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Social work is a profession with a two-fold mission: to help people function as well as they can within their environment and to work for improved social conditions. Social workers are involved in providing services to people in such areas as education, health, mental health, housing, public welfare, counseling, services to the aging, care for the retarded, recreation, corrections and criminal justice, family services, child welfare services, services for the physically and mentally handicapped, vocational rehabilitation and the like. This includes services designed to protect, promote or restore the well-being of people. Both universal services and services for special-needs groups are included.

Social work is not only restorative in nature, responding to human problems after the fact; there is also a strong commitment towards preventive measures. An emphasis upon institutional change within society is predicated upon the principle that society has a responsibility to protect the most vulnerable groups in its midst from falling prey to damage and injury. This expresses itself in the central thrust of the social work profession towards social justice.

The origins of social work are rooted in the ancient human impulse of altruism, the desire to care for one another's needs. Social work became a profession around the beginning of the twentieth century through the efforts of social reformers to meet the needs of the poor, of neglected children and of exploited workers through the better organization of charities and the first "friendly visitors." Social workers led the fight for child labor laws, more humane industrial conditions, voting rights for women and other progressive causes.

Today, professional social work as described in a publication of the National Association of Social Workers, is a "dynamic, growing profession based on knowledge drawn from the social sciences and its own research and practice. It has a code of ethics, standards for practice, and a nationwide system of accredited educational programs designed to merge the impulse to help others with the skill and knowledge needed to provide that help."

"I stumbled into Social Work during the middle of my freshman year at the University of Kentucky. Call it luck, fate, or the hand of God. I'd like to think the latter myself. I have discovered during an impulsive visit to the Counseling and Testing Center in spring 2005 that I might want to consider social work based on my aptitude and interests. 'But isn't that where they take kids away from their homes?' I asked ignorantly. I really wanted to go into Psychology and counseling, but I took a leap of faith and switched from the science based Dietetics program to the person centered Social Work program, and I could not be happier. As it happened, Social Work is science based and validated through research. Social Work is psychology based, incorporating a curriculum surrounding understanding human behavior and theories driving interventions. Social Work envelops writing, counseling, teaching, advocating, mediating, policy making, law, and social justice under one umbrella of compassion and empathy. Whatever higher force it was that led me into the Social Work profession, I am forever grateful for I cannot imagine a profession in which I would be a happier person."

– Angela Seay
Class of 2008

Program Accreditation

Both the Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and the Master of Social Work degree programs are fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Licensing

Social work graduates are eligible for licensing from the State Board of Examiners of Social Work of Kentucky, PO Box 1360, Frankfort, KY 40602, as follows:

- BASW graduates for license as "social workers"
- MSW graduates for license as "certified social workers"

Undergraduate Program in Social Work

The University of Kentucky grants the following degree in the College of Social Work:

- Bachelor of Arts in Social Work

THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM OF EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL WORK

The undergraduate program in social work was inaugurated in 1944. Effective July 1, 1969, its administration was transferred from the College of Arts and Sciences to the newly established College of Social Professions, which is now the College of Social Work. Freshmen and transfer students who elect social work as a major should arrange to register in the College of Social Work. Each student will be assigned a member of the faculty of the

college as an advisor who will assist in the selection of appropriate courses and ensure that the requirements for the B.A. degree are met. Students who wish special information or a personal interview prior to registration may make an appointment through the Office of the Director of the Undergraduate Program of the College of Social Work.

The principal objective of the undergraduate program is to prepare students for beginning social work practice. Additionally, it prepares students for graduate professional education.

All social work majors have actual experience in the field under faculty direction. These experiences are provided in teaching-learning centers in a variety of agencies located in or adjacent to Lexington.

Courses in social work contribute to the liberal education of all students and help prepare them to be more effective citizens in a complex society in which welfare issues and programs are of increasing importance to everyone.

These courses may serve one or more of the following purposes:

1. To enrich and broaden the knowledge of social problems and social issues.
2. To help develop effective interpersonal relations.
3. To provide basic knowledge of social services to students who are preparing for careers in other helping professions (i.e., special education, rehabilitation, nursing, law, medicine).

Advising

Every student is assigned an academic advisor who assists them in preparing for registration each semester. Undergraduate advisors are assigned by the Director of the Undergraduate Program, 625 Patterson Office Tower, (859) 257-2350.

