

# MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

The Master of Social Work (MSW) program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana is designed to educate and prepare students for rewarding careers as generalist social work practitioners and therapists who provide direct intervention at the individual, group, community, and organizational levels. Graduates will be able to become Licensed Master Social Workers (LMSWs) after completion of this program qualifying them for a wide range of employment opportunities working with a variety of populations (children, adolescents, adults, elderly, people with disabilities, etc.). For those who are interested in independent practice, this MSW, helps prepare them for eventual licensure as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

The MSW program includes a specialization in mental health but will also emphasize trauma-informed care and substance abuse. Program electives will prepare students to work in a variety of settings, which are projected to be significant areas of growth within the social work field over the next decade and beyond as the population ages and the need for medical and social services increases. The MSW will include 60 semester credit hours.

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## Admission Requirements

- Hold an earned baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university
- Have achieved a grade point average of 2.8 overall or in the last 60 hours of academic coursework
- Provide three professional letters of reference from employers, professors, or a combination of both. If an applicant has been in college within the last five years, at least one letter must be from a faculty member. No personal references will be accepted. Letters must be on professional letterhead with a signature.
- Submit a resume that details work and/or volunteer experience. (While not required, paid and/or volunteer experience in the human services is highly valued and will be seriously considered in the application evaluation process.)
- Pay a non-refundable \$30 application fee
- Write a clear and concise critical thinking essay. This narrative should answer the following questions:
  - Describe your interest in pursuing a Master of Social Work degree at Texas A&M University-Texarkana and why it is a good fit for your educational and professional goals. Please include any relevant information from current or previous experiences (e.g. employment, volunteer, academic, and/or personal) that have influenced your decision.
  - Define a social problem affecting a population of specific interest to you that you would want to work with in the future. Please examine the relevance of the problem to the field of social work, how you came to identify and understand it as a social problem, societal factors that have contributed to the problem, and specific ways that you, as a social worker, could address the problem.
  - Social workers are expected to work with individuals, families, groups, and communities from diverse backgrounds in a caring and respectful fashion. Using a specific experience you've had with an individual or group different than you (in terms of race, socioeconomic background, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation, culture, age, etc.), discuss what challenges and lessons you learned from this situation. How did the interaction affect your personal views about this individual/group and your overall perspective on diversity?

## Accreditation

The MSW program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), demonstrating our commitment to meeting the highest standards in social work education and preparing graduates for effective practice.

## Degree Requirements

Students should refer to their DegreeWorks degree audit in their Web for Students account for more information regarding their degree requirements.

Code	Title	Hours
SOCW 501	Practice I: Social Work with Individuals	3
SOCW 510	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SOCW 520	Social Welfare Policy	3
SOCW 530	Diversity and Social Justice	3
SOCW 551	Generalist Field Practicum I	4
SOCW 502	Practice II: Social Work with Families and Groups	3
SOCW 540	Research Methods in Social Work	3
SOCW 552	Generalist Field Practicum II	4
SOCW 521	Practice III: Advanced Macro Practice	3
SOCW 541	Practice and Program Evaluation	3
SOCW 560	Trauma-Informed Practice	3
SOCW 553	Specialization Field Practicum I	4

SOCW 562	Mental Health Assessment and Diagnosis	3
SOCW 563	Advanced Clinical Practice	3
SOCW 564	Clinical Issues in Addiction	3
SOCW 554	Specialization Field Practicum II	4
SOCW 500	Writing, Documentation, and Interviewing Skills in Social Work	3
Social Work Elective-select 5 semester credit hours from:		5
SOCW 572	Crisis Intervention	
SOCW 575	Gerontology	
SOCW 576	Social Work Practice with Children and Adolescents	
SOCW 571	Spirituality in Social Work	
SOCW 597	Special Topics in Social Work	
SOCW 574	Child Welfare	
COUN 510	Counseling Theories	
PSY 539	Advanced Psychological Statistics	
COUN 578	Marriage and Family Therapy	
COUN 579	Psychopharmacology for Counselors	
<b>Total hours for Degree</b>		<b>60</b>

