

Social Work

In the College of Health and Human Services

OFFICE: Hepner Hall 119
TELEPHONE: (619) 594-6865

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Faculty

Melinda M. Hohman, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work,
Director of School
Jong Won Min, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work,
Associate Director of School
David W. Engstrom, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work
Mario D. Garrett, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work
Loring P. Jones, D.S.W., Professor of Social Work
Sally G. Mathiesen, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work
Thomas R. Packard, D.S.W., Professor of Social Work, Emeritus
Mark B. Reed, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work
Susan I. Woodruff, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work
Maria L. Zuniga, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work
Daniel J. Finnegan, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Social Work,
Emeritus
Eunjeong Ko, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Social Work
(Graduate Adviser)
Lucinda A. Rasmussen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Social Work
Yawen Li, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Social Work
Ijeoma Nwabuzor Ogbonnaya, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of
Social Work
Margarita Villagrana, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Social Work

Admission to Graduate Study

Students applying for admission should electronically submit the university application available at <http://www.calstate.edu/apply> along with the \$55 application fee.

All applicants must submit admissions materials separately to SDSU Graduate Admissions and to the School of Social Work.

Graduate Admissions

The following materials should be submitted as a complete package directly to:

Graduate Admissions
Enrollment Services
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-7416

- (1) Official transcripts (in sealed envelopes or electronically) from all postsecondary institutions attended;

NOTE:

- Students who attended SDSU need only submit transcripts for work completed since last attendance.
- Students with international coursework must submit both the official transcript and proof of degree. If documents are in a language other than English, they must be accompanied by a certified English translation.

- (2) GRE scores (<http://www.ets.org> SDSU institution code 4682);
- (3) English language score, if medium of instruction was in a language other than English (<http://www.ets.org> SDSU institution code 4682).

Master of Social Work Degree

The following admissions materials must be submitted electronically via DecisionDesk, <http://gra.sdsu.edu/decisiondesk/>:

- (1) Department application;
- (2) Letters of recommendation;
- (3) Personal statement.

Master of Social Work Degree and Juris Doctor Degree

The following admissions materials must be submitted electronically via DecisionDesk, <http://gra.sdsu.edu/decisiondesk/>:

- (1) Department application;
- (2) Letters of recommendation;
- (3) Personal statement;
- (4) Contact the Office of Admissions at California Western School of Law at 619-525-1463 for a separate application.

Master of Social Work Degree and Master of Public Health Degree

The following admissions materials must be submitted electronically via DecisionDesk, <http://gra.sdsu.edu/decisiondesk/>:

- (1) Department application;
- (2) Personal statement;
- (3) Three letters of recommendation.

Students must also complete the SOPHAS application found on the public health website at <https://publichealth.sdsu.edu/programs/mph/admissions-mph-ms>. Applications for the concurrent program are reviewed by the Graduate School of Public Health and School of Social Work.

Section I.

Master's Degree Programs

Master of Social Work Degree

General Information

The School of Social Work offers a 38-60 unit accredited graduate program leading to a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. Coursework is typically completed in one to four years. The program qualifies students to apply for the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) certification process by the Board of Behavioral Science Examiners of the State of California. The School of Social Work provides an ongoing assessment of learning outcomes for its program at <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu/degrees-programs/outcomes-assessment>.

Students may earn the Master of Social Work degree in one of two ways described below. Students who have earned an undergraduate social work degree from an accredited university may be eligible to complete the requirements for the Master of Social Work degree via the 38 unit advanced standing program. All other students are required to complete the standard 60 units Master of Social Work program.

The Master of Social Work degree prepares advanced practitioners in specialized areas of direct practice or administration/community development. Students will be well-grounded in the values and ethics of the profession; have multiple competencies that can be used in a wide variety of settings, with systems of various sizes and with diverse and vulnerable populations; able to critically examine issues of economic, environmental, and social justice and committed to the realization of human rights; utilize research evidence in practice decision making; committed to lifelong professional development; and prepared to be leaders in the profession. Special emphasis is currently given to those human needs that relate to the continuum of health care and well-being, families in transition, and social/environmental factors that create stress as it relates to individuals and groups in the home, workplace, and community.

The school is extensively involved in local, state, and national human service issues through individual faculty research and community intervention programs. In addition, the school has made commitments in the area of chemical dependency research and practice through the Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Studies and policy research and intervention through the Social Policy Institute.

Admission to the Degree Curriculum

General Admission Requirements

All applicants must file two separate applications: one to the Office of Enrollment Services to include transcripts, GRE scores, and English language scores if applicable, and one to the School of Social Work. The School of Social Work will not consider any applicant who has not filed both required applications. Specific university admission requirements and procedures are outlined in Part Two of this bulletin. Specific School of Social Work requirements and procedures are outlined in the admissions packet as well as on the School of Social Work website at <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu>.

