BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WORK

PROGRAM HANDBOOK
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BU SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK: A HISTORY OF SERVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

The profession of social work is devoted to the enhancement of human well-being and to the alleviation of poverty and oppression. These goals are accomplished through the promotion, restoration, maintenance and enhancement of the social functioning of individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. The expansion of human service programs and areas of practice that utilize social work knowledge and skills create a demand for professionally-educated social workers. Social work offers a challenging and exciting career for the individual who is motivated to help others and who has a personal commitment to the advancement of social justice. The Bachelor of Arts in Social Work at OU is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, the accrediting body for educational programs in social work.

Social work curriculum was first offered at the University of Oklahoma in 1917 through the School of Social Service located within the Department of Sociology. Over the next eighteen years, more social service courses were added to the curriculum, including Methods of Social Casework and Child Welfare in the early 1920's. During this period, the School added the study of community organization to the curriculum.

During this time, J.J. Rhyne arrived as a professor of sociology with assigned duties in the School of Social Service. Dr. Rhyne was named the first director of the School of Social Service in 1929, and remained head of the department when it was renamed the School of Social Work in 1935. His long-time contribution to the School was recognized by naming the first building solely dedicated to the School, Rhyne Hall, located at 1005 S. Jenkins. Dr. Rhyne remained as director until 1950.

Supported by the University, the School applied for membership in the accrediting body of the American Association of Schools of Social Work. Conditional membership for the graduate program was granted in 1938, with full accreditation received for the two-year graduate program in 1952, transforming into accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) after merger of existing accrediting organizations. Since that time, the graduate program has maintained continuous accreditation by C.S.W.E. The undergraduate program was approved in 1970 and accredited in 1974, and has maintained continuous accreditation since that time.

Since the early years of the School, students have been actively involved in social work student organizations and activities. The Social Work Club was organized in 1929 with joint membership of undergraduate and graduate students. Overtime, student organizations became separate groups, serving their respective programs in the University Student Senate. Today, students in both undergraduate and graduate associations participate in a variety of service activities on campus and in the Norman and Oklahoma City metropolitan community. Of particular distinction were services offered by School and the social work community after the tragic, terrorist bombing of the Murrell Federal Building in Oklahoma City in 1995. In the days, weeks, and months following the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, students and faculty of the School provided numerous volunteer services to survivors, families of survivors, and rescue workers.

Growth has been consistent since the early days of the School of Work. Enrollment increased steadily, save a small decrease during World War II. Currently, the School maintains a yearly enrollment of over 400 students, undergraduate and graduate, across both OU-Norman and OU-Tulsa campuses.
A NEW ERA: ANNE AND HENRY ZARROW HALL

After many years of preparation and development, the dream of a new building for the School came to fruition in August of 2011. Beginning with a $5,000,000 donation to the University from the Zarrow Foundation as a birthday gift to their benefactor, Henry Zarrow, the new Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work was completed. The Zarrow family are renowned in Oklahoma, as well as around the world, as caring, giving philanthropists, supporting organizations well known to the profession of social work. Zarrow Hall opened its doors to its first students on August 29, 2011. Built at a total cost of $13,000,000 it blended cutting edge technology with aesthetic surroundings to create a tremendous atmosphere of learning for social work students as well as others from across campus.

MISSION AND GOALS

The school achieves its mission by preparing skilled social work practitioners who are committed to practice that includes services to the poor and oppressed, by improving and developing social service programs, and by promoting social work professionalism in Oklahoma. To this end, the school offers two degree programs: an undergraduate major in social work leading to a Bachelor of Arts in social work and a graduate program leading to a Master of Social Work. The mission of the school follows:

The Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work advances relevant and high quality knowledge and values of social work practice useful in preparing competent social workers who can elevate the status of people, populations or communities that experience considerable vulnerability and injustice within Oklahoma and the broader society.

THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

The Bachelor of Arts in Social Work is offered as a liberal arts degree within a professional school. The maintenance of the liberal arts degree supports the Council on Social Work Education's recommendation that the basis for a strong professional degree is a strong liberal arts foundation. The major consists of 60 hours of general education, and major work consisting of a 3 hour lower division introductory course followed by 42 upper division hours.

DEVELOPMENT OF A SOCIAL WORK PROFESSIONAL: COMPETENCIES AND PRACTICE BEHAVIORS

Social work students must demonstrate competency as practitioners through evidence of having acquired practice behaviors. The Council on Social Work Education, through its Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards, requires the following competencies and associated practice behaviors to be taught in a social work curriculum:

1. Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly.
   Associated Behaviors:
   • Advocate for client access to the services of social work.
   • Practice personal reflection and self-correction to assure continual professional development.
   • Attend to professional roles and boundaries.
   • Demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and communication.
   • Engage in career-long learning.
   • Use supervision and consultation.
2. **Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice.**
   **Associated Behaviors:**
   - Recognize and manage personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice.
   - Tolerate ambiguity in resolving ethical conflicts.
   - Apply strategies of ethical reasoning.

3. **Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments.**
   **Associated Behaviors:**
   - Distinguish, appraise, and integrate multiple sources of knowledge, including research-based knowledge, and practice wisdom.
   - Analyze models of assessment, prevention, intervention, and evaluation.
   - Demonstrate effective oral and written communication in working with individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and colleagues.

4. **Engage diversity and difference in practice.**
   **Associated Behaviors:**
   - Recognize the extent to which a culture’s structures and values may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or create or enhance privilege and power.
   - Gain sufficient self-awareness to eliminate the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse groups.
   - Recognize and communicate their understanding of the importance of difference in shaping life experiences.
   - View themselves as learners and engage those with whom they work as informants.

5. **Advance human rights and social and economic justice.**
   **Associated Behaviors:**
   - Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination.
   - Advocate for human rights and social and economic justice.
   - Engage in practices that advance social and economic justice.

6. **Engage in research-informed practice and practice-informed research.**
   **Associated Behavior:**
   - Use practice experience to inform scientific inquiry.
   - Use research evidence to inform practice.

7. **Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment.**
   **Associated Behaviors:**
   - Utilize conceptual frameworks to guide the processes of assessment, intervention, and Evaluation.
   - Critique and apply knowledge to understand person and environment.

8. **Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services.**
   **Associated Behaviors:**
   - Analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance social well-being.
   - Collaborate with colleagues and clients for effective policy action.
9. Respond to contexts that shape practice.

*Associated Behaviors:*

- Continuously discover, appraise, and attend to changing locales, populations, scientific and technological developments, and emerging societal trends to provide relevant services.
- Provide leadership in promoting sustainable changes in service delivery and practice to improve the quality of social services.

10. Engage, assess, intervene, and evaluate with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities through:

- **Engagement.**
  
  *Associated Behaviors:*
  
  - Substantively and affectively prepare for action with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
  - Use empathy and other interpersonal skills.
  - Develop a mutually agreed-on focus of work and desired outcomes.

- **Assessment.**
  
  *Associated Behaviors:*
  
  - Collect, organize, and interpret client data.
  - Assess client strengths and limitations.
  - Develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives.
  - Select appropriate intervention strategies.

- **Intervention.**
  
  *Associated Behaviors:*
  
  - Initiate actions to achieve organizational goals.
  - Implement prevention interventions that enhance client capacities.
  - Help clients resolve problems.
  - Negotiate, mediate, and advocate for clients.
  - Facilitate transitions and endings.

- **Evaluation.**
  
  *Associated Behaviors:*
  
  - Critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate interventions.

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**ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM**

**INTRODUCTION**

As a profession, social work is committed to serving individuals, families, groups, and communities representing the diversity found within our society. This diversity may be evidenced on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, mental or physical disability, or any other preference or personal characteristic, condition or status. In the interest of best serving diverse populations, the Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work strives to recruit students who value and reflect such diversity. To achieve this, the School encourages application from persons representative of diverse groups.

