

Master of Social Work (Direct Practice, Traditional Entry)

About This Program

The MSW curriculum provides students with a generalist perspective in the generalist curriculum and allows students to choose between two specialized curricula: (1) Direct Practice or (2) Community and Administrative Practice. Students must complete required generalist courses prior to taking most specialty courses.

Competencies

1. Upon completion, students will be able to demonstrate ethical and professional behavior.
2. Upon completion, students will be able to advance human rights and social, racial, economic, and environmental justice
3. Upon completion, students will be able to engage anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion (ADEI) in practice
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

QUICK ADMISSIONS (UNCONDITIONAL)

This process awards a head start to bachelor-level applicants who have earned a 3.0 or higher GPA in the last approximately 60 credit hours of their undergraduate program, as calculated by the UTA Graduate Admissions Office, by requiring only a two-step process. In step 1, the applicant submits the online application in ApplyUTA and pays the fee. In step 2, the applicant must submit all official transcripts to the Office of Admissions, Records, and Registration. Applicants may upload unofficial transcripts to expedite receiving an admission decision. However, official transcripts must be submitted upon admission or when the institution(s) make them available. [How to Submit Unofficial Transcripts](#). When made available, applicants may have another option to upload unofficial transcripts via the ApplyUTA portal. [How to Submit Official Transcripts](#).

Once all transcripts have been received and evaluated, students meeting the 3.0 GPA requirement from a regionally accredited or equivalent institution are generally admitted to the Master of Social Work Program. All applicants should first apply, pay the fee, and submit transcripts, then wait for the UTA School of Social Work's Admissions Office to determine whether they are accepted under the Quick Admissions process or will need to proceed through the Probationary Admissions process. Do not submit GRE scores, letters of recommendation, or written narrative until directed to do so by the UTA School of Social Work's Admissions Office.

PROBATIONARY ADMISSIONS

In the second admission method, applicants deemed ineligible by the UTA School of Social Work's Admissions Office for Quick Admission to the MSW program (based on the 3.0 GPA requirement) may be deferred and later considered by the admissions committee upon completion of the Probationary Admission Process. Probationary Admission includes, but is not limited to, satisfactorily meeting the following three additional steps beyond the Quick Admissions criteria:

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. Submit three letters of recommendation that demonstrate professional or academic promise through the applicant's account created during the Quick Admissions process on the ApplyUTA portal.
3. Submit a narrative essay of two to three double-spaced pages responding to the following prompt: **#(a)#Please describe your motivation for pursuing a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree and your decision to enter the profession of social work. #In your response, reflect on how the core values and principles outlined in the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics resonate with you—both professionally and personally. (b)#How do these ethical commitments align with your career goals and your professional social work identity?**

This is optional, but applicants may also submit the following additional information for the admissions committee to consider when notified that they must complete the Probationary Admissions process:

1. Submit GRE test scores (optional).
2. If the applicant has completed and had conferred a second bachelor's degree, a master's degree in another discipline, or a doctoral or professional higher-education degree (e.g., juris doctor, medical, PhD, master's degree in psychology, etc.) from a regionally accredited or equivalent institution, they may submit those transcripts for consideration (optional).

DEFERRED ADMISSIONS

An MSW applicant's admission may be deferred if the application file is incomplete, if denying admission isn't suitable, or if notified by the School of Social Work's Graduate Admissions Office to start the Probationary Admissions process. All applicants should first complete the MSW Quick Admissions process. MSW applicants should not begin the Probationary Admissions process until they receive a Deferred Admission decision or are informed by the School of Social Work's Graduate Admissions Office.

