Graduate School of Social Work

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Graduate School of Social Work is to advance social, economic, and political justice and to advance knowledge for competent ethical practice and leadership with diverse populations.

Degrees Offered

The Graduate School of Social Work offers the Masters in Social Work (M.S.W.) and the Ph.D. in Social Work. The M.S.W. is considered the terminal or final degree needed to enter professional social work practice at the advanced level. The M.S.W. degree can be completed in two years on a full-time basis, or in four years on a part-time basis. After completing the foundation curriculum, students select one of the following fields of practice concentrations: Health Care, Mental Health, Gerontological Social Work, Children and Families, or Political Social Work. The Ph.D. in social work is typically sought by those interested in teaching at the university level.

Admissions Seminars for Prospective Applicants

Recognizing that many prospective applicants have questions about the M.S.W. program, its requirements, and curriculum, as well as about the social work profession, the GSSW offers a series of admissions seminars during the fall and spring semesters. Detailed information about admissions policies are also available at these seminars. Interested persons can go to www.sw.uh.edu for current information on the seminar dates.

Application Procedures

Brochures and application materials are mailed upon request. Please direct all inquiries to:

University of Houston
Graduate School of Social Work
Attn: Admissions
237 Social Work Building
Houston, TX 77204-4013

A non-refundable $50.00 application fee, payable by check, money order or credit card, must accompany the admissions application. Applications will not be processed until the fee and all other required materials have been received. Please note that students are admitted only in the fall and that early application is encouraged.

Postbaccalaureate students who later decide to apply for admission to the GSSW will be allowed no more than six (6) credit hours earned as a PB to be applied toward the M.S.W. degree. These six credit hours must be selected from the foundation courses, must be grades of B or above, and must have been completed within two years from the date of application to the GSSW.

Persons who hold the Master of Social Work degree or related master’s degree and who wish to take courses in the Graduate School of Social Work for their own professional development are not limited in the number of credit hours that can be earned as a PB student.

Students from other graduate departments and postbaccalaureate students are welcome to take courses in the MSW Program provided that (1) the prerequisites for the course are met or the instructor gives written approval, and (2) the college determines that there will be sufficient space in the course after MSW Program students are enrolled. Please make requests to enroll in MSW courses by contacting the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs office at 713-743-8082.
Master of Social Work Degree Requirements

1. Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 63 semester hours in class and field instruction in social work
2. At least a 3.00 (B) cumulative grade point average for all class and field instruction courses
3. Faculty recommendation for award of the Master of Social Work degree
4. A non-refundable fee of $25.00 is required when the student applies for graduation through the university’s Graduation Office.

The Curriculum
The GSSW curriculum was developed in accordance with the policies and standards of the Council on Social Work Education. The M.S.W. program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Additional information is available at the school’s website: www.sw.uh.edu.

Undergraduate Opportunities
Baccalaureate and post baccalaureate students interested in careers in human services and nonprofit management may wish to consider the American Humanics Certification program described below and in the Special Programs and Opportunities section of this catalog.

American Humanics Nonprofit Certificate Program
Course requirements for American Humanics Certification: (Students in Human Development and Family Studies and the Bauer College of Business should call the AH office at 713-743-8137 for specific degree options. See the Bauer College of Business section for more information.)

1. Overview of Human Services:
   SOC 3318. Introduction to Social Work and Social Services

2. Marketing/Public relations (choose one):
   COMM 3368. Principles of Public Relations
   MARK 3336. Elements of Marketing Administration
   DIST 3380. Distribution Technology
   HDCS 3301. Consumer Science

3. Management of Human Services:
   SOCW 3354. Nonprofit Management

4. Budgeting and Fiscal Management:
   SOCW 3330. Nonprofit Financial Management

5. Human Development (choose one):
   PSYC 2350. Child Development
   PSYC 2351. Psychology of Adolescence
   SOC 3336. Socialization
   HDCS 2317. Intro to Human Development and Intervention

6. Principles of Fund Raising and Grant Writing
   (Noncredit Workshop Series)

Additional Workshops, Non-Credit Classes, Internships, and Experiential Skill-Building Sessions are required for American Humanics Certification. (See the Special Programs and Opportunities section of this catalog for further details or call the AH office at 713-743-8137.)

Courses: Social Work (Socw)

3330: Nonprofit Financial Management Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: junior standing and consent of instructor. Principles of financial management and budgeting in nonprofit human services organizations.

3354: Nonprofit Management Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: junior standing and consent of instructor. Theories, skills, and methods for effective planning and managing in nonprofit human services organizations.

3397: Selected Topics Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: Soc 3318, junior standing and consent of instructor. May be repeated when topics vary.

3398: Special Problems Cr. 3. Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor.

4301: Internship in Human Services Cr. 3. Prerequisites: Soc 3318, senior standing and consent of instructor. Supervised field experience in management of non-profit youth and human services. May be repeated once for credit.