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Faculty

Karen E. Stockton, *Chair*
Michael A. Wright, *MSW Program Director*
Oliver J. Davis, *BSW Program Director*
Shelly J. Perry, *Director of Field*
John Gavin, *BSW Program Associate Director—Off-Campus*
BSW Site
Susan Murray
Marciana L. Popescu
Curtis J. VanderWaal
Jan F. Wrenn

The mission of the Department of Social Work is to prepare individuals for excellence during a lifetime of professional service and Christian compassion in action.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

MSW (Master of Social Work)—33–39 or 56

The Master of Social Work (MSW) degree is a professional degree enabling the graduate to enter practice as an advanced-level practitioner. Graduates are prepared to work in a variety of interpersonal clinical or administration and development practice emphases. The foundation curriculum for the MSW consists of five areas of course content: Human Behavior and the Social Environment, Social Welfare Policy, Research, Professional Practice, and Practicum. Accreditation for the MSW degree has been granted through the Council on Social Work Education.

ASSISTANTSHIPS

Students have the opportunity to apply for graduate assistantships—teaching or research. These assistantships give students the opportunity to develop their expertise. Students interested in becoming social-work educators—especially those with years of clinical experience—may teach undergraduate courses. Research assistantships offer experiences in community consulting, grant writing, and/or conducting research.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA*

Applicants to the MSW program must meet the requirements in the Graduate Admission section of this bulletin. They must also meet the requirements outlined below.

Regular Standing Two-year Program

- Hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, or a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education
- Provide transcripts that demonstrate course work with a strong liberal arts background.

Required Liberal Arts Background Minimum Semester Credits

- Human Biology or Anatomy and Physiology—3

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within an American cultural and historical framework. Offered alternate years.

SOWK420
Social Work Methods Seminar

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students with tools to successfully manage and support diversity and its benefits in the context of social work practice. Students will also apply the NASW Code of Ethics to advanced practice dilemmas they may face in the field. *Fall*

SOWK535 (1–4)

Generalist Field Experience

In this practicum, students will apply course-based knowledge and skills by working in a social service setting. A total of 400 clock hours are required. Repeatable to 3 credits. Corequisites: SOWK510, SOWK501. *Fall, Spring, Summer*

SOWK540 (3)

Human Behavior and the Social Environment

Ecological model for studying human behavior and an overview of normal individual development throughout the life cycle. Psychosocial, learning, and social-role theories constitute the theoretical basis for the course. Special attention paid to the impact of gender, health, and minority status upon human development. *Fall*

SOWK550 (3)

Social Welfare Policy

Develops basic knowledge and skills for policy analysis, formulation and critical challenge within local and international contexts. Examines the determining factors affecting public policy in the United States as compared with other systems. Provides framework for analysis of social problems and policies, as they impact development and social service practice. *Spring*

SOWK566 (4)

Social Work Research

A broad range of research tools available to social workers to improve both the effectiveness and efficiency of their practice. Research methodologies, both quantitative and qualitative, presented. Also includes an overview of statistics. Students do a research project addressing a social problem. *Spring*

ADVANCED YEAR

SOWK601 (2)

Advanced Practice I

Develops interpersonal practice skills on an advanced level. The course gives special consideration to developing proficiency in solution-focused therapy. Prerequisite: Completion of SOWK502, or admission to Advanced Standing. *Fall*

SOWK602 (2)

Advanced Practice II

Develops practice skills on an advanced level. The course gives special consideration to Social Work leadership as it relates to human and financial resource management. Prerequisite: Advanced-year status or permission of instructor. *Spring*

SOWK605 (3)

Advanced Clinical Assessment

Advanced assessment theories of and recent research into the etiology and psychopathology of social variance. Emphasis on developing differential diagnostic skills and holistic assessment

group process. Emphasis is placed upon a small group approach using an inner healing prayer model. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission of the instructor.

SOWK620 (2)

School Social Work

Required for students who wish to practice social work in a school setting. Various aspects of practice included: the students, the community, the school staff, and innovative social-work-practice techniques. Offered alternate years

SOWK626 (2)

Therapy with Children & Adolescents

This course prepares students to work with children and adolescent. Information on therapeutic modalities and specific interventions are included. The major psychological disorders in children and adolescents are addressed, as well as special issues they may have. Prerequisite: Advanced-year status or permission of instructor.

SOWK628 (2)

Treatment of Adult Mental Disorders

Exposure to the primary clinical social goals of assessment, diagnosis, and treatment by examining the common adult and mental disorders. Emphasis placed on assessment factors, including cultural, psycho-social and evaluation of symptoms. Specific treatment techniques for each diagnosis explored. Prerequisites: SOWK501, 502 or advanced placement.

SOWK638 (2)

Leadership in Social Work

Focus on leadership theories and strategies. Students develop the capacity to apply these theories and strategies adaptively in leadership situations within organizational and community context. Students explore how leadership styles, communication, planning, organizing, decision making, and marketing impact organizational and community change. Prerequisite: Completion of SOWK502, admission to Advanced Standing, or permission of instructor.

SOWK640 (2)

Interventions in Marital Conflict

Preparation for solution-focused brief marital therapy. It seeks to uncover and utilize counselee's strengths to improve marital communication and satisfaction. Research-based techniques applied through role-playing and other experiential activities. Prerequisite: SOWK402 or SOWK501 or an equivalent graduate course in social-work methods or counseling.

SOWK647 (2)

Crisis Intervention

Survey of brief treatment models. Direct application of the different approaches to populations in crisis. Prerequisite: SOWK502 or advanced placement.

SOWK649 (2)

Advanced Family Therapy

This course prepares students to work with families. Major family therapy modalities are included, as well as an exposure to therapeutic family concerns. Prerequisite: Advanced-year status or permission of instructor.

SOWK655 (2)

Organizational/Community Assessment

The basic underpinnings of organizational dynamics. Students explore the historical influences on and current challenges faced by social-work managers. The basics of management-assess-

ment skills and human issues that impact organization explored. Prerequisite: Advanced-year placement. *Fall*

SOWK657 (2)

Cognitive and Behavioral Theory

The research-based theory and techniques of cognitive and behavioral therapy. Focuses on the use of cognitive behavioral therapy with individuals. Prerequisite: SOWK502 or advanced placement.

SOWK675 (1-4)

Topics in: _____

Students are able to select offerings from various contemporary social-work topics. Repeatable with different topics.

SOWK690 (1-3)

Independent Study/Research

Open to qualified students who show ability and initiative. See the department policy for specific requirements. Prerequisites: Permission of Graduate Program Director and instructor.