Please be advised that the school does not accept life/work experience in lieu of any course requirements. The school does not accept transfer credit based on life/work experience. Students will have to retake any courses for which life/work experience was counted.

In addition to the regular application material, the university requires all applicants to take the Graduate Record Examination for admission. Scores must be reported to both the university and the School of Social Work. Applicants will not be reviewed by the school unless GRE scores are on file. Applicants must have taken and successfully passed one course in statistics and a liberal arts foundation at the undergraduate or graduate level.

The school cannot accept any student into the program until the university has accepted them into graduate study. For this reason, we urge interested students to submit both applications as early as possible.

Advanced Standing Program Admission Requirements

The School of Social Work admits new students to the advanced standing program only in the summer each academic year. Application deadlines are posted on the School of Social Work website at <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu>.

Students admitted to the advanced standing program must possess an undergraduate degree in social work that was earned within five years of admission to the advanced standing program. The undergraduate degree must come from a program that is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and the cumulative GPA for social work courses taken must be at least 3.0 (B or better).

Students not admitted to the advanced standing program may be considered for admission to the standard 60 unit program.

Standard 60 Unit Master of Social Work Admission Requirements

The School of Social Work admits new students to the standard 60 unit Master of Social Work program only in the fall of each academic year. Application deadlines are posted on the School of Social Work website at <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu>. Students currently enrolled or on leave of absence from CSWE accredited schools of social work are considered transfer students and can apply to the program for either fall or spring admission.

Advancement to Candidacy

Advanced Standing Program

All students must meet the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Four of this bulletin. In addition, the student must (1) have satisfactorily completed the six unit foundation bridge courses (SWORK 670 and 671) with a minimum grade of B; (2) have earned at least 15 units of post-baccalaureate study with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (B) and received a grade of satisfactory progress (SP) or credit (Cr) in four units of SWORK 750 or 755; (3) have no incomplete grades; (4) be recommended by the faculty of the School of Social Work; (5) be approved for advancement by the Division of Graduate Affairs.

Standard 60 Unit Master of Social Work Program

All students must meet the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Four of this bulletin. In addition, the student must (1) have earned at least 28 units of post-baccalaureate study with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (B) and received credit (Cr) in field practicum; (2) have no incomplete grades; (3) be

recommended by the faculty of the School of Social Work; (4) be approved for advancement by the Division of Graduate Affairs; (5) successfully pass a written qualifying examination given during the spring semester in which the student completes 31 units of 600-level coursework.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Social Work Degree

(Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558201)

Advanced Standing Program

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master's degree in Part Four of this bulletin, the student must complete an officially approved 38 unit course of study to include:

1. Six units in generalist/foundation bridge courses (SWORK 670 and 671);
2. Three units of computer applications for social work (SWORK 610);
3. 29 units of advanced study, to include:
 - a. 3 units of advanced social policy (SWORK 702);
 - b. 0-3 units of advanced human behavior (SWORK 720);
 - c. 3 units of advanced research methods (SWORK 791 or 797);
 - d. 6-9 units of social work electives (SWORK 758, 780, 781, 798, 799A);
 - e. 14 units from one of the following social work methods focus areas (Administration and Community Development or Direct Practice).

Administration and Community Development

(Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558210)

- SWORK 720 Seminar in Selected Topics in Human Behavior and Social Environment: Civic Engagement and Society Environments (3)
- SWORK 740/ GERO 740 Advanced Seminar in Administration and Community Development in Social Work and Gerontology (3)
- SWORK 755 Advanced Field Practicum: Social Work Administration and Community Development (4) Cr/NC/RP (Taken twice)

Direct Practice

(Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558207)

- SWORK 739 Advanced Seminar in Social Work Practice with Families (3)
- SWORK 744 Advanced Seminar in Selected Topics in Direct Practice Social Work (3)
- SWORK 750 Advanced Field Practicum: Direct Practice Social Work (4) Cr/NC/RP (Taken twice)

In addition to the above courses, students must complete either a Thesis (Plan A) or a comprehensive written examination (Plan B). Students completing Plan A may count Social Work 799A as three units of elective.

At least 30 units of the program must be completed in residence at San Diego State University. A maximum of six units is transferable from another accredited graduate program in social work.

Six units of elective credit may be taken from other schools or departments within the university with the consent of the graduate adviser. See student handbook for specific elective policies. To receive the degree, students must earn a 3.0 (B) grade point average in academic courses and demonstrate professional competence for required practicum (Cr for all semesters).

In addition, the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics represents the professional standards of the MSW program. The NASW Code of Ethics is available in the student handbook. All students are expected to know and adhere to its principles of professional conduct. Students who knowingly or unknowingly violate any part of the ethical code may be dismissed from the program without further qualification regardless of coursework, research, or other academic achievement.

