

MSW Program at UW-Oshkosh

The Master of Social Work is a strengths-based graduate education program that prepares students for advanced professional practice and leadership in both local and global practice contexts, with a commitment to evidence-based knowledge, critical thinking and social justice values.

The Department of Social Work at UW Oshkosh offers the MSW degree. The curriculum offerings will comply with the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) of the Council on Social Work Education. Graduates of the UW Oshkosh MSW will be competent professionals who will meet the social service practice needs of the Fox Valley and beyond.

The UW Oshkosh MSW has four Goals:

1. Prepare advanced degree social workers to assume leadership roles in clinical/mental health care and health care settings in order to meet the growing needs of the Fox Valley and beyond.
2. Prepare professional social workers to engage in activities that will contribute to the development and improvement of social policy at local, regional, state, and national levels as it pertains to culturally relevant mental health and health care services.
3. Engage in collaborative partnerships with other academic units and degree programs at UW Oshkosh, as well as with organizational entities in the Fox Valley region in order to improve community well being.
4. Engage in teaching, research, and evaluation activities that promote best practices in mental health and health care practice and encourage innovation and discovery to improve the well being of those in need.

Curriculum

The UW Oshkosh MSW Program will offer two concentrations in the Advanced Curriculum: Clinical/Mental Health Practice and Health Care Practice. Advanced coursework will be interdisciplinary and allow students to take relevant elective courses in Public Administration, Counseling and Nursing, as well as Social Work. Graduates will be competent in the nine CSWE Practice competencies and will have practice expertise specifically in mental health or health care practice.

MSW students in the Foundation Curriculum will become competent in the nine practice competencies mandated by the 2015 Council on Social Work Education-Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards. The Advanced Curriculum will build on the nine CSWE practice competencies, which will be measured by the following 23 Advanced Practice Behaviors.

Graduates of the UW Oshkosh MSW Program will:

- A.1.1 Demonstrate leadership and professionalism in social service practice settings.
- A.1.2 Demonstrate initiative in professional growth and development.
- A.1.3 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of interdisciplinary ethical practice within mental health and/or physical health care settings.
- A.1.4 Successfully resolve ethical dilemmas encountered in mental health and/or physical health care settings.
- A.1.5 Demonstrate professional, accurate and effective written and oral communication appropriate to the practice setting.
- A.2.1 Effectively employ social work knowledge and skills with diverse client systems, especially those who are vulnerable and oppressed.
- A.2.2 Demonstrate cultural competency in all social work contexts.
- A.3.1 Identify and attend to resource gaps in relevant practice settings.

A.3.2 Demonstrate ability to work collaboratively with a wide array of professional helpers on behalf of client systems.

A.4.1 Demonstrate understanding and knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies and their application within the mental health/health care setting.

A.4.2 Critically evaluate practice interventions to determine if theory-based, best/evidence-based practices are being employed in the practice setting and suggest improvements when warranted.

A.5.1 Actively engage in policy practice to improve client system outcomes for mental health/health care services.

A.5.2 Advocate for and on behalf of client systems.

A.6.1 Demonstrate initiative and effective skills in engaging with client systems.

A.6.2 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the variety of technologies employed in mental health/health care practice, critically examine these in relation to social work values, suggest improvements when warranted.

A.7.1 Effectively, systematically, and collaboratively assess client system needs and professionally articulate/document these findings to clients and relevant co-workers.

A.7.2 Demonstrate knowledge and skill in the application of a wide range of assessment and intervention models relevant to mental health/health care practice, including the Person in Environment and the DSM

A.8.1 Effectively and collaboratively identify and employ best/evidence-based interventions to meet client system needs.

A.8.2 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a wide-range of theoretical and practice frameworks relevant to mental health/health care settings, including ecological systems theories and the strengths perspective.

A.8.3 Effectively and collaboratively terminate client services when goals have been met.

A.9.1 Articulate and implement a vision for leadership regarding the promotion of best/evidence-based practice in mental health/health care policy.

A.9.2 Effectively and collaboratively evaluate client system outcomes and professionally articulate/document these findings with clients and relevant co-workers.

A.9.3 Demonstrate application of multiple methods of evaluation and assessment of service delivery.

Foundation Courses (30 credits)

Courses marked with an * are hybrid courses; a portion of the course work is completed online.

Fall-1	Credits	Spring-1	Credits
SW 701 Ethical Foundations of Social Work Practice (1st 7 wks)*	2	SW 702 Generalist Practice I (1st 7 wks)*	3
SW 707 Human Behavior & the Social Environment (2nd 7 wks)*	3	SW 703 Interviewing Lab (2nd 7 wks)*	2
SW 708 Social Welfare Policy (interim)*	2	SW 709 Field and Seminar I (17-weeks, 18 hours/week) (PT-taken in year 2)	6
SW 720 Practice Competence in a Diverse Community (PT-taken in year 2)	2		
Summer-1			
SW 704 Generalist Practice II*	3	Elective (during one of these 3 semesters)	3
SW 710 Field and Seminar II (8 weeks, 18 hours/week) (PT-taken in year 2)			4

PT students take electives in the 2nd year of the Foundation curriculum.

PT students in the Foundation curriculum complete the program in 3 years.

PT Advanced Standing students complete the program in 2 years. A typical schedule is provided on page 4.