Undergraduate Admission Policy

Admission to the University of Kentucky is sufficient for admission to the College of Social Work as a premajor. Social work students receive academic advising from the College of Social Work faculty and must successfully complete the premajor course requirements before applying to the BASW degree program. The premajor course requirements are: (SW 124 and SW 222) or SW 322; an introductory psychology course; an introductory sociology course; and BIO 102 and BIO 103 or BIO 110.

An application must be filed with the College of Social Work in order for a student to be considered for admission as a major. In general, admission as a major depends upon the qualifications and preparation of the applicant, as well as the availability of resources for maintaining quality instruction.

Admission Criteria to the Bachelor of Arts in Social Work Degree Program

In order to be admitted to the BASW degree program as a major, applicants must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Admission to the University of Kentucky (students are considered for acceptance by the College only after acceptance by the University);
2. A grade of **B** or better in **both** SW 124 and SW 222, or equivalent (or a grade of **B** or better in SW 322);
3. Submission of an application form;
4. Minimum of a 2.5 cumulative grade-point average on all college work attempted as computed by the Registrar's Office;
5. Ability to articulate reasons for choosing social work as a career, as evidenced in an essay;
6. A passing grade in the introductory psychology course, sociology course, and in the required biology courses.

Applications for admission to the College of Social Work must be received by the Records Office of the College of Social Work no later than May 1 for summer sessions, August 1 for the fall semester, and December 1 for the spring semester.

Individuals who do not meet the admissions criteria may submit additional materials to the College's Admissions Committee. Admission may be granted if there is persuasive evidence of both the capability and motivation to undertake successfully the BASW degree program.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WORK

Degree Requirements

The College of Social Work requires students to earn a minimum of 120 hours for the B.A. in Social Work with a minimum grade-point average of 2.5. In addition, students must earn a grade of **C** or better in all professional social work core classes. Students may take additional hours in accordance with stated University policy.

In addition to fulfilling University Studies requirements, students must complete the program requirements listed below.

College Required Courses	Hours
SW 124 Introduction to Social Services and	
SW 222 Development of Social Welfare	6
or	
*SW 322 Social Work and Social Welfare	4
*For junior transfers only; substitutes for SW 124, SW 222.	

Subtotal: College Required Hours 4-6

University Studies Requirements

See "University Studies Program" on pages 80-84 for the complete University Studies requirements. The courses listed below are (a) recommended by the college, or (b) required courses that also fulfill University Studies areas. Students should work closely with their advisor to complete the University Studies Program requirements.

Inference-Logic	
STA 200 Statistics: A Force in Human Judgment	3
plus	
PHI 120 Introductory Logic	
or	
PHI 320 Symbolic Logic I	3

Oral Communication

Social work majors fulfill this requirement using courses in the Major Requirement.

Natural Sciences	
BIO 102 Human Ecology	3
BIO 103 Basic Ideas of Biology	3

Graduation Writing Requirement

SW 470, required in the Major Requirements, fulfills the Graduation Writing Requirement.

Graduation Writing Requirement Hours: .. 3

Premajor Requirements Hours

Anthropology	
Three hours, normally chosen from the following:	
ANT 220 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3
ANT 333 Contemporary Human Variation	3

Biology

Three or six hours:	
*BIO 102 Human Ecology and	
*BIO 103 Basic Ideas of Biology	6
or	
BIO 110 Introduction to Human Biology and Health	3

Economics

Three hours, normally:	
*ECO 101 Contemporary Economic Issues	3

Political Science

Three hours, normally chosen from the following:	
*PS 101 American Government	3
PS 240 Introduction to Political Theory	3
PS 245 Introduction to Political Analysis	3
PS 458 State Government	3

Psychology

Three or four hours, normally chosen from the following:	
*PSY 100 Introduction to Psychology	4
PSY 223 Developmental Psychology	3

Sociology

Three hours:	
*SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology	3

Statistics

Three hours:	
STA 292 Descriptive Statistics and	
STA 293 Probability and	
STA 294 Sampling and Inference	3
or	
*STA 200 Statistics: A Force in Human Judgment	3
or	
STA 291 Statistical Method	3
*These courses may also be used to fulfill University Studies requirements.	