**Standard 60 Unit Master of Social Work Program
or 63 Unit Master of Social Work Program with
Early Childhood Transdisciplinary Education and Mental Health
(EC-TEaMH) Certificate**

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master's degree in Part Four of this bulletin, the student must complete an officially approved 60 unit course of study (63 units for EC-TEaMH focus) to include:

1. 28 units in generalist/foundation bridge courses (SWORK 601, 619, 620A, 630, 631, 632, 650, 690 [or GERO 690]);
2. Three units of computer applications for social work (SWORK 610);
3. 29 units of advanced study (or 32 units for EC-TEaMH focus), to include:
 - a. 3 units of advanced social policy (SWORK 702);
 - b. 0-6 units of advanced human behavior (SWORK 720); or (CFD 670 and 671 for EC-TEaMH focus);
 - c. 3 units of advanced research methods (SWORK 791 or 797);
 - d. 6-9 units of social work electives (SWORK 758, 780, 781, 798, 799A), or (CSP 623 and SPED 676 for EC-TEaMH focus);
 - e. 14 units from one of the following social work methods focus areas (Administration and Community Development or Direct Practice or Direct Practice/ EC-TEaMH):

**Administration and Community Development
(Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558211)**

- SWORK 720 Seminar in Selected Topics in Human Behavior and Social Environment: Civic Engagement and Society Environments (3)
- SWORK 740/ GERO 740 Advanced Seminar in Administration and Community Development in Social Work and Gerontology (3)
- SWORK 755 Advanced Field Practicum: Social Work Administration and Community Development (4) Cr/NC/RP (Taken twice)

Direct Practice

(Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558205)

- SWORK 739 Advanced Seminar in Social Work Practice with Families (3)
- SWORK 744 Advanced Seminar in Selected Topics in Direct Practice Social Work (3)
- SWORK 750 Advanced Field Practicum: Direct Practice Social Work (4) Cr/NC/RP (Taken twice)

Direct Practice/EC-TEaMH

(Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558212)

- SWORK 739 Advanced Seminar in Social Work Practice with Families (3)
- SWORK 744 Advanced Seminar in Selected Topics in Direct Practice Social Work (3)
- SWORK 798 Special Study (2) Cr/NC/RP
- CFD 697 Advanced Field Experiences (6) Cr/NC

In addition to the above courses, students must complete either a Thesis (Plan A) or a comprehensive written examination (Plan B). Students completing Plan A may count Social Work 799A as three units of elective.

At least 30 units of the program must be completed in residence at San Diego State University. A maximum of 30 units is transferable from another accredited graduate program in social work.

Six units of elective credit may be taken from other schools or departments within the university with the consent of the graduate adviser. See student handbook for specific elective policies. To

receive the degree, students must earn a 3.0 (B) grade point average in academic courses and demonstrate professional competence for required practicum (Cr for all semesters).

In addition, the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics represents the professional standards of the MSW program. The NASW Code of Ethics is available in the student handbook. All students are expected to know and adhere to its principles of professional conduct. Students who knowingly or unknowingly violate any part of the ethical code may be dismissed from the program without further qualification regardless of coursework, research, or other academic achievement.

Student Handbook

The School of Social Work has a student handbook for graduate students containing policies and procedures not specified in this bulletin in addition to information to aid students in completing the MSW degree program. Students are responsible for the handbook on the Social Work homepage <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu>.

Program of Study

Advanced Standing Program

The first nine units of the advanced standing program taken during the summer semester are organized around the generalist/foundation of social work practice. The final 29 units commencing in the fall are organized around a methods focus area. Students will select one of the methods focus areas.

**Standard 60 Unit Master of Social Work Program or
63 Unit Master of Social Work Program with Early Childhood
Transdisciplinary Education and Mental Health
(EC-TEaMH) Certificate**

The standard 60 unit Master of Social Work program or 63 unit Master of Social Work program with Early Childhood Transdisciplinary Education and Mental Health (EC-TEaMH) certificate is organized in the first year around the generalist/foundation courses. The second year program is organized around a methods focus area. Students will select one of the methods focus areas described below during the semester before beginning the second year of the program.

Methods Focus Areas

Direct Practice Social Work

Focus is on interpersonal relationships and social functioning with emphasis on appropriate intervention methods used primarily with individuals, families, and groups. Emphasis is placed on a problem-solving framework that utilizes assessment/diagnosis, intervention/treatment and evaluative skills.

Social Work Administration and Community Development

Focus is on designing and managing human service organizations, engaging communities, forming partnerships, building institutional relationships, and enhancing social capital. Areas of emphasis include Administration (financial management, information systems, leadership, organizational change, supervision) or Community Development (community organizing, neighborhood improvement and problem solving, international social work, immigration issues). Electives must be approved by the adviser.