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**RECRUITMENT**

The School collaborates with the University of Oklahoma, Office of Prospective Student Services to meet with high school and transfer students interested in a career in social work. Faculties are available to meet with these students to answer questions about the profession and the School. Faculty may also visit state community colleges to meet with prospective students. Where possible, the School will establish collaborative relationships with such institutions to establish equivalent Introduction to Social Work courses within the curriculum of those institutions and to form relationships with community college faculty to facilitate the movement of students into the School’s admission process.

**PRE-PROGRAM SOCIAL WORK MAJOR**

Once admitted to the University, students may associate themselves with the School by declaring themselves a “Pre-Program Social Work Major”. This should be done through an appointment with a College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) academic advisor located at the Cal Hobson Advisement Center in Ellison Hall. Students completing coursework at the University may declare this status after achieving 12 hours of coursework. Transfer students should do so when they attend their transfer appointment with their academic adviser. Students declaring as Pre-Program Social Work Majors benefit by having the School as their advisement home. This assists in planning for pre-requisite courses and admission to the School. Students may declare this status at anytime, but it is best to do so by fall semester of their sophomore year.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

All Students Admitted to the Program must have:

- Applied and been accepted by the University of Oklahoma.
- Achieved junior status (60 hours of successful coursework) by the end of the Summer semester in which they are admitted.
- Achieved a minimum 2.50 Combined Retention Grade Point Average (GPA). Under some circumstances, students with a Combined Retention GPA between 2.25 and 2.49 may be admitted on conditional status depending on space available in the admission cohort. Acceptance will depend upon an assessment by the Undergraduate Committee on the likelihood the applicant can improve their GPA to the 2.50 needed for graduation. Conditionally admitted students will enter the program under a Level 1 Review (see the Academic and Professional Performance Policy, [http://socialwork.ou.edu/policies-and-procedures](http://socialwork.ou.edu/policies-and-procedures)) and will be required to meet with their faculty advisor at mid-term and the end of each semester until their GPA is up to a 2.5.
- Successfully completed the following courses or their equivalents by August 15th before the fall semester of admission: Introduction to Sociology; Introduction to Psychology; and either Introduction to Zoology, Concepts in Biology, or Introduction to Biology, or their equivalent for courses transferred from another institution.
- Completed Introduction to Social Work, preferably before the fall semester of admission, and earned a minimum grade of “C”. This course maybe be taken at another University but must be approved by the School before it is accepted for credit in the program.
- Completed an admission form and submitted references by February 1st.

**COURSES TRANSFERRED TO THE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM**

Coursework equating to social work courses in the School may be accepted for transfer credit. Commonly, Introduction to Social Work and/or Introduction to Statistics are carried to the program from other institutions, typically community colleges. Such courses from institutions with which the School maintains a collaborative relationship are typically accepted without question. Gaining acceptance for other courses requires the student to submit a recent course syllabus to the School for review. Students should note SWK 2223: Statistics for Social Workers fulfills the University’s General Education requirement for mathematics.
APPLICATION
Information regarding the application process is posted on the School web page at
http://socialwork.ou.edu/. Applicants are required to submit the following documents:

- A School application form.
- Current resume.
  - The Undergraduate Admission Committee is interested in your life experience
    leading up to your decision to apply for admission to this program. As part of this
    application, you are to write a statement that addresses the areas listed below. The
    statement will be used both to assess your writing and critical thinking skills as well
    as to aid the Undergraduate Admissions Committee in making a decision about your
    application. Please adhere to the following guidelines.
    - The statement should be FIVE double spaced typewritten pages.
    - Include in the title your name, school you are attending (if so), and the
      number of credit hours you will have as of December 2015.
    - Please address the following questions in your statement:
      - Discuss the major reasons for your interest in the profession of
        social work.
      - Describe some of the challenges AND successes you have
        experienced in your education, employment, and personal life.
      - Describe your experiences, voluntary or paid, working with people
        in a service capacity.
      - Describe your experiences working with individuals or groups who
        are different from you (ie religious, racial, ethnic, disability status,
        socio-economic, gender identity and sexual orientation).
      - What difficulties do you feel that you might have as an individual
        working with any of the groups listed above (please be specific)?
      - What is your plan to be successful in the BASW program?