DENIED ADMISSIONS

An applicant may be denied admission if the conditions for either unconditional or probationary admission are not met. Usually, a denial occurs because the applicant's last approximately 60 undergraduate credit hours (bachelor's degree coursework), as calculated by the UTA Graduate Admissions Office, fall below a GPA of 2.7. If you received a denial but have earned a second bachelor's degree, a master's degree in a different field, a doctorate, or a professional degree, or if you completed more 3000 and 4000 level undergraduate courses from accredited or equivalent institutions to improve your GPA, or if you did not disclose this information in your initial application, you must reapply, pay the fee, and submit additional documentation and transcripts. The applicant may then be reconsidered, receive a deferred decision, and be asked to complete the probationary process. If you received a denial and are considering reapplying, we recommend that you first contact the School of Social Work's MSW Admissions Office to confirm the required steps. The School of Social Work, including the MSW Admissions Office, is not authorized to calculate or provide estimated future GPAs; only the UTA Graduate Admissions Office can provide official calculations of the undergraduate GPA for the last approximately 60 credit hours.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

International Students are eligible to apply through the Quick Admissions and Traditional Admissions processes. Official English language test scores are required from international students from non-native English-speaking countries as described in the [Graduate Admissions section \(https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnextcatalog.uta.edu%2Facademicregulations%2Fadmissions%2Fgraduate%2F&data=05%7C02%7Csophia.fantus%40uta.edu%7C78d24397e0f443a1910c08de5f78c48b%7C5cdc5b43d7be4caa8173729e3b0a62d9%7C0%7C0%7C639053169450731168%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiwlLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiliSkFOljoITWFpbCIsIlldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Q%2Fg7tdxR%2BfnBBtyHOuJiMahzU8s0Sc9jVfxLJ8NTwD8%3D&reserved=0\)](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnextcatalog.uta.edu%2Facademicregulations%2Fadmissions%2Fgraduate%2F&data=05%7C02%7Csophia.fantus%40uta.edu%7C78d24397e0f443a1910c08de5f78c48b%7C5cdc5b43d7be4caa8173729e3b0a62d9%7C0%7C0%7C639053169450731168%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiwlLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiliSkFOljoITWFpbCIsIlldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Q%2Fg7tdxR%2BfnBBtyHOuJiMahzU8s0Sc9jVfxLJ8NTwD8%3D&reserved=0).

DETERMINING MSW ADVANCED STANDING

An applicant who earned a BSW degree from a CSWE-accredited institution in or after 2010, meets the 3.0 GPA Quick Admissions requirements, and has received a grade of B or higher in all required undergraduate social work courses, may be designated as having Advanced Standing upon admission to the MSW program. Only qualified BSW graduates may be granted this designation, which waives their foundation-year coursework and allows the student to complete the MSW in one year. If a BSW student is currently enrolled in a CSWE-accredited institution's program, they may apply to the MSW as early as two semesters, receive an Advanced Standing determination upon admission, but cannot start the MSW program until the university receives the official transcript of the conferred BSW degree.

Students with a bachelor's degree in a field other than social work (such as psychology, counseling, nursing, public health, sociology, business, etc.) who have completed social work courses during their undergraduate studies or hold a minor or associate's degree in social work or social welfare may qualify for course waivers if they meet the program's admissions criteria and have earned a grade of B or higher in the relevant courses. After gaining admission, students should discuss this with their Academic Advisor during their first meeting before starting the MSW program. The MSW Program Director will make the final decision on which courses, if any, will be waived after the student is admitted. No official course waiver determinations can be provided or made before admission to the MSW program.

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 completed with a grade of 'B' or higher at another Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program, dating back to 2010. Transfer credits for graduate-level coursework in related fields may, at the discretion of the MSW Program Director, be accepted if they are comparable to the required MSW coursework; such courses must have been completed with a grade of 'B' or higher within the last six years. Students might be asked to provide syllabi for review. No credit is awarded for life or work experience. Transfer credits will not be officially approved until after the applicant has been admitted.

READMISSION PROCESS

An MSW student who was previously enrolled in the program and wishes to resume coursework after missing a fall or spring term, or longer (summer excluded), must submit an Application for Readmission form and pay the required non-refundable application fee (U.S./Domestic Graduate

Fee or International Graduate Readmit Fee). The MSW Program Director determines whether the returning student is eligible for readmission. UTA will not allow the MSW Program Director to make a readmission decision until the form is submitted and the fee is paid. If the fee is not paid, UTA Graduate Admissions will not forward the readmission form to the MSW Program Director for a decision.

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>.

