>
<td>*SOWO 740 Implementing Evidence-Informed Pract. with Individuals, Families, and Groups OR *SOWO 770 Implementing Evidence-Informed Pract. with Organizations and Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWO 523 Field Seminar (1)</td>
<td>SOWO 524 Field Seminar (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWO 520 Field Practicum (3)</td>
<td>SOWO 521 Field Practicum (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Specialization Curriculum Courses
Characteristics of the Generalist Field Placement

- Generalist social work practice
  - Exposure to direct work with clients (direct practice) 50%
  - Exposure to community, management and policy practice (macro practice) 50%
- Opportunity to try something new
- Specialize during the final year placement
Generalist Field Placement

• ~450 hours (225 hours/semester)
• In general, in placement on Wednesdays & Thursdays, 8 hours/day
• Will be placed in a field placement based on information provided to field faculty and availability of setting
• Complementary field seminar to discuss field placement learning and process experience
Specialization Curriculum

- Focus on Evidence Informed Practice
- Two Concentration Areas
  - Community, Management & Policy Practice (CMPP)
  - Direct Practice (DP)

- With a faculty advisor, you will develop an individualized plan of study to meet your learning/professional goals and the curriculum requirements
Courses in the Specialization Curriculum Year

Specialization Courses, Fall:

- Advanced Theory/Practice course in area of concentration (3)
- Electives (6)*
- SOWO 820 Social Work Field Practicum III (6)

Specialization Courses:

- Advanced Policy (1.5)
- Advanced Research (3) – satisfies your masters thesis
- Electives** (4.5)
- SOWO 821 Social Work Field Practicum IV (6)

* Advanced Standing students take 3 fewer elective credit hours during the specialization year
**Many electives will be half semester courses
Characteristics of the Specialization Field Placement

- Advanced social work practice, including a concentration in either:
  - DP- With individuals, families or groups; or,
  - CMPP- With organizations and communities
- An opportunity to specialize and develop in-depth competence in one area
Specialization Field Placement

- ~680 hours (340 hours/semester)
- In general, in placement on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 8 hours/day
- Will have the opportunity to request and prioritize three specific placements
- Focus on advanced skills, based primarily on Advanced Theory/Practice Course choice(s)
- No Field Seminar
Types of Placements

- General health care & psychiatric hospitals
- County DSS’s and Public Health Departments
- Private non-profit/not-for-profit agencies
- Interpersonal violence and family abuse services
- Substance use treatment facilities
- Schools
- Shelters and Housing Services

Field Education Website

- [http://ssw.unc.edu/programs/masters/fieldeducation](http://ssw.unc.edu/programs/masters/fieldeducation)
- Can view field education manual, information for current students, etc.
Academic Planning Support

- Resources for students:
  - Faculty advisor
  - Plan of study advisor
  - Field Faculty
  - Academic and Student Affairs faculty & staff
  - Prompts/directions/dates communicated regularly
- Our website!
  - MSW Curriculum Manual (curriculum policies and procedures, student resources, the Technical Standards)
  - Syllabi
  - Current schedules/course offerings
  - Find student forms
Welcome Materials

- Advanced Standing student welcome packet notifications by mid April
- Incoming 2-year and 3-year students will be directed to online welcome materials via email by mid May
- Welcome materials include details on the following:
  - Registration
  - Advising
  - Field placement planning
  - Student calendar
  - JumpStart! orientation
  - Additional information (residency for tuition purposes, parking, Accessibility Resources and Service, UNC email setup, etc.)
Questions?