**Direct Practice Social Work/Early Childhood
Transdisciplinary Education and Mental Health
(EC-TEaMH) Certificate**

This focus area prepares MSW students to work with young children (ages 0-5) in the mental health field. In addition to the MSW, this focus area meets the requirements of the EC-TEaMH certificate that models the California Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Training Guidelines and Personnel Competencies. Like the Direct Practice focus, emphasis is placed on a problem-solving framework that utilizes assessment/diagnosis, intervention/treatment, and evaluative skills.

Field of Service

In addition to the methods focus of the program of study, the curriculum provides students the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills in a specialized field of service while meeting their advanced human behavior, advanced social policy, advanced field practicum, and elective requirements. Students, with guidance from the graduate adviser and a faculty member serving as a professional mentor, select coursework that address their specific educational and career goals. Based on the current strengths of the school's faculty, students can use their coursework and their field practicum to develop specialized knowledge in the areas of child welfare, family services, mental health, aging, substance abuse, and health. In addition, students may use thesis research to extend their knowledge in one of these areas.

Master of Social Work Degree and Juris Doctor Degree

General Information

The School of Social Work and the California Western School of Law offer a four-year concurrent graduate program which allows students to earn simultaneously a Master of Social Work and a Juris Doctor (JD) degree in law. The objective of the concurrent degrees program is to prepare students who are competent in advanced practice where social work and law converge.

Admission to the Degree Curriculum

To request application materials for the concurrent dual degrees program in social work and law, applicants should contact the Office of Admissions at the School of Social Work, San Diego State University, and the Office of Admissions at California Western School of Law. Two separate application processes must be followed. Please see the Admission to Graduate Study section in this bulletin under the Master of Social Work degree program. (The only difference is that students earning the two degrees simultaneously may substitute the results of the LSAT examination for the GRE examination.) Applicants should indicate on the appropriate section of each application that they are applying for the concurrent dual degrees MSW/JD program.

Advancement to Candidacy

All students must meet the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Four of this bulletin. In addition, students must also meet all criteria outlined under the Advancement to Candidacy section for the Master of Social Work program.

Specific Requirements for the MSW/JD Concurrent Degree Program

(Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558280)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master's degree as described in Part Four of this bulletin and all the requirements listed in the California Western School of Law catalog for the JD degree, the student must complete an officially approved course of study as outlined below.

School of Social Work

(60 Units—Including six units transferred from California Western School of Law)

1. Twenty-eight units in generalist/foundation courses (SWORK 601, 619, 620A, 630, 631, 632, 650, 690 [or GERO 690]);
2. Twenty-nine units of advanced study, to include:
 - a. Three units of advanced social policy (SWORK 702);
 - b. Zero to three units of advanced human behavior (SWORK 720);
 - c. Three units of advanced research methods (SWORK 797);
 - d. Six to nine units of social work electives (SWORK 745, 758, 780, 781, 798, 799A);
 - e. Six units of electives transferred from California Western School of Law courses);
 - f. Fourteen units from one of the following social work methods focus areas (Administration and Community Development or Direct Practice).

Administration and Community Development (Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558209)

- SWORK 720 Seminar in Selected Topics in Human Behavior and Social Environment: Civic Engagement and Society Environments (3)
- SWORK 740/ GERO 740 Advanced Seminar in Administration and Community Development in Social Work and Gerontology (3)
- SWORK 755 Advanced Field Practicum: Social Work Administration and Community Development (4) Cr/NC/RP (taken twice)

Direct Practice

(Major Code: 21041) (SIMS Code: 558208)

- SWORK 739 Advanced Seminar in Social Work Practice with Families (3)
- SWORK 744 Advanced Seminar in Selected Topics in Direct Practice Social Work (3)
- SWORK 750 Advanced Field Practicum: Direct Practice Social Work (4) Cr/NC/RP (taken twice)

In addition to the above courses, students must complete either a thesis (Plan A) or a comprehensive written examination (Plan B). Students completing Plan A may count Social Work 799A as three units of electives.

California Western School of Law

(89 Units—Including 12 units transferred from the School of Social Work)

- Civil Procedures I and II (6)
- Contracts I and II (6)
- Criminal Law I (3)
- Legal Skills I and II (4)
- Property I and II (6)
- Torts I and II (6)
- Constitutional Law II (3)
- Criminal Procedure I (3)
- Evidence (4)
- Professional Responsibility (2)
- Interdisciplinary Program for Child Abuse and Neglect (6)
- Independent Study (3)
- Internship (5)
- Electives: 32 units (includes 12 units from SDSU)

The specific sequence of courses over the four year period is listed in the admissions material. Students attend the schools in the following pattern:

- Year 1 California Western School of Law only
- Year 2 San Diego State University School of Social Work only
- Year 3 (Fall) Both Schools
- Year 3 (Spring) California Western School of Law only
- Year 4 Both Schools

Master of Social Work Degree and Master of Public Health Degree

General Information

The School of Social Work and the Graduate School of Public Health offer a three year concurrent graduate program leading to a Master of Social Work and a Master of Public Health. The objective of the concurrent program is to offer preparation in the fields of public health and social work. Students in this concurrent program must select the social work administration methods focus area.

