

Master of Social Work (Traditional Entry)

About This Program

The MSW curriculum provides students with a generalist perspective in the foundation curriculum and allows students to specialize in one of five practice areas through the specialized curriculum. Students must complete required foundation courses prior to taking most specialty courses. Students in the specialty curriculum select one specialty area: Aging, Children and Families, Community and Administrative Practice, Health, or Mental Health and Substance Misuse.

Competencies

1. Upon completion, students will be able to demonstrate ethical and professional behavior.
2. Upon completion, students will be able to engage diversity and difference in practice.
3. Upon completion, students will be able to advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice.
4. Upon completion, students will be able to engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice.
5. Upon completion, students will be able to engage in policy practice.
6. Upon completion, students will be able to engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
7. Upon completion, students will be able to assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
8. Upon completion, students will be able to intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
9. Upon completion, students will be able to evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

Admissions Criteria

Please contact the MSW Admissions Office (sswadmissions@uta.edu) to obtain the complete application checklist and information concerning specific application deadlines. Applicants may also visit the [MSW Admissions webpage \(https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/social-work/admissions/\)](https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/social-work/admissions/) for more information. Students are admitted to the traditional MSW program for Fall or Spring semester. The admissions process is the same for all MSW programs, including online programs.

*Please note that the School of Social Work's deadline for application is different from the published deadlines of the Graduate School.

There are two methods for application to the MSW Program: the Quick Admissions Process, and the Traditional Admissions Process.

QUICK ADMISSIONS

This process awards the bachelor-level applicant who has earned a 3.0 or better GPA in the last 60 hours of their undergraduate degree program a head start by requiring only a two-step process. In step 1, the applicant submits the online application. In step 2, the applicant must submit all official transcripts to the Office of Admissions, Records, and Registration. Once all transcripts have been received and evaluated, students whose GPA is 3.0 or better are generally admitted to the Master of Social Work Program.

TRADITIONAL ADMISSIONS

In the second admission method, applicants deemed ineligible for Quick Admission to the MSW program (based on the 3.0 GPA requirement) will be considered via the Traditional Admission Process for the traditional program only. Traditional Admission includes, but is not limited to the satisfactory presence of the following six qualifications:

1. Possession of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university or its equivalent, with a satisfactory GPA of 2.7 or higher.
2. Submission of three letters of reference indicating professional or academic promise.
3. Submission of a narrative essay of three double-spaced pages or less that responds to the following prompt: *Social work practice is often classified as either micro or macro. Explain what is meant by micro practice and macro practice, and why addressing both micro and macro issues is essential to effective social work practice. Use three outside sources to support your statement and include complete citations for each.*
4. Submission of GRE test scores.
5. For applicants whose native language is not English, submission of a score of at least 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or a minimum TOEFL iBT total score of 79 with sectional scores that meet or exceed the following:
 - 22 for the writing section
 - 21 for the speaking section
 - 20 for the reading section
 - 16 for the listening section

TRANSFER OF CREDIT

Transfer credits for graduate level social work courses may, at the discretion of the MSW Program Director, be accepted by the School of Social Work from comparable coursework taken and passed with a grade of 'B' or better at another Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited

program within the last six years. Transfer credits for graduate level course work in related fields may, at the discretion of the MSW Program Director, be accepted by the School of Social Work if comparable to required coursework for the MSW; such courses must have been taken and passed with a grade of 'B' or better within the last six years. Students may be expected to provide syllabi for review. No credit is given for life or work experience.

FINANCIAL AID

Scholarships are awarded annually and administered by the School of Social Work. For information about scholarships available through the School of Social Work, please visit <https://www.uta.edu/ssw/student-resources/scholarships> (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/social-work/admissions/scholarships/>).

A limited number of traineeships are available through the [Center for Child Welfare's Title IV-E Program](https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/social-work/current-students/title-iv-e-project/) (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/social-work/current-students/title-iv-e-project/>).

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

Candidates for fellowship awards must have a GPA of 3.0 in their last 60 undergraduate credit hours and in any graduate credit hours, and must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 hours in both long semesters to retain their fellowships.

Curriculum

For students without a BSW and advanced standing, the program leading to the Master of Social Work requires the completion of 61 semester hours of graduate work including class and field instruction, as well as thesis or integrative seminar (non-thesis option).

Foundations

SOCW 5301	HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT	3
SOCW 5304	GENERALIST MICRO PRACTICE	3
SOCW 5306	GENERALIST MACRO PRACTICE	3
SOCW 5303	FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIAL POLICY AND SERVICES	3
SOCW 5307	DIVERSE POPULATIONS	3
SOCW 5308	RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODS IN SOCIAL WORK I	3
SOCW 5581	GENERALIST PRACTICUM SPLIT I (or SOCW 5585 Foundation Field Block I)	5
SOCW 5381	GENERALIST PRACTICUM SPLIT II (or SOCW 5385 Foundation Field Block II)	3

Specialty (Choose one Specialty)

