

SOCIAL WORK

bachelor of social work (B.S.W.)

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

Social Work is among the noblest of professions. Social workers help people with a range of problems in a variety of social service settings: mental health, education, health care, substance abuse, developmental disabilities, child welfare, etc. Social workers strive to enhance functioning and promote social justice. This program will help prepare you for entry into a career where you dedicate your efforts to empower people to fulfill their human potential. In return, you will reap the rewards that come with improving people's lives and knowing you had a hand in shaping a more just and compassionate society.

ADVANTAGE UIS

- **Faculty experience.** The Social Work faculty provides support and guidance to students in small, interactive classes. Our faculty members have extensive experience and expertise in the field. Faculty members bring their research and service activities into the classroom to enhance student learning.
- **Our students have their papers.** The BSW department at UIS is accredited by the national Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). This means that graduates may receive advanced standing when applying to Masters of Social Work (MSW) programs. Graduates are also eligible for Illinois licensure as a Licensed Social Worker (LSW), following three years of approved supervised experience.
- **UIS Social Work Club.** Eat, network, discuss, plan, eat again. Students are encouraged to get involved in this academic club where they can learn about social service problems and referral agencies, share ideas and career advice, and have some fun, too.

Advanced training. Many of our students go on to enter MSW programs at leading Social Work graduate schools. Advanced degrees open the door to management, teaching, research, consulting, government policy-making, and private practice as clinical social workers and psychotherapists.

The generalist approach. You will eventually choose an area of practice specialization, but you will leave UIS as a generalist, having learned the foundational values, skills, and knowledge of social work. Our graduates are prepared to work in a wide variety of human service agencies.

*"Civilization is a method of living and an attitude of equal respect for all people."
- Jane Addams*

Job security. The aging baby boom generation will create greater demand for health and social services. Substance abusers are increasingly being placed into treatment programs instead of prison. Hospitals are releasing patients earlier, spurring demand for home healthcare services. More school social workers will be needed. The next few decades will be the golden age of social work.

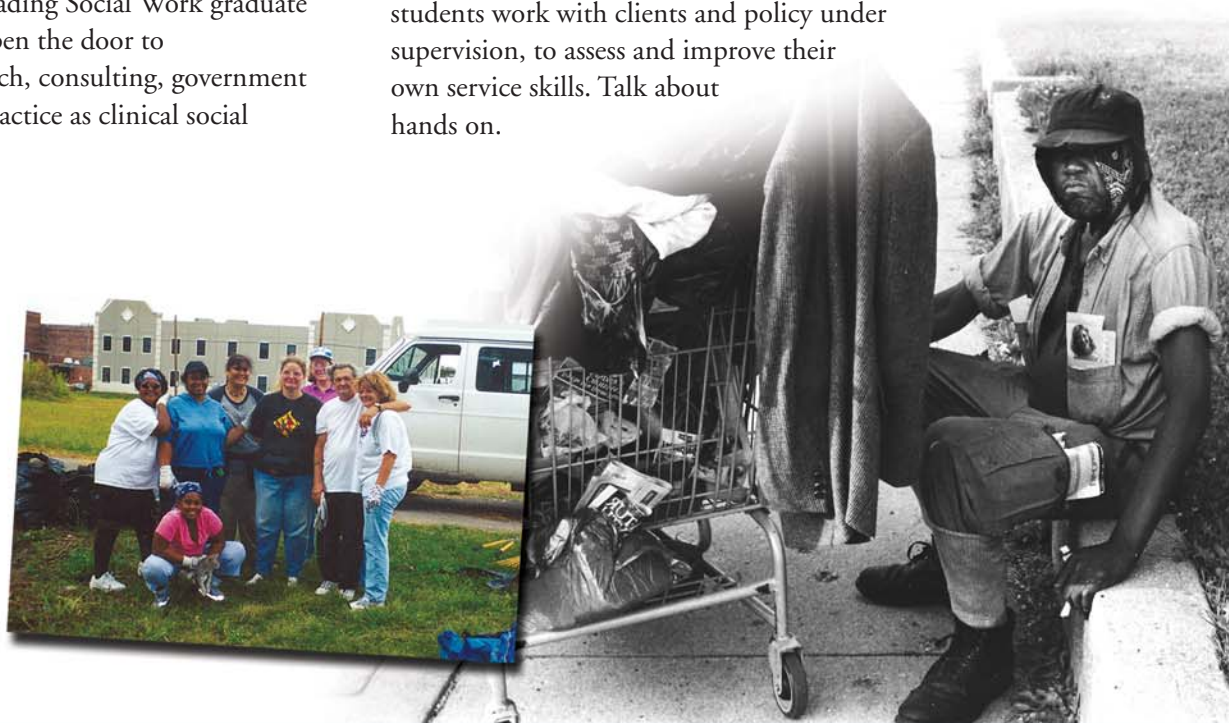
Field experience. There is no substitute for integrating knowledge and skills in the field. We require service learning and an intensive, 400-hour experience in a social service agency, where students work with clients and policy under supervision, to assess and improve their own service skills. Talk about hands on.