Admission to the Degree Curriculum

Applicants should refer to the admission to master's and doctoral study section for application instructions. In order to be considered for the concurrent MSW/MPH program, applicants must meet the general requirements for admission to graduate study at the university (see Part Four of this bulletin).

Applicants must have a minimum 2.85 grade point average in the last 60 semester or 90 quarter units in undergraduate work completed. Undergraduate preparation in at least one of the following areas is preferred: social work, social or behavioral sciences, or health science. Applicants must have a satisfactory score on the GRE General Test.

Applicants already holding another master's degree or higher degree from an acceptable accredited graduate school are exempt from the GRE (see Part Four of this bulletin).

A committee composed of faculty from Social Work and Public Health will make all admission recommendations to the dean of the Division of Graduate Affairs.

Advancement to Candidacy

All students must meet the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Four of this bulletin. All core courses in public health and social work must be completed prior to advancement. In addition, the student must: (1) have earned at least 24 units of graduate study within the concurrent program with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and no grade less than a B- in each core course; (2) have been recommended for advancement by the combined faculty advisory committee; received credit (Cr) in field practicum; (3) have a thesis proposal approved by the combined faculty advisory committee.

Upon advancement to candidacy, the student will enroll in Social Work 797 (Research), Public Health 797 (Research), and Social Work 799A (Thesis) or Public Health 799A (Thesis). A thesis (Plan A) incorporating theory, method, and analytic techniques from both disciplines is the culminating experience for the concurrent program leading to the MSW and MPH degrees.

Specific Requirements for the MSW/MPH Degree (Major Code: 12991) (SIMS Code: 998210)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master's degree as described in Part Four of this bulletin, the student must complete an officially approved course of study of not less than 93 units as outlined below.

Social Work/Public Health-Health Management and Policy (SIMS Code: 998221)

SWORK 601	Seminar in Social Welfare Policy and Services (3)
SWORK 619	Human Behavior in the Social Environment (3)
SWORK 620A	Seminar in Human Behavior and Social Environment: Direct Practice (3)
SWORK 630	Social Work Practice: A Generalist Perspective (3)
SWORK 631	Social Work Practice: Individuals, Families, and Groups (3)
SWORK 632	Social Work and Gerontology: Organizations and Communities (3)
SWORK 650*	Field Practicum (7) Cr/NC
SWORK 690/ GERO 690	Seminar in Research Methods for Social Work and Gerontology (3)
SWORK 720	Seminar in Selected Topics in Human Behavior and Social Environment (3)
SWORK 740/ GERO 740	Advanced Seminar in Administration and Community Development in Social Work and Gerontology (3)
SWORK 755*	Advanced Field Practicum: Social Work Administration and Community Development (8) Cr/NC/RP
SWORK 797	Research (3) Cr/NC/RP
P H 601	Epidemiology (3)
P H 602	Biostatistics (3)
P H 604	Environmental Determinants of Human Health (3)
P H 641	Introduction to Health Services (3)
P H 644A	Health Services Organization Management (3)
P H 644B	Managing High-Performing Health Care Organization (3)
P H 645	Health Economics (3)
P H 647	Quantitative Methods and Health Data Analysis (3)
P H 648	Health Policy (3)
P H 742A	Health Services Financial Management (3)
P H 742B	Health Insurance and Financing Systems (3)
P H 747	Quality Improvement and Program Evaluation (3)
P H 748	Health Services Competitive Strategy and Marketing (3)
P H 797	Research (3) Cr/NC/RP
P H 799A or SWORK 799A	Thesis (3) Cr/NC/RP

Electives: Three units of social work electives - recommended:
SWORK 745 Advanced Seminar in Selected Topics in Social Work Administration (3)

Transfer units will not be accepted toward the concurrent MSW/MPH degree program. Graduate study or degrees obtained previously will not be accepted toward meeting the unit requirements of the concurrent MSW/MPH degree program.

If a student, after entering the concurrent MSW/MPH program returns to a single degree program, all of the requirements for the single degree program must then be met.

* Social Work 650 and 755 must have the approval of the faculty advisory committee. Responsibility for faculty field supervision will be assigned in social work.

Section II.

Doctoral Program

<http://socialwork.sdsu.edu/degrees-programs/graduate-programs/phd-substance-use-studies>

Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Interdisciplinary Research on Substance Use

General Information

The School of Social Work at San Diego State University and the Division of Global Public Health at the University of California, San Diego, offer a joint doctoral program in interdisciplinary research on substance use. This program is designed to prepare the next generation of leaders in substance use research with the knowledge and skills to advance evidence-based and applied substance use interventions, policies, and programs.