- Two (2) letters of reference; one (1) from recent course instructor and one (1) from a work
  or volunteer supervisor. References from friends and family members will not be accepted.
  References from sources that have experience with the applicant in a service-related
  activity are desirable.

- An unofficial transcript from the fall semester immediately prior to application, or one from
  the most recent semester attended.

Failure to include all documents specified will delay the admission decision, and may eventually
result in a decision not to admit the applicant to the School. Applicants should understand that
admission to the School cannot be gained until they have also been admitted to the University of
Oklahoma.

ADMISSION DECISION
Priority consideration for admission is afforded students who submit complete applications by
February 1st. All applicants in this status will be notified after mid-March of the admission decision.
Remaining applicants may be admitted on a space-available basis, but none will be admitted after
August 15th except under extraordinary circumstances. Applicants who do not meet criteria for
admission will be denied.

Those admitted who are completing prerequisite courses or achieving junior status during the
Spring semester will be considered conditionally admitted pending successful completion of these
requirements. Also, they must provide to the School documentary evidence of successful
completion of these requirements as soon as possible after the completion of the Spring semester.
Under some circumstances, applicants may be admitted who will complete these requirements in
the Summer session following the admission period. Those in this status must provide the School

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with documentary evidence of successful completion of these requirements by August 15th or face disenrollment from the program.

**RANKING OF CANDIDATES**
The School seeks mature, emotionally stable individuals with a strong sense of personal responsibility and integrity. With this in mind, applicants are ranked by the Undergraduate Program Committee through an evaluation and weighing of all admission materials (i.e. application form, “Readiness for Social Work Statement”, resume, transcripts, and recommendation forms). In addition to academic performance (measured primarily by the Combined Retention GPA, as well as success in completing prerequisite course and junior standing requirements), the Committee considers other factors that contribute to the development of the professional social worker. Service learning, formal work experience, and volunteer service, particularly in settings that serve public social services clients enhance an application. As well, life experiences and opportunities for personal growth, leadership, communication and interpersonal relationship skills; problem solving ability; the ability to work with and respect persons from diverse backgrounds; motivation for coursework and a career in social work; and commitment to issues of social, political and economic justice all contribute toward a more positive view for admission.

As it makes admission decisions, the Undergraduate Admissions Committee seeks to build a student body composed of students from varied backgrounds with the potential and desire to work effectively with the diverse client groups that social work serves. Consistent with its affirmative action stance on diversity, the Admissions Committee will give particular consideration for admission to students who are members of special populations or oppressed groups.

**TRANSFER FROM ANOTHER SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM**
Students may transfer to the School from another social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education through the School’s regular admission process. They must also:

- Secure a written reference from a director, coordinator, or faculty member responsible for managing the program from where the applicant transfers.
- Sign a release of information permitting direct contact between the School and the program from which the applicant transfers.

Social work courses to be transferred must be reviewed by the undergraduate program coordinator or another faculty member to determine if they equate to those offered by the School. It is the responsibility of the admitted student to provide syllabi and bulletin descriptions for these courses for review. Acceptance is not guaranteed.

**ADMISSION ADVISEMENT MEETING**
Once notified, applicants admitted to the program should contact the School for an advisement appointment. This session will:

- Review the applicant academic record to assess the status of any Spring semester courses in which admitted students are currently enrolled that will be used to meet prerequisite course or junior standing requirements.
- Review the applicant academic record to assess progress toward completing General Education Requirements.
- Develop an advisement plan to address needs in any of these areas.
- Provide guidance on any other issue impacting matriculation into the School program.
**THE SOCIAL WORK STUDENT ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

**PREPARING FOR THE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM**
Balancing class, work, life and practicum obligations is a major challenge for social work students. While the OU School of Social Work strives to offer courses with some schedule flexibility, students will still face conflicts between their academic program and their work and personal life. Students are advised to consult enrollment schedules for future semesters as early as possible in order to construct a workable plan.

