Admission Process

The Social Work degree requires 54 hours in Social Work and 9 hours in supportive Social Sciences, and builds on liberal arts and the general education core curriculum. The Social Work curriculum is based on and interwoven with the liberal arts/general education core curriculum consisting of 54 semester credit hours. The Social Work major does not require a minor. Students progress in three phases of the Social Work major, without regard to disability. A social worker must be emotionally and mentally stable, must have strong communication skills, must have solid interpersonal relationship-building skills, and must conform to professional ethics. The School of Social Work faculty evaluate whether students meet these criteria and may advise a student at any point to continue in the B.S.W. major or consider another major.

Phase I: (Pre-Social Work Major)

Any student may declare a pre-social work major and may enroll in SOWK 1350, SOWK 2375, as well as SOWK elective courses. Social work pre-majors should complete most of their general education core curriculum and liberal arts courses before applying to Phase II of the Social Work major. They must complete at least 45 credit hours, including the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 1320</td>
<td>Modern Biology I, Molecules, Cells, and Physiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 1421</td>
<td>Modern Biology II, Organisms, Evolution, and Environment</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1310</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Human Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 1310</td>
<td>College Writing I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 1320</td>
<td>College Writing II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1310</td>
<td>History of the United States to 1877</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1320</td>
<td>History of the United States, 1877 to Date</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any course which meets the MATH Core criteria</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 1305</td>
<td>Philosophy and Critical Thinking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PHIL 1320</td>
<td>Ethics and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWK 1350</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Work</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOWK 2375</td>
<td>Social Services in the Community</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US 1100</td>
<td>University Seminar (if required)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td></td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Biology is the only acceptable Life and Physical Science for admission to the B.S.W. major regardless of core curriculum requirements.

2. Applicants must have a minimum 2.50 overall GPA and a minimum 2.75 GPA in SOWK courses and supportive courses (Biostatistics, ENG 3303 or ENG 3304, and PSY 3322) to apply for Phase II. Students interested in Social Work must contact the College of Applied Arts Academic Advising Center for advisement.

Phase II: (Social Work Major)

Students submit a formal application for admission to Phase II. Application materials are due to the School of Social Work office by 5:00 p.m. on the second Monday of November for spring admission to the major or the second Monday in April for fall admission to the major. An admission committee screens applicants, considering academic record and suitability for social work practice, and informs applicants in writing of their decision to admit to full major status, conditionally admit to full major status, or deny admission to full major status. Students admitted to Phase II must attend a mandatory orientation to the major prior to beginning Phase II of the degree program. Information regarding the orientation will be provided in the written notification of admission to Phase II of the major. When students are admitted to Phase II, their formal academic major is converted from Pre-Social Work to Social Work.

Admission into Phase II does not guarantee permission to remain in the degree program. Social Work faculty will continuously assess a student’s progress. To be retained, the student must maintain the required minimum Texas State GPA of 2.50. Students must also earn a minimum grade of “C” in each social work course and each supportive course. The School of Social Work outlines the academic progress and advancement to graduation in relation to retaking major sequence coursework in the student handbook. To remain in Phase II, students must also agree to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics and must demonstrate emotional and mental stability, competent communication skills, interpersonal relationship skills, and high levels of self-awareness.

Phase III: (Field Placement)

Students who have completed all required courses for the B.S.W., excluding SOWK 4645 and SOWK 4650 (Field Placement), and who have met all the requirements noted above may apply for field placement. Students apply for field placement with the School of Social Work’s Field Office.

The School prefers that students take SOWK 4645 and SOWK 4650 during the same semester, which requires that the student limit his/her enrollment that semester to field placement, totaling 12 hours. Under exceptional circumstances, students may request permission from the Field Coordinator to take SOWK 4645 and SOWK 4650 over two consecutive semesters (6 hours each semester).

To be eligible for graduation a student must complete all degree requirements and must have a minimum Texas State GPA of 2.50 with a GPA of 2.75 in social work and supportive courses. Students seeking either a dual degree or a second bachelors’ degree in Social Work will need to complete all requirements for the B.S.W degree totaling 54 hours for the major, to include 12 hours in field internship, 14 hours in modern languages, 9 hours in supportive courses and the required biology curriculum. To be eligible for graduation a student must complete all degree requirements and must have a minimum Texas State GPA of 2.50 with a GPA of 2.75 in social work and supportive courses.
Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.)


Minor

- Social Work

Courses in Social Work (SOWK)

SOWK 1350 is a prerequisite to all other social work courses except SOWK 2375, SOWK 3339, SOWK 4315, SOWK 4318, SOWK 4320, and SOWK 4355.