Advanced Courses (25 credits)

Advanced Clinical/MH	Credits	Advanced Health Care	Credits
Fall -1		Fall -1	
SW 728: Advanced Policy Practice (Jan Interim)*	2	SW 728: Advanced Policy Practice (Jan Interim)*	2
SW 729: Field (17-weeks, 15 hrs/week)	5	SW 729: Field (17-weeks, 15 hrs/weeks)	5
SW 731: Program Evaluation, Practice Outcomes & Evidence-based Practice	2	SW 731: Program Evaluation, Practice Outcomes & Evidence-based Practice	2
Elective	3	Elective	3
SW 727: Psychopathology and Strengths –based Assessment	3	SW 727: Psychopathology and Strengths-based Assessment	3
Total	10/15	Total	10/15
Spring 1		Spring 1	
SW 733: Field (17-weeks, 15 hrs/week)	5	SW 733: Field (17-weeks, 15 hrs/week)	5
SW 724: Advanced Practice Methods in Mental Health	3	SW 723: Advanced Practice Methods in Health Care	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
SW 741 (May Interim): Qualitative Research Methods	2	SW 741 (May Interim): Qualitative Research Methods	2
Total	8/13	Total	8/13
Summer 1		Summer 1	
Elective	3	Elective	3
Total Credits	55	Total Credits	55

Students will choose 6 credits of electives¹ from the following list:

Course No.	Title	Credits
SW 732 ²	Field Research Project	3
SW 737	Crisis Intervention with Vulnerable Populations	3
SW 757	Mental Health Theories	3
SW 777	Legal Aspects of Social Work Practice	3
SW 571	Child and Family Welfare	3
SW 575	Treatment and Mistreatment of Offenders	3
MPA 729	Health Care Organization and Management	3
MPA 762	Health Care Administrative Law	3
MPA 773	Health Care Policy	3
Nursing 702	Health Care Systems Policy & Advocacy	3

¹ Courses highlighted in blue apply to the Health Care Practice concentration; courses highlighted in green apply to the

² Students may take no more than 3 credits from those courses that can be applied to either concentration

Course No.	Title	Credits
Nursing 703	Clinical Prevention and Population Health	3
Nursing 719	Roles in Advanced Nursing and Interprofessional Collaboration	3
Nursing 746	Quality Improvement & Safety	3
Nursing 748	Assessment and Evaluation Strategies in NE	3
Nursing 783	Healthcare Informatics	3
PRF CNSL 701	Theoretical Foundations of Counseling	3
PRF CNSL 725	Trauma and Crisis in Counseling	3
PRF CNSL 726	Wellness, Spirituality, and Mindfulness in Counseling	3
PRF CNSL 728	Grief Counseling	3
PRF CNSL 729	Community Counseling	3
PRF CNSL 730	Mental Health Counseling	3
PRF CNSL 731	Group Counseling Process	3
PRF CNSL 735	Counseling Children and Adolescents	3
PRF CNSL 735	Addictions in Counseling	3

Visit <http://www.uwosh.edu/socialwork> for updated information on MSW admissions and course offerings.

Part-time Advanced Standing:

Year 1 Fall semester	Year 2 Fall Semester
SW 731 Program Evaluation, Practice Outcomes and Evidence-based Practice (2 credits)	SW 729 Advanced Field (Through January Interim, 5 credits)
SW 728 Advanced Policy Practice (2 credits)	
SW 727 Psychopathology and Strengths-based Assessment (January Interim, 3 credits)	
Year 1 Spring semester	Year 2 Spring Semester
Elective (3 credits)	SW 733 Advanced Field (Through May Interim, 5 credits)
Advanced Practice Methods (SW 723/SW 724, 3 credits)	
SW 741 Qualitative Research Methods (May Interim, 2 credits)	
Year 1 Summer semester	
Elective (3 credits)	

Admission Requirements

The Program is particularly interested in applicants who want to develop expertise in the areas of health care and mental health care practice. Applicants should be comfortable with developing their expertise in working from a strengths-based perspective, with developing skills to work in both rural and metropolitan areas, and in working with clients from diverse cultures and circumstances. Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- A cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.75, with 3.0 in the last 60 credits of study;
- Have an academic background in the liberal arts and have completed a **minimum** of 18 credits in social sciences among courses in at least three of the following disciplines: psychology, sociology, anthropology, economics, and political science (BSW students meet the criterion);
- Submit a personal essay (see application for details);
- Three completed electronic reference questionnaires (including one academic reference);
- Demonstrate relevant professional work/volunteer experiences (see application for details);
- Have completed course work in: Biological Life Sciences, Statistics, Research Methods, and Life Span Development or submit plans for completing this work prior to taking the Advanced Curriculum in the

Program. Those with a BSW from an accredited program are considered to have met these criteria. At least two of these prerequisites must be completed before entering the program.

- Advanced standing, applicants are **required** to have graduated from an accredited baccalaureate social work program within the last eight years or have successfully completed the Foundation Curriculum at a CSWE accredited MSW program.
- Applicants who completed their degrees at foreign universities may be required to complete the TOEFL. For applicants who are Registered Aliens of the United States who have lived in the United States for more than one year or who have completed academic work in English, the TOEFL is not required. Registered Aliens who do not meet these criteria will enter the program on probation and give evidence of their English proficiency through satisfactory performance in their first-semester course work.
- The GRE is not required.

Applicants are also reminded that in keeping with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Accreditation Standard 3.1.5 (EPAS 2015) the Program does not grant social work course credit for life experience or previous work experience.