The program focuses on interdisciplinary approaches to address the use and misuse of substances and the social and health consequences of such use and related policies. Interdisciplinary training opportunities draw from a variety of disciplines including anthropology, economics, global health, Latin American studies, neuroscience, pharmacology, political science, public health, and social work. The program will include a prevention research orientation focusing on the development and evaluation of disease prevention and health promotion recommendations and public health policies and programs. A harm reduction research perspective is also emphasized to reduce negative consequences associated with drug use and co-occurring disorders. Students acquire advanced skills and knowledge in these areas, building on a solid foundation of current and emerging theory, research methods, and analytic approaches related to scientific and cultural understanding of substance use and related problems. Using a socio-ecological perspective, students will gain critical understanding of the etiology and epidemiology of substance use, and its related problems, as well as the effectiveness of interventions, policies, and programs designed to ameliorate such problems. Graduates of the program will be prepared to take leadership roles in areas such as academics, clinical practice, governmental and non-governmental agencies, policy, and research.

Admission to the Degree Curriculum

Applicants must hold a master's degree from an accredited (U.S. or equivalent) college or university from a related social/behavioral science or professional program (e.g., social work, public health, psychology, sociology, anthropology, economics). It is expected that applicants will have minimum grade point averages of 3.2 (undergraduate) and 3.5 (graduate) or better, and sufficient research experience (e.g., peer-reviewed publication record, prior coursework in graduate-level statistics, and research methodology) to successfully complete degree requirements in a timely manner. Minimum acceptable GRE scores are at the 55th percentile or above for those who tested after August 1, 2011. Quantitative and verbal scores must be greater than 153 for each. For tests taken before August 1, 2011, a quantitative score must be greater than 680 and a verbal score must be greater than 500. Students who speak English as a second language will be required to demonstrate proficiency in spoken and written English through the TOEFL examination, TOEFL scores must be submitted to SDSU, Institution Code 4682, <http://www.ets.org>.

Advancement to Candidacy

In order to advance to candidacy, students must (1) complete their coursework, (2) pass a take-home qualifying examination, (3) develop a proposal of their dissertation research (NIH-style proposal format), and (4) pass an oral defense of their dissertation proposal with their committee. The qualifying examination will be objective and cover areas including data analysis, research methods, and substance use. The material for this examination will be taken from course materials related to each of these respective sequences. The student's doctoral committee will develop and evaluate the take-home qualifying examination. Students must achieve at least 80 percent within two attempts in order to pass.

Specific Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree

(Major Code: 49075) (SIMS Code: 558213)

All students must complete a minimum of 60 units and residency requirements on both campuses to include 24 semester units at SDSU and 36 quarter units at UCSD; and a minimum one year residence on each campus. Required SDSU coursework includes SWORK 800, 801, 850, 880, 881, and two SDSU electives. Required UCSD coursework includes MED 231, MED 257A and 257B, and two UCSD electives. In addition, each student will complete a take-home qualifying examination and the dissertation.

Section III. Certificate and Credential Programs

Certificate in Social Work Administration

(SIMS Code: 558220)

Offered by the School of Social Work, the Advanced Certificate in Social Work Administration provides the following objectives:

- Enhance the skills and career prospects for students with a Master of Social Work degree who have moved into, or are interested in moving into, administrative positions in human service organizations;
- Enhance the talent pools for human service organizations that prefer managers and leaders with knowledge and skills in administrative practice and a strong grounding in clinical or direct practice service delivery;
- Contribute to increasing effectiveness of human service organizations in both client outcomes and management capacity.

Applicants to this program must possess a Master of Social Work in Clinical or Direct Practice. Applicants with other master's degrees in human services field may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The following courses must be completed with a grade point average of 3.0 or above:

- SWORK 740/ GERO 740 Advanced Seminar in Administration and Community Development in Social Work and Gerontology (3)
- SWORK 745 Advanced Seminar in Selected Topics in Social Work Administration (3)
- SWORK 758 Seminar in Social Work and Selected Fields of Practice: Information Systems and Knowledge Management (3)
- SWORK 758 Seminar in Social Work and Selected Fields of Practice: Financial Management and Resource Development (3)

Up to 12 units of completed certificate courses with a grade of B or better may be applicable to the Master of Social Work degree with the approval of the graduate adviser.

For further information, contact the program adviser, Dr. Thomas R. Packard, School of Social Work, tpackard@mail.sdsu.edu or 619-594-6723.

Pupil Personnel Services Credential

The School of Social Work is accredited by the State of California Department of Education to offer the Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Social Work and the Pupil Personnel Services Credential in Child Welfare and Attendance. The credentials can be awarded under two conditions:

1. As part of the regular MSW program being completed during the second year coursework. Students would be assigned to a second year SWORK 750 internship in an approved and supervised school placement. In addition, students must take SWORK 758 (School Social Work) as their fall elective course, and SWORK 798 for one unit in the spring.
2. As a post MSW student through Cal State Apply, <http://www.calstate.edu/apply>. Interested professionals must contact the PPS coordinator and apply for the program which consists of 12 units taken over two semesters beginning in the fall of each year. The program includes SWORK 758 (School Social Work—3 units), SWORK 798 (1 unit), and SWORK 750 (4 units) each semester. SWORK 750 is a 20-hour per week internship required to accumulate the necessary time for the credentials.