Subtotal: Premajor Hours 21-25

Major Requirements Hours

SW 300 Social Work Practice I	4
SW 400 Social Work Practice II	4
SW 420 Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SW 430 Social Welfare Policy: Theory and Implementation	3
SW 435 Foundations of Professional Ethics in Social Work	2
SW 444 Educational Practicum I	5
SW 445 Educational Practicum II	8
SW 450 Social Work Research	4
SW 470 Senior Seminar	3

NOTE: Students must earn a grade of **C** or better in all Major Requirements courses.

Subtotal: Major Hours 36

Social and Behavioral Sciences and Social Work Electives

Students must complete 15 hours of upper-division courses from any of the following: anthropology, economics, family studies, political science, psychology, social work, sociology.

Subtotal: Related Electives 15

Electives

Students must complete at least six hours of upper-division free elective courses and enough lower-division elective hours to lead to the minimum total of 120 hours required for graduation.

Subtotal: Free Electives minimum of 6

TOTAL HOURS: 120

Probation, Dismissal and Reinstatement Policy

An undergraduate social work major or graduate student may be dismissed from the College of Social Work for failure to make satisfactory progress. In the Social Work program, the college continuously monitors the progress of all social work students. Consistent with University regulations and the CSWE requirements that social work programs have policies for "terminating a student's enrollment . . . for reasons of academic and professional performance," the following rules apply in the College of Social Work.

Academic Performance

For students accepted to the Bachelor of Arts in Social Work (BASW) program, the rules for academic probation, dismissal and reinstatement are comparable to those established by the University for undergraduate colleges and also include criteria for student performance in required social work courses:

a. A student must earn a **C** or better in all social work core courses (SW 300, SW 420, SW 400, SW 430, SW 444, SW 445, SW 450, SW 470) in order to complete the major requirements and advance through sequential social work courses. A grade lower than a **C** will require the student to repeat that course and obtain a **C** or better to meet major requirements.

b. Any student who fails to maintain a cumulative UK GPA of 2.5 shall be placed on academic probation within the College of Social Work.

c. A student can be removed from academic probation when a cumulative GPA of 2.5 is obtained.

d. A student shall be dismissed from the College who fails to achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher within two consecutive semesters of being placed on probation or fails to earn a term GPA of 2.5 or higher for any two consecutive semesters following his/her placement on academic probation.

e. A student who earns a term GPA of 2.5 or higher for each semester following placement on probation will continue in probationary status until a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher is obtained.

f. A student may not graduate from the College of Social Work while on academic probation.

g. Students who are on academic probation within the College of Social Work may transfer to other colleges or departments provided the students meet eligibility criteria.

h. A student who has been dismissed from the College for academic reasons and has remained outside the program for at least a semester and a summer session may petition for reinstatement. Petition for reinstatement is to be made in writing to the Dean and shall include a written statement by the student specifying why he/she should be considered for reinstatement. After consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies and other faculty as appropriate, the Dean may choose to accept or deny the petition. The Dean may require that the student agree to certain conditions in order to be reinstated (i.e. take additional course work, complete a writing class, obtain tutoring, etc.). The Dean shall inform the student in writing that he/she has been reinstated or reasons for denial of the petition for reinstatement. No student will be readmitted to the College via reinstatement request more than twice.

i. A student who has been dismissed for academic reasons and reinstated shall, upon reinstatement, be placed on academic probation and be subject to the academic performance expectations outlined in this policy.

COURSES FOR NONMAJORS

Students from other departments are eligible to take certain social work courses offered to enrich the content of their basic major and/or to increase their knowledge and understanding of the society of which they are a part. They may take SW 124, Introduction to Social Services; SW 222, Development of Social Welfare; SW 322, Social Work and Social Welfare; and elective social work courses.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The College of Social Work offers graduate curricula leading to the Master of Social Work degree and to the Ph.D. in Social Work. The Ph.D. program is offered jointly with the University of Louisville. An MSW is a prerequisite to Ph.D. admission.

Master's applicants holding the baccalaureate degree in social work may be eligible for the 38-credit advanced standing option. Others will be considered for the regular 60-credit MSW program.

For further information, see *The Graduate School Bulletin* or the *College of Social Work Bulletin*.