**THE COURSE OF STUDY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prior to Admission</th>
<th>General Education Plan to a Minimum of 60 Hours (Junior Status)</th>
<th>Introduction to Psychology</th>
<th>Introduction to Sociology</th>
<th>Introduction to Biology</th>
<th>SWK 2113-Introduction to Social Work</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Year</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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<td>Spring</td>
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<td></td>
<td>S WK 3103-Generalist Practice I</td>
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<td>S WK 3233-HBSE: Individual &amp; Families</td>
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<td>S WK 3323-Human Diversity &amp; Social Justice</td>
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<td>12 hours (minimum*)</td>
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<td>Senior</td>
<td>S WK 4083-Undergraduate Social Work Research I</td>
<td>S WK 4093- Undergraduate Social Work Research II</td>
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<td>S WK 4103-Generalist Practice III</td>
<td>S WK 4331-Practicum Seminar II (Capstone)</td>
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<td>S WK 4311-Practicum Seminar I</td>
<td>S WK 4315-Practicum I</td>
<td>S WK 4325-Practicum II (Capstone)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12 hours (minimum*)</td>
<td>(9 hours)</td>
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*Note: Typically students in these semesters take more than twelve hours in order to complete final General Education requirements.

**COMMUNICATION WITH STUDENTS**
E-mail is the key source for communication for the University of Oklahoma campuses. It is the main way important information is disseminated to students. It is the responsibility of each student to activate and check frequently their University of Oklahoma e-mail account. Not checking e-mail is not an acceptable excuse for missing a deadline or not receiving important information.
**Electives**
Because the social work major requires 45 credit hours, the opportunity to add elective hours can be a challenge. However, students are encouraged to seek electives both within and outside the School if their individual plan of study allows room to add them.

**Independent Study**
Independent Study courses offer an opportunity to investigate in depth an area of study relevant to social work. Students are expected to demonstrate a higher level of academic performance than in courses that meet according to a typical semester schedule. Many School faculty offer Independent Study courses. Students interested in them should meet with a faculty member to discuss areas of mutual interest on which a program of study could be constructed.

**Dual Majors, Minors, and Certificate Programs**
Social work students are encouraged to pursue whatever interests they may have in terms of other major, minor and certificate programs as long as they maintain their commitment to completion of the social work major. They should acknowledge that the 45 credit hour requirement in social work can create a challenge to adding other significant coursework beyond typical elective hours. Students who seek to complete additional programs should plan early in their University career to work ahead in their General Education plan, or commit themselves to extra semester coursework, to insure they can complete both the social work major and any additional program desired. Students are encouraged to visit [http://socialwork.ou.edu/academic-programs](http://socialwork.ou.edu/academic-programs) for more information.

**Honors Program**
Social work students may pursue an Honors College program through courses offered by the School of Social Work. Students participating in the Honors Program should contact faculty about additional course requirements.

**Social Work Field Education: Our “Signature Pedagogy”**
Field education is an integral part of professional education in social work and is offered in collaboration with selected agencies and programs throughout the state of Oklahoma. The student is placed in the social agency under an approved supervisor and completes 480 hours of practicum experience in fall and spring of the senior year, divided into 240 hours each semester equating to approximately a 16-18/week. Practicum settings are selected on the basis of educational merit. The School makes every effort to place students in settings that are consistent with student career goals. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the practicum setting, as well as travel connected with the placement. The practicum courses are graded "S" for satisfactory or "U" for unsatisfactory performance. Students must make satisfactory progress in the practicum in order to continue in the degree program.