Admission

Current students interested in the PPS credential need only file the regular SWORK 750 application during the spring semester prior to enrollment. Unless demand is high, students will generally be admitted to the credential program.

Post MSW students must submit an electronic application via <http://gra.sdsu.edu/decisiondesk/> and must apply for admission to the credential program through Cal State Apply by the deadline. Post MSW students must then file the necessary field application to the coordinator of Field Education by the deadline date established for all students. In entering the program, admission is based upon available internship sites. Preference is given to current students. Official acceptance does not occur until late spring when all current students have been placed.

For further information contact Amalia Hernandez, PPS Coordinator, 619-594-6259, or email: amalia.hernandez@mail.sdsu.edu.

Courses Acceptable for Master's and Doctoral Degree Programs in Social Work (SWORK)

Refer to Courses and Curricula and Regulations of the Division of Graduate Affairs sections of this bulletin for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

SWORK 558. Seminar in Community Organization and Problem Solving (3)

Prerequisite: Credit or concurrent registration in Social Work 489A, 489B, or 650.

Community change, consensus organizing model, environmental social work, problem solving, and strategies for serving socioeconomically under-served communities for future community organizers and human services administrators.

SWORK 596. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics in social work. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor's degree. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master's degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

GRADUATE COURSES

SWORK 601. Seminar in Social Welfare Policy and Services (3)

Social welfare as a social institution; philosophical, historical, and comparative analysis of the welfare functions, issues and problems in both policy and program development, implementation, and evaluation.

SWORK 610. Computer Application in Practice for Social Work and Gerontology (3)

Prerequisite: Social Work 690 [or Gerontology 690].

Computer technology in social work practice with emphasis on clinical and administrative applications, program monitoring, and support of service provision and delivery.

SWORK 619. Human Behavior in the Social Environment (3)

Conceptual framework to view and interpret behavior and to understand functioning of individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities within ecological systems.

SWORK 620. Seminar in Human Behavior and Social Environment (3)

Prerequisite: Social Work 619.

Human behavior theories and concepts appropriate to a methods concentration.

A. Direct Practice**SWORK 630. Social Work Practice: A Generalist Perspective (3)**

Prerequisite: Concurrent registration in Social Work 650.

Overview of generalist social work practice as a method and process. Generalist social work presented as a basic helping approach used to assist individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities to achieve personal and social change.

SWORK 631. Social Work Practice: Individuals, Families, and Groups (3)

Prerequisites: Social Work 630 and concurrent registration in Social Work 650.

Preparation for direct intervention with individuals, families, and groups.

SWORK 632. Social Work and Gerontology: Organizations and Communities (3)

Prerequisites: Social Work 630 and concurrent registration in Social Work 650.

Theoretical knowledge of elementary organizational and interorganizational decision making in human service programs.

SWORK 650. Field Practicum (3-8) Cr/NC

Field instruction in public or voluntary social work setting. Seven units required. Maximum credit seven units. Experiences emphasize application of social work objectives, principles, and skills in service to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

SWORK 670. Social Work Foundation Practice Skills (3)

Prerequisite: Admission to advanced standing program.

Skill development and application of social work practice. Engagement, assessment, risk assessment, application of theoretical models to client interventions.

SWORK 671. Generalist Foundation of Social Work Practice, Policy, and Human Behavior (3)

Prerequisite: Admission to advanced standing program.

Reviews generalist foundation of social work curriculum. Practice concepts at all practice levels, human development theories, and social welfare policies.

SWORK 690. Seminar in Research Methods for Social Work and Gerontology (3)

(Same course as Gerontology 690)

Research development, design, and methodology. Application to social work and gerontology in testing theories, advancing practice knowledge, and decision-making.

SWORK 696. Seminar on Selected Topics (3)

Intensive study in specific areas of social work. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master's degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

SWORK 702. Seminar in Selected Social Welfare Policy and Services (3)

Prerequisite: Social Work 601.

Selected social welfare policies used to examine processes of policy formulation, policy analysis skills, and relationships of policy decisions and indecisions to outcomes of social welfare interventions. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 720. Seminar in Selected Topics in Human Behavior and Social Environment (3)

Prerequisite: Social Work 620A.

Selected topics related to current theories of natural and induced change in human behavior which have utility for social work practice within fields of service. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 739. Advanced Seminar in Social Work Practice with Families (3)

Prerequisites: Social Work 744 and concurrent registration in Social Work 750.

Family dynamics and social work practice related to family change.