What can I do with this degree?

Our graduates work in a variety of social service agencies in the public and private sectors serving children, families, the elderly, mentally ill, disabled, and other diverse populations. Many of our students go on to earn advanced social work degrees.

Recent employers include:

*Illinois General Assembly Legislative Staff
Case Worker - DCFS
Case Manager - private social welfare agency
Mental Health Specialist
Family Service Worker*



The BSW gives students the education and skills necessary to provide direct services to clients in a wide variety of human service settings. Generalist practice social work encompasses all client groups and all levels of service, from individuals to international social policy. This is a professional program involving a great deal of time and commitment. In addition, professional preparation requires each student to examine his/her values, attitudes, knowledge, and skills. The bachelor's degree in social work is nationally accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Faculty Vince Flammini,
Larry Livingston, Martin Martsch,
Kathryn Sheridan

Associated faculty Eric
Hadley-Ives, Anthony Halter,
Neil Headman, Carolyn Peck

Emeritus faculty Sandra Mills,
Michael Townsend, Don Yohe

Adjunct faculty Janice Whitt

Entrance Requirements

An application process is required for admission to the program. Students must first be admitted to UIS and then make separate application to the social work department.

Acceptance is based on a combination of previous academic record, personal development, and motivation for service in the field. The admission process can be initiated at any time during the year, but acceptance to the University and all department application materials must be completed and on file with the department by the semester preceding enrollment. The admission process may include a personal interview with the applicant and a writing sample.

Because the professional preparation requirements of the social work curriculum are extensive, the department urges prospective students to begin this preparation before applying to the BSW department. A broad knowledge background in the social sciences is essential. Therefore, the program requires a liberal arts foundation including preparatory work in general psychology, sociology/anthropology, political science, and statistics. Students should contact the social work department for details.

Field Work

One essential aspect of professional preparation is the integration of knowledge and skills. This is accomplished primarily through the field work course. This is an intensive 400-hour experience in a social agency, where a student, under supervision, learns to assess and improve his or her own direct service skills. The field work supervisor should be a person holding a degree in social work. All BSW core courses (except Senior Seminar) must be completed and graded before starting field work at approved sites.

Department Requirements

Core Curriculum	
SWK 322 Introduction to Social Work	3 Hrs.
SWK 323 Introduction to Social Work Lab.	1 Hr.
SWK 333 Human Behavior in the Social Environment	4 Hrs.
SWK 344 Social Work Practice I	4 Hrs.
SWK 355 Social Welfare Policy and Services	4 Hrs.
SWK 366 Culture, Diversity, and Social Work	4 Hrs.
SWK 377 Social Work Practice II	4 Hrs.
SWK 430 Social Work Research Methods	4 Hrs.
SWK 433 Social Work Practice III	4 Hrs.
SWK 434 Senior Seminar	4 Hrs.
SWK 450 Field Work	8 Hrs.
Total Core	44 Hrs.

Other Requirements

See your advisor

Total 60 Hrs.

Suggested Course Sequence

First semester	
SWK 322 Introduction to Social Work	3 Hrs.
SWK 323 Introduction to Social Work Lab.	1 Hr.
SWK 333 Human Behavior in the Social Environment	4 Hrs.
SWK 344 Social Work Practice I	4 Hrs.

Second semester

SWK 355 Social Welfare Policy and Services	4 Hrs.
SWK 366 Culture, Diversity, and Social Work	4 Hrs.
SWK 377 Social Work Practice II	4 Hrs.

Third semester

SWK 430 Social Work Research Methods	4 Hrs.
SWK 433 Social Work Practice III	4 Hrs.
SWK 434 Senior Seminar	4 Hrs.

Fourth semester

SWK 450 Fieldwork	8 Hrs.
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Core courses must be taken in the proper sequential order after the prerequisites are completed.

Visit our website for more information on

- Advising
- Schedule
- Additional information on field work

To view course descriptions

uis.edu/uiscatalog

CONTACT INFORMATION

Social Work

(217) 206-6687 or swk@uis.edu

Website

uis.edu/socialwork

Office of Admissions

(217) 206-4847
or Toll free (888) 977-4847

admissions@uis.edu

uis.edu/admissions

IMPORTANT! — Information effective fall 2009. Subject to change without notice. The information is not to be considered final, nor does it constitute a contract between the student and UIS. See uis.edu/uiscatalog for current program requirements.