Aging, Children & Families (CF), Community & Administrative Practice (CAP), Health, or Mental Health & Substance Misuse (MHSM)		6
SOCW 5311	ADVANCED MICRO PRACTICE (Not required of CAP Specialty)	
SOCW 5313	RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODS IN SOCIAL WORK II (or SOCW 5323 PROGRAM EVALUATION)	
or SOCW 5323	PROGRAM EVALUATION	
Aging		6
SOCW 5332	DIRECT PRACTICE WITH AGING	
SOCW 5333	AGING AND SOCIAL POLICY	
Children & Families		6
SOCW 5362	DIRECT PRACTICE WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	
SOCW 5363	SOCIAL POLICY FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH	
Health		6
SOCW 5342	DIRECT PRACTICE IN HEALTH CARE	
SOCW 5343	HEALTH POLICY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE	
Mental Health & Substance Misuse		9
SOCW 5352	DIRECT PRACTICE IN MENTAL HEALTH	
SOCW 5354	PRINCIPLES OF SUBSTANCE MISUSE TREATMENT	
SOCW 5353	SOCIAL POLICY AND MENTAL HEALTH	
Community & Administrative Practice		18
SOCW 5312	COMMUNITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICE	
SOCW 5327	HUMAN BEHAVIOR IN MACRO ENVIRONMENTS	
SOCW 5321	ADVANCED COMMUNITY PRACTICE	
SOCW 5320	ADVANCED ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICE	
SOCW 5323	PROGRAM EVALUATION	

SOCW 5328 ADVOCACY AND SOCIAL POLICY

Integrated Theory and Practice Courses

For Aging, Children & Families, Health, and Mental Health & Substance Misuse specialties, select two of the following integrated theory and practice courses: 6

SOCW 5314	INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
SOCW 5316	STRESS, CRISIS, AND COPING
SOCW 5318	DEATH & DYING
SOCW 5315	BRAIN AND BEHAVIOR
SOCW 5317	PALLIATIVE CARE
SOCW 5319	SUICIDE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, & POSTVENTION

Electives Required by Specialty

For Aging or Health two of the following (thesis students select one): 6

SOCW 5334	FAMILY CAREGIVING & AGING
SOCW 5335	AGING IN AMERICAN SOCIETY
SOCW 5344	HEALTH INSURANCE AND ACCESS TO CARE
SOCW 5345	SPECIAL TOPICS IN HEALTH EQUITY

For Children & Families select two of the following (thesis students select one): 6

SOCW 5365	CLINICAL ASSESSMENT OF CHILD MALTREATMENT
SOCW 5366	SEMINAR IN WOMEN'S ISSUES
SOCW 5367	TREATING PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS
SOCW 5368	SEMINAR IN DIRECT METHODS IN COUPLES COUNSELING
SOCW 5369	SEMINAR IN FAMILY THERAPY
SOCW 5370	SOCIAL WORK IN SCHOOLS
SOCW 5371	INEQUITIES AND INCARCERATION

For Mental Health & Substance Misuse non-thesis students only select one of the following: 3

SOCW 5355	MILITARY SOCIAL WORK
SOCW 5356	SEMINAR IN COGNITIVE-BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES
SOCW 5357	GROUP DYNAMICS AND SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE
SOCW 5358	TREATMENT OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS
SOCW 5359	MILITARY FAMILIES
SOCW 5360	TREATMENT OF MILITARY POPULATIONS
SOCW 5361	MILITARY TRAUMA

For Community & Administrative Practice select two of the following (thesis students select one): 6

SOCW 5310	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & GREEN SOCIAL WORK
SOCW 5324	SOCIAL WORK SUPERVISION
SOCW 5325	BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
SOCW 5326	GRANT PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR
SOCW 5392	SELECTED TOPICS IN SOCIAL WELFARE

Field (All Specialties)

SOCW 5482	SPECIALIZED PRACTICUM SPLIT I (or SOCW 5485 Advanced Field Block I)	4
SOCW 5483	SPECIALIZED PRACTICUM SPLIT II (Or SOCW 5486 Advanced Field Block II)	4

Capstone or Thesis (All Specialties)

Select one of the following: 3

SOCW 5395	INTEGRATIVE SEMINAR
SOCW 5698	THESIS (and SOCW 5396 as an elective)

Total Hours

61

Program Completion

In addition to the general graduate admission requirements of the University, each graduate student in the social work program must:

1. maintain at least a B (3.0) overall GPA in all coursework;
2. demonstrate suitability for professional social work practice; and,

3. demonstrate knowledge of and adherence to the Code of Ethics of the [National Association of Social Workers](https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English/) (<https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English/>), the [Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners Code of Conduct](https://texas-sos.appianportalsgov.com/rules-and-meetings/?$locale=en_US&interface=VIEW_TAC_SUMMARY&queryAsDate=01%2F28%2F2026&recordId=2017111) ([https://texas-sos.appianportalsgov.com/rules-and-meetings/?\\$locale=en_US&interface=VIEW_TAC_SUMMARY&queryAsDate=01%2F28%2F2026&recordId=2017111](https://texas-sos.appianportalsgov.com/rules-and-meetings/?$locale=en_US&interface=VIEW_TAC_SUMMARY&queryAsDate=01%2F28%2F2026&recordId=2017111)) ([section 781.301](#)), and the [UTA School of Social Work Professional Standards](https://cdn.web.uta.edu/-/media/project/website/social-work/documents/msw-manual/rev-professional-standards-policies-and-procedures.ashx) (<https://cdn.web.uta.edu/-/media/project/website/social-work/documents/msw-manual/rev-professional-standards-policies-and-procedures.ashx>) [in](#) their professional practice and in their [coursework](#).

Advising Resources

Please read all student emails carefully and review the frequently asked questions. These resources are intended to provide help when you need it. If you want to meet with your advisor, please sign up for an appointment as early in the semester as possible.

Location:

SWSH 131, 501 W. Mitchell St., Arlington, TX 76019

Email:

ssw-oass@uta.edu

Phone:

817-272-3687

Web:

[Advising FAQ](https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/social-work/programs/advising/advising-faqs/) (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/social-work/programs/advising/advising-faqs/>)