

# Social Work, M.S.W.

The Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) program prepares graduates to work with individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations within medical and behavioral health settings, with a special focus on military populations. The Master of Social Work program at UWF develops advanced practitioners who can demonstrate clinical and critical thinking skills necessary to assist clients in a broad range of dilemmas and settings. Guided by a diverse faculty, the department is committed to promoting human rights, social and economic justice, and respect for diversity to improve the lives of the individuals and communities we serve.

The M.S.W. program at the University of West Florida is a clinical program that is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The UWF M.S.W. program is designed to meet the needs of students who wish to pursue clinical social work licensure.

The Department of Social Work has two different options for earning the M.S.W. graduate degree. The Traditional M.S.W. program involves the completion of 60 semester hours of graduate coursework and is intended for students who have earned an undergraduate degree in a field other than social work. The Advanced Standing M.S.W. program requires 30 semester hours of graduate coursework and is intended for students who have obtained a baccalaureate degree in social work from a CSWE accredited program. All coursework should be completed within a maximum of four years.

## Admission Requirements

In addition to the University graduate admission requirements described in the [Admissions section](#) of the catalog, the department bases decisions for regular admission on a holistic review of credentials in which the following criteria are used to assess the potential success of each applicant:

### University Requirements

- Submission of a graduate application and processing fee.
- Submission of Official transcripts.
- *International students may have additional requirements.*

### Departmental Requirements

- Submission of one of the following graduate admission tests<sup>†</sup>:
  - Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Verbal and Quantitative score
  - Miller Analogies Test (MAT)
- Minimum undergraduate institutional GPA of 3.0 is recommended.
- Academic preparation as demonstrated by quality and relevance of undergraduate degree major.
- Submission of a personal statement using the required [Social Work Personal Statement Form](#).
- Submission of three letter of recommendation forms from individuals familiar with the applicant's ability to succeed in a graduate program (Advanced Standing applicants must include one recommendation form from a supervisor who provided supervision during their undergraduate field experience).
- Applicants residing outside of a 60-mile radius of campus must submit the contact information for three potential field placement sites.

- Submission of the [MSW Criminal History Form](#).
- Submission of a professional resume.

**\*The graduate admission test will be waived for the following:**

- Applicants who have an institutional undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher.

## Degree Requirements

A grade of 'B-' or better is required in all social work courses in order for them to count toward the degree, and students must maintain an institutional GPA of 3.0 or higher.

## Program Dismissal

Dismissal from the program may occur in the following instances:

- Failure to maintain the academic and professional standards specified in the Student Handbook and Field Manual.

## Social Work - Traditional Program

The Traditional MSW Program is 60 semester hours (sh) and intended for students with an undergraduate degree in a field other than social work. The first 30 sh of the Traditional MSW Program is considered the foundation year curriculum. It includes a professional core (21 sh), two electives (6 sh), and a generalist practice foundation field experience (3 sh). Students complete 300 hours generalist practice foundation field experience in one agency over the course of one semester during the foundation year.

Students begin the concentration curriculum upon completion of the foundation curriculum. The concentration consists of 30 semester hours (sh). The concentration year of the program includes a professional core (18 sh), two electives (6 sh), and two field placements (6 sh). Students complete 600 hours of advanced clinical field experience in one agency over the course of two semesters.

## Degree Requirements

A grade of 'B-' or better is required in all social work courses in order for them to count toward the degree, and students must maintain an institutional GPA of 3.0 or higher.

## Program Dismissal

Dismissal from the program may occur in the following instances:

- Failure to maintain the academic and professional standards specified in the Student Handbook and Field Manual.

