



Welcome to the UNC Chapel Hill School of Social Work

Curriculum and Field Education Overview
Welcome Program, April 2020

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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

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

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>
- 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 set-up, etc.)

Questions?