SWORK 740. Advanced Seminar in Administration and Community Development in Social Work and Gerontology (3)

(Same course as Gerontology 740)

Prerequisites: Social Work 632 and concurrent registration in Gerontology 700A or Social Work 755.

Human services program design, strategic planning, marketing, organizational performance management, human resource management, and development of grant proposals.

SWORK 744. Advanced Seminar in Selected Topics in Direct Practice Social Work (3)

Prerequisites: Social Work 631, 632, and concurrent registration in Social Work 750.

Study of a selected aspect of direct practice social work. Topics include treatment methodology, theoretical approaches, levels of practice, specific client groups, or special problem areas. See *Class Schedule* for specific content.

SWORK 745. Advanced Seminar in Selected Topics in Social Work Administration (3)

Prerequisites: Social Work 740 [or Gerontology 740] and concurrent registration in Social Work 755.

Study of selected aspects of administration in human services organizations to include leadership, organizational learning, organizational change management, and supervision. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Maximum credit six units.

SWORK 750. Advanced Field Practicum: Direct Practice Social Work (4) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisites: Social Work 650 and concurrent registration in Social Work 739 or 740 [or Gerontology 740] and 744 or 745.

Advanced field instruction in public or voluntary social work setting. Eight units required. Continuation and intensification of experiences in application of social work objectives, principles and skills in service to individuals, families, groups and communities. Maximum credit eight units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 755. Advanced Field Practicum: Social Work Administration and Community Development (4) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisites: Social Work 650 and concurrent registration in Social Work 720 or Social Work 740 [or Gerontology 740] and 745.

Advanced field instruction in public or voluntary social work setting. Eight units required. Continuation and intensification of experiences in application of social work objectives, principles and skills in service organizations and communities. Maximum credit eight units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 758. Seminar in Social Work and Selected Fields of Practice (1-3)

Traditional and emerging fields of practice and related social work responsibilities and roles. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 780. Seminar in Social Work and Selected Populations-at-Risk (3)

Social work practice with selected populations-at-risk such as one-parent families, children in institutions, ethnic minority immigrants, Native-Americans in the urban scene, and foreign-born brides of U.S. servicemen. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 781. Seminar on Selected Populations-at-Risk (3)

Knowledge about and analysis of selected populations-at-risk, social work responsibilities in emerging service demands by diverse and needful, high risk segments of the population in a complex society, and implications for social work practice. Population-at-risk for study to be announced in *Class Schedule*. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 791. Applied Social Work Practice Research Seminar (3)

Prerequisite: Social Work 690 [or Gerontology 690].

Preparation for practitioner-researcher role through application of social work research concepts and procedures in practice situations (in class and field) of social work interventions. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 797. Research (3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor.

Research in one of the areas of social work. Maximum credit three units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 798. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisite: Consent of staff; to be arranged with director and instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit three units applicable to a master's degree.

SWORK 799A. Thesis (3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisites: An officially appointed thesis committee and advancement to candidacy.

Preparation of a thesis for the master's degree.

SWORK 799B. Thesis Extension (0) Cr/NC

Prerequisite: Prior registration in Thesis 799A with an assigned grade symbol of RP.

Registration required in any semester or term following assignment of RP in Course 799A in which the student expects to use the facilities and resources of the university; also student must be registered in the course when the completed thesis is granted final approval.

SWORK 799C. Comprehensive Examination Extension (0) Cr/NC

Prerequisite: Completion or concurrent enrollment in degree program courses.

Registration required of students whose only requirement is completion of the comprehensive examination for the master's degree. Registration in 799C limited to two semesters.

DOCTORAL COURSES

SWORK 800. Seminar in Etiology and Pharmacology of Substance Abuse (3)

Advanced seminar experience related to alcohol and other drug etiological models and epidemiology of substance abuse.

SWORK 801. Seminar in Global Approaches to Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (3)

Current science related prevention and treatment of substance misuse. Cultural and societal aspects of substance abuse treatment.

SWORK 850. Seminar in Theoretical Approaches to Substance Abuse (3)

Social science theory as it relates to substance use and misuse. Classic and current theory from ecological approach related to extant science.

SWORK 880. Advanced Seminar in Substance Abuse Research (3)

Substance abuse to include randomized clinical trials, prevention trials, field research, mixed methods, epidemiological approaches, etiological research. Classic methodological texts and emerging approaches examined.

SWORK 881. Advanced Multivariate Data Analysis (3)

Substance use and misuse to include analyses of biomarkers, complex survey data, observational data, and multi-level data.

SWORK 897. Doctoral Research (1-15) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisite: Admission to the doctoral program.

Prior to advancement to candidacy; Independent investigation including the general field of the dissertation.

SWORK 899. Doctoral Dissertation (1-15) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisites: An officially constituted dissertation committee and advancement to candidacy.

Preparation of the dissertation for the doctoral degree. Enrollment is required during the term in which the dissertation is approved.