SOWK 1350. Introduction to Social Work.
This introductory survey course includes the nature, function, and various types of social work practice, acquainting the student with the history, scope, and values of the profession
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
TCCN: SOCW 2361

SOWK 2320. Love and Relationships.
This elective course explores the nature of attraction, friendship, love, and human sexuality, enabling students to enhance their own personal and professional relationships
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 2375. Social Services in the Community.
This undergraduate course introduces the organizations and policies involved in social services delivery. Students participate in 50 hours of work as supervised observers and volunteers in selected social service agencies
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 3305. Seminar in Human Behavior and Social Environment I.
This undergraduate course provides an overview of human functioning in the environment by studying eco-systems and developmental frameworks. It builds knowledge and values for practice with task groups, organizations, and communities. Prerequisites: Official Social Work major; complete SOWK 3420 or instructor consent
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 3312. Alcoholism and Chemical Dependence.
This elective course focuses on commonly used and abused drugs as well as the dynamics and treatment of addiction and alcohol abuse. It emphasizes direct social work interventions aimed at addiction prevention and treatment
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 3332. Helping Troops Transition Back to their Families and Communities: The Invisible Wounds of War.
The course examines topics at the individual, family, group, organizational, and community levels related to troops who are returning from current combat operations and their families. It reviews the needs, community resources, and policies in place for helping them and their families make this transition. Prerequisite: Upper division undergraduate standing or instructor approval
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 3339. Selected Topics in Social Work.
Students study relevant social work topics in depth. Topics, such as social work in prisons or in mental health facilities, are selected according to students’ needs and professional trends. Repeatable for credit with different emphases
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 3340. Social Work Research.
This undergraduate course builds foundation scientific research skills in critical thinking, knowledge of program and practice evaluation, and a philosophy of generalist social work practice. Prerequisites: HP 3302 or HP 3325 or CJ 3347 or PSY 3301 or SOCI 3307; official Social Work major
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 3350. Connecting Policy and Practice.
This course describes contemporary American Social Welfare and illustrates social work professional practice within policy guidelines. It focuses on practice with involuntary clients in a variety of agency contexts
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 3420. Social Work Practice I.
This undergraduate course studies generalist theory and application of social work practice with individuals, families, and groups, including introductory data collection, assessment, intervention planning, and evaluation. Prerequisites: Official Social Work major. (WI)
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required|Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 3425. Social Work Practice II.
This undergraduate course emphasizes generalist social work practice with task groups, organizations, and communities, examining data collection, assessment, intervention, planning, implementation, and evaluation. Students develop and implement a community-based project. Prerequisites: SOWK 3420; official Social Work major. (WI)
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required|Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
SOWK 4305. Seminar in Human Behavior and Social Environment II.
This undergraduate course integrates knowledge from social sciences and SOWK 3305, focusing on individuals, families, and small groups functioning in environments. It uses a bio-psychosocial perspective, expanding on eco-systems, developmental, and values frameworks. Prerequisites: Official Social Work major; and SOWK 3305. (WI)
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This undergraduate course focuses on knowledge and skills necessary for effective, ethical, and just practice, exploring interpersonal and institutional dynamics of racism, sexism, heterosexism, homophobia, classism and other forms of oppression and their effects on providing social services to diverse populations. (MULT)
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This undergraduate elective course analyzes child welfare services available to abused and neglected children in their own homes, in substitute care, and through the community, emphasizing social work intervention with children and their families
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This undergraduate elective course provides a generalist view of social work practice in mental health and public health, considering the social problems that affect health care, and ethical and effective intervention strategies and service delivery systems
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 4320. Social Work with Older Adults.
This undergraduate elective gives a comprehensive introduction to contemporary social problems, values, and issues affecting older adults, and effective and ethical intervention strategies and service delivery systems
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 4355. Policy Practice.
This course is an overview of social policy and legislation and the processes of influencing public policy. It links policy with a broad range of social work service areas
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course builds skills in self-presentation, in taking responsibility for personal and professional growth, in learning professional behaviors in organizations, and in presenting court testimony. Prerequisite: SOWK 3425 official Social Work major
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This one-semester undergraduate course highlights individualized reading, independent study and projects, and guided instruction. It is offered to superior students by the professor’s invitation and with the consent of the BSW Coordinator. This course may not be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: official Social Work major
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

SOWK 4425. Social Work Practice III.
This undergraduate course emphasizes interpersonal and communication skills necessary for effective, ethical generalist social work practice. Students translate theory into helping behaviors through practice and feedback to develop competent skills for beginning field placement. Prerequisites: SOWK 3425; official Social Work major. (WI)
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.
Course Attribute(s): Lab Required|Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Undergraduate students engage in generalist social work in agencies, supervised by licensed social workers and the field coordinator. Students work a minimum of 270 clock hours, attend seminars, and complete assignments. Prerequisites: Completion of all Phase II course requirements, and application to field coordinator
6 Credit Hours. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 20 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Dual Enrollment Permitted|Time Conflicts Permitted
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This undergraduate course extends SOWK 4645. Students, supervised by licensed social workers and the field coordinator, apply advanced generalist techniques for a minimum of 270 clock hours, attending seminars, and completing assignments. Prerequisites: Completion of all Phase II course requirements, and application to field coordinator
6 Credit Hours. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 20 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Dual Enrollment Permitted|Time Conflicts Permitted
Grade Mode: Standard Letter