## 2 Year Plan - Full Time

Code	Title	Hours
<b>First Year-Fall</b>		
SOCW 501	Practice I: Social Work with Individuals	3
SOCW 510	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SOCW 520	Social Welfare Policy	3
SOCW 530	Diversity and Social Justice	3
SOCW 551	Generalist Field Practicum I	4
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		16
<b>First Year-Spring</b>		
SOCW 502	Practice II: Social Work with Families and Groups	3
SOCW 540	Research Methods in Social Work	3
SOCW 500	Writing, Documentation, and Interviewing Skills in Social Work	3
SOCW 552	Generalist Field Practicum II	4
SOCW 562	Mental Health Assessment and Diagnosis	3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		16
<b>Second Year-Fall</b>		
SOCW 521	Practice III: Advanced Macro Practice	3
SOCW 553	Specialization Field Practicum I	4
SOCW 560	Trauma-Informed Practice	3
SOCW 563	Advanced Clinical Practice	3
Social Work Elective		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		16
<b>Second Year-Spring</b>		
SOCW 541	Practice and Program Evaluation	3
SOCW 554	Specialization Field Practicum II	4
SOCW 564	Clinical Issues in Addiction	3
Social Work Elective		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		13
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours Required for Degree</b>		<b>60</b>

## 2 Year Plan - Part Time

Code	Title	Hours
<b>First Year-Fall</b>		
SOCW 501	Practice I: Social Work with Individuals	3

SOCW 510	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SOCW 520	Social Welfare Policy	3
SOCW 530	Diversity and Social Justice	3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		12
<b>First Year-Spring</b>		
SOCW 502	Practice II: Social Work with Families and Groups	3
SOCW 540	Research Methods in Social Work	3
SOCW 500	Writing, Documentation, and Interviewing Skills in Social Work	3
SOCW 562	Mental Health Assessment and Diagnosis	3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		12
<b>First Year-Summer</b>		
SOCW 551	Generalist Field Practicum I	4
SOCW 552	Generalist Field Practicum II	4
Summer Total Semester Credit Hours		8
<b>Second Year-Fall</b>		
SOCW 521	Practice III: Advanced Macro Practice	3
SOCW 560	Trauma-Informed Practice	3
SOCW 563	Advanced Clinical Practice	3
Social Work Elective		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		12
<b>Second Year-Spring</b>		
SOCW 541	Practice and Program Evaluation	3
SOCW 564	Clinical Issues in Addiction	3
Social Work Elective		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		9
<b>Second Year-Summer</b>		
SOCW 553	Specialization Field Practicum I	4
SOCW 554	Specialization Field Practicum II	4
Summer Total Semester Credit Hours		8
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours Required for Degree</b>		<b>60</b>

## 4 Year Plan

Code	Title	Hours
<b>First Year-Fall</b>		
SOCW 510	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SOCW 530	Diversity and Social Justice	3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>First Year-Spring</b>		
SOCW 540	Research Methods in Social Work	3
SOCW 500	Writing, Documentation, and Interviewing Skills in Social Work	3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>Second Year-Fall</b>		
SOCW 501	Practice I: Social Work with Individuals	3
SOCW 520	Social Welfare Policy	3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>Second Year-Spring</b>		
SOCW 502	Practice II: Social Work with Families and Groups	3
SOCW 562	Mental Health Assessment and Diagnosis	3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>Second Year-Summer</b>		
SOCW 551	Generalist Field Practicum I	4
SOCW 552	Generalist Field Practicum II	4

Summer Total Semester Credit Hours		8
<b>Third Year-Fall</b>		
SOCW 521	Practice III: Advanced Macro Practice	3
SOCW 560	Trauma-Informed Practice	3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>Third Year- Spring</b>		
SOCW 541	Practice and Program Evaluation	3
SOCW 564	Clinical Issues in Addiction	3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>Fourth Year-Fall</b>		
SOCW 563	Advanced Clinical Practice	3
Social Work Elective		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		6
<b>Fourth Year-Spring</b>		
Social Work Elective		3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		3
<b>Fourth Year-Summer</b>		
SOCW 553	Specialization Field Practicum I	4
SOCW 554	Specialization Field Practicum II	4
Summer Total Semester Credit Hours		8
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours Required for Degree</b>		<b>60</b>