Visit the practicum section of the School of Social Work website for additional information: [http://socialwork.ou.edu/field-education](http://socialwork.ou.edu/field-education)

**Personal Conduct and Performance**

**The Social Work Professional**
Students admitted to the Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work are expected comport themselves by the highest standards of conduct, both academically as well as professionally. The resources below are a starting point for understanding these expectations and students are strongly encouraged to become familiar with the content:
Below are highlights and additional sources regarding professional comportment.

**ETHICS**

The School of Social Work fully subscribes to and is guided by the NASW Code of Ethics (http://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/default.asp). Social work program students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior that reflects a commitment to the ethics of the social work profession as exemplified in the Code of Ethics. Behavior and statements contrary to these ethics may be cause for denial of the student's admission to or the student's continuance in the School of Social Work's programs. Examples of behavior which would warrant a review include, but are not limited to, derogatory oral, written, or electronically-based statements towards students, staff, faculty, agency representatives or clients. Derogatory statements concerning racial, ethnic or cultural background, handicap status, religion, socio-economic background, gender, sexual orientation or other status also may warrant review.

**CRIMINAL OFFENSES**

Though the school does not require that applicants submit to a background check for possible criminal offenses, applicants should realize that practicum agencies may require such a check. Further, applicants should realize that future employers may request a background check and that a criminal record may disqualify applicants from some social work positions. In addition, the school, as part of its process of practicum assignments, asks students whether they have a misdemeanor or felony conviction (or non-contested charge) in their background.

**ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS**

Social work majors must demonstrate a high degree of academic accomplishment and professional potential. Thus, students are evaluated in the areas of class performance, practicum experience and capstone assessment. Retention and graduation are dependent upon satisfactory performance in these components.

Academic performance may be evaluated by several methods, including but not limited to academic papers, class projects, exams, oral presentations, class participation, role play and videotaped exercises. Within the requirements set by the University, individual faculty may have different expectations for individual courses regarding workload, grading procedures and other policies. Students bear the responsibility to adjust for success in each class.

At the undergraduate level, students must maintain a combined retention GPA of 2.50 in both major and overall coursework to graduate. Additionally, students must earn no grade lower than a “C” in all social work courses. Students who do not meet these standards will be subject to a review of their performance according to the Level Review Procedures found in the Academic and Professional Performance Policy for the School (online link above). Failure to complete any remediation recommended through the Level Review Procedures may result in dismissal from the social work program.

**STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

A student enrolling in the University of Oklahoma and the School of Social Work assumes an obligation to behave in a manner that is compatible with the institution and school as educational enterprises. It is the student's responsibility to know and abide by the OU code of conduct.

Students are encouraged to report academic misconduct to faculty/staff when it occurs even if the student does not have firsthand information about the incident. Only faculty or staff may take

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action to file a charge or impose an admonition for academic misconduct. A student also may be accused of academic misconduct. For more information about faculty and student rights under the code, please refer to the following resource:

**STUDENT GRIEVANCES**
The School of Social Work strives to be an institution that is responsive to the needs and concerns of the students.

- It is important that students attempt to resolve problems or concerns by first discussing their concern with the individual.
- If this is not possible, students are encouraged to consult their advisor.
- Students may also consult with the Office of Student Affairs for further assistance.
- The adviser may consult with or request that the student meet with the director and/or assistant director of the School of Social Work.

Concerns with instruction, course scheduling and programmatic concerns should be addressed to the director, assistant director, or undergraduate program coordinator.

**STUDENT IMPAIRMENT**
If a person appears to be an immediate threat to themselves, or someone else or is incapable of caring for themselves, 911 will be called.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID**
Some employers provide financial aid for some of their employees to attend school. In particular, opportunities are available for DHS employees in the child welfare field through the CWPEP program (see below). Some Native American students obtain financial support from their tribes.

The Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work administers a limited number of stipends through grant funds and university scholarships. Materials describing sources for students funding are distributed to admitted applicants along with other admission materials. Some practicum agencies award stipends to students placed in their agencies. The school may have a limited number of work-study positions. For financial aid specific to the BSW go to: [http://socialwork.ou.edu/tuition-assistance](http://socialwork.ou.edu/tuition-assistance)

For other information on scholarships, stipends and loans, consult the University of Oklahoma, Office of Financial Aid Services, Buchanan Hall #216, 1000 Asp. Norman, OK 73019-4078, [www.financialaid.ou.edu](http://www.financialaid.ou.edu)

**STUDENT RESOURCES**

**ADVISEMENT**
The primary academic advisement resource for social work students is the O.U. College of Arts and Sciences Cal Hobson Advisement Center in Ellison Hall. Advisors there are the final authority on any academic programs for any social work student. Social work advisors defer to the College for final assessment regarding whether a student’s program successfully fulfills all graduation requirements.

1. School of Social Work faculty will serve as professional advisors who can provide you with information about the profession of social work, career opportunities, selecting a minor, applying to graduate school, learning about research, etc. They can help you interpret SSW policies and advocate for you to facilitate your success.
2. School of Social Work advisors will provide your mandatory semester academic advisement. They will be available for advisement meetings during the Advisement Fest. You will sign up for an advisement appointment with an advisor using the iAdvise system. School of Social Work advisors are the only people in the school who will lift your advising flag.

Students can receive advisement from the School before admission through the Pre-Program Social Work Major status. Students who want to declare the Pre-Program Social Work Major should schedule an appointment with an advisor at the Cal Hobson Advisement at Center located within the College of Arts and Sciences. With this status, students will be advised by the Undergraduate Program Coordinator through admission and up to the beginning of junior year. With some exceptions, students maintain this advising relationship through graduation. The School is designated an advisement unit within the iAdvise advisement management system, so students may schedule with their adviser online: https://iadvise.ou.edu/

CAMPUS RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

The Writing Center - OU-Norman provides a Writing Center to assist students with writing papers. The services include: helping students improve writing projects by providing resources and feedback in writing consultations, one on one consultation throughout the writing process and offering multiple ways to learn collaboratively with the staff. The Writing Center is located in the Wagner Hall, Room 280, and may be reached at (405) 325-2936 or at their web address http://www.ou.edu/writingcenter/ Center hours are Monday through Tuesday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Wednesday through Thursday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Friday, 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Goddard Health Center – Students who have paid the student health fee are eligible for health care reduced rates. Visit http://goddard.ou.edu for more information or call (405) 325-4611. Counseling and Testing Services are also offered through Goddard. This program provides a variety of services to help students, faculty and staff to grow personally, understand themselves, and develop mutually satisfying relationships with friends and family. In addition to short-term counseling and limited psychiatric consultation, the professional staff offers assistance in exploring and assessing aptitudes, interests, and abilities that are important to career planning. Many standardized admissions and assessment tests are available through this office, such as the ACT, SAT, GRE, TOEFL, MCAT, LSAT and others. Counseling and Testing Services also offers an after-hours crisis and information service, Number Nyne (325-6963), which is staffed by trained student volunteers.

Veteran Service Alliance – Green Zone – OU Green Zone is a network of faculty and staff who volunteer to take the extra step to provide assistance for those students who served our country. Students may access the Green Zone by visiting http://www.ou.edu/content/veterans/green-zone/green-zone-resource.html.

University of Oklahoma Disability Resource Center (D.R.C.) – Students who wish to receive accommodations to enhance learning challenges resulting from disability may access the D.R.C. by visiting their website at http://www.ou.edu/content/drc.html or directly by email at drc@ou.edu. The Center will assist the student in determining if she/he is eligible for accommodations, work with the student to design them, then contact instructors requesting they be implemented.

Language Learning Center – The Language Learning Center at the University of Oklahoma provides technology, resources, and an engaging environment in which students, faculty, instructors, and visitors are supported in their language acquisition pursuits. The LLC creates opportunities for more meaningful contact with international languages through cultural programming, partnerships, technology, access to specialized resources, and modular, flexible,
active learning spaces. Students may access the Language