## Foundation Curriculum

SOW 5105	Human Behavior in the Social Environment <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 5106	Social Work Practice in Communities and Organizations <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 5218	Social Work and Social Policy <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 5305	Generalist Practice <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 5404	Research Foundations and Methods <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 5532	Foundation Year Field Instruction and Integrative Seminar <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 5629	Theories and Applications of Structural Social Work <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 5757	The History and Philosophy of Social Work <sup>+,*</sup>	3
Choose 2 Social Work Electives:		6
SOW 5128	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy <sup>+</sup>	

SOW 5149	Social Work Practice In The Military <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 5356	Play Therapy: Theory and Techniques <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 5605	Social Work Practice in Integrated Healthcare <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 5710	Substance Use Treatment: Theories, Practices, and Policies <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 6345	Social Work Leadership, Management and Supervision <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 6678	Grief, Loss, and Life <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 6916	Mind/Body Practice and Positive Psychology <sup>+</sup>	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

+ A grade of 'B-' or better is required to count towards the degree.

\* First semester course requirement for the foundation curriculum.

### Concentration Curriculum

SOW 6125	Psychopathology <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6432	Evaluation Research in Social Work <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6535	Advanced Year Field Instruction and Integrative Seminar I <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6536	Advanced Year Field Instruction and Integrative Seminar II <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6548	Capstone in Advanced Clinical Practice <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6618	Clinical Practice with Individuals <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6619	Clinical Practice with Families <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6846	Clinical Practice with Groups <sup>+</sup>	3
Choose 2 Social Work Electives:		6
SOW 5128	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 5356	Play Therapy: Theory and Techniques <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 5605	Social Work Practice in Integrated Healthcare <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 5710	Substance Use Treatment: Theories, Practices, and Policies <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 6345	Social Work Leadership, Management and Supervision <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 6678	Grief, Loss, and Life <sup>+</sup>	
SOW 6916	Mind/Body Practice and Positive Psychology <sup>+</sup>	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

+ A grade of 'B-' or better is required to count towards the degree.

## Social Work - Advanced Standing Program

The Advanced Standing program is 30 semester hours (sh) and is designed for students who have earned a baccalaureate degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program. The Advanced Standing program is comprised of the concentration curriculum and includes a professional core (18 sh), two electives (6 sh), and two field placements (6 sh). Students complete 600 hours of clinical field experience in one agency over the course of two semesters.

## Additional Advanced Standing Admission Requirements

Only graduates of baccalaureate social work programs accredited by CSWE are eligible for advanced standing admission. In addition to the university and departmental requirements, advanced standing applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must possess an undergraduate degree **in social work from a CSWE-accredited program.**
- Submit a copy of their final field evaluation (only required for applicants who received their undergraduate degree from an institution other than UWF).

## Degree Requirements

A grade of 'B-' or better is required in all social work courses in order for them to count toward the degree, and students must maintain an institutional GPA of 3.0 or higher.

## Academic Suspension

The MSW will follow the UWF policy for academic probation and suspension, as found in the UWF catalog. Students will only be allowed to move to advanced clinical (2nd year) coursework when students are in good academic standing (not on probation or suspension).

## Professional Standards Dismissal

Failure to maintain the professional standards specified in the Social Work Department Student Handbook and Field Manual may result in dismissal from the program.

### Advanced Curriculum

SOW 6125	Psychopathology <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6432	Evaluation Research in Social Work <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6535	Advanced Year Field Instruction and Integrative Seminar I <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6536	Advanced Year Field Instruction and Integrative Seminar II <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6548	Capstone in Advanced Clinical Practice <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6618	Clinical Practice with Individuals <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6619	Clinical Practice with Families <sup>+</sup>	3
SOW 6846	Clinical Practice with Groups <sup>+</sup>	3
Choose 2 Social Work Electives		6
SOW 5128	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	
SOW 5356	Play Therapy: Theory and Techniques	
SOW 5605	Social Work Practice in Integrated Healthcare	
SOW 5710	Substance Use Treatment: Theories, Practices, and Policies	
SOW 6345	Social Work Leadership, Management and Supervision	
SOW 6678	Grief, Loss, and Life	
SOW 6916	Mind/Body Practice and Positive Psychology	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

+ A grade of 'B-' or better is required to count towards the degree.

\* This is a required first semester course.