A limited number of traineeships are available through the Center for Child Welfare's Title IV-E Program.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

Candidates for fellowship awards must have a 3.0 GPA or higher in their last approximately 60 undergraduate credit hours (determined by the UTA Graduate Admissions Office) and a 3.0 GPA or higher in any graduate credit hours. They must be enrolled in at least 6 hours in both long semesters to retain their fellowships.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK'S MSW ADMISSIONS OFFICE

The UTA School of Social Work has its own admissions office for graduate programs, separate from the university's main admissions office. If you have further questions or need help with the MSW admissions process, please contact SSW's Graduate Admissions Office. MSW students can begin studies in the fall, spring, or summer semesters. The MSW program accepts applications on a rolling admissions basis. MSW Admissions FAQs.

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 practicum instruction, as well as thesis or integrative seminar (non-thesis option).

Foundations

SOCW 5100	FOUNDATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS IN SOCIAL WORK	1
SOCW 5301	HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT	3
SOCW 5302	INTRODUCTION TO MENTAL HEALTH AND THE DSM IN SOCIAL WORK	3
SOCW 5303	FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIAL POLICY AND SERVICES	3
SOCW 5304	GENERALIST MICRO PRACTICE	3
SOCW 5305	GENERALIST MEZZO PRACTICE	3
SOCW 5306	GENERALIST MACRO PRACTICE	3
SOCW 5307	SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE ACROSS POPULATIONS AND CONTEXTS	3
SOCW 5308	RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODS IN SOCIAL WORK I	3
SOCW 5380	SOCIAL WORK GENERALIST PRACTICUM INSTRUCTION/SEMINAR PART 1	3
SOCW 5381	SOCIAL WORK GENERALIST PRACTICUM INSTRUCTION/SEMINAR PART 2	3

Direct Practice Specialty

SOCW 5311	ADVANCED MICRO PRACTICE	3
SOCW 5323	PROGRAM EVALUATION	3
or SOCW 5313	RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODS IN SOCIAL WORK II	
SOCW 5352	CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK AND THE DSM	3
SOCW 5353	ADVANCED POLICY ANALYSIS FOR SOCIAL WORK	3

Select one of the following (if not thesis student):

SOCW 5310	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & GREEN SOCIAL WORK	
SOCW 5324	SOCIAL WORK SUPERVISION	
SOCW 5392	SELECTED TOPICS IN SOCIAL WELFARE	
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	
SOCW 5354	PRINCIPLES OF SUBSTANCE MISUSE TREATMENT	
SOCW 5355	MILITARY SOCIAL WORK	
SOCW 5356	SEMINAR IN COGNITIVE-BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION STRATEGIES	
SOCW 5358	TREATMENT OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS	

SOCW 5359	MILITARY FAMILIES	
SOCW 5360	TREATMENT OF MILITARY POPULATIONS	
SOCW 5361	MILITARY TRAUMA	
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	
Integrated Theory and Practice		
Select two from the following:		6
SOCW 5314	INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE	
SOCW 5315	BRAIN AND BEHAVIOR	
SOCW 5316	STRESS, CRISIS, AND COPING	
SOCW 5317	PALLIATIVE CARE	
SOCW 5318	GRIEF, LOSS, AND BEREAVEMENT ACROSS THE LIFE SPAN	
SOCW 5319	SUICIDE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, & POSTVENTION	
Practicum (All Specialties)		
SOCW 5382	SOCIAL WORK ADVANCED PRACTICUM INSTRUCTION/SEMINAR PART 1	3
SOCW 5383	SOCIAL WORK ADVANCED PRACTICUM INSTRUCTION/SEMINAR PART 2	3
Capstone or Thesis (All Specialties)		
Select one of the following:		3
SOCW 5395	INTEGRATIVE SEMINAR	
SOCW 5698 & SOCW 5396	THESIS and THESIS RESEARCH	

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 \(https://bhec.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024-August-SW.pdf\)](https://bhec.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024-August-SW.pdf) ([section 781.301](#)), and the [UTA School of Social Work Professional Standards \(https://resources.uta.edu/social-work/faculty-academic-and-student-affairs-resources/Rev-Professional-Standards-Policies-and-Procedures.pdf\)](https://resources.uta.edu/social-work/faculty-academic-and-student-affairs-resources/Rev-Professional-Standards-Policies-and-Procedures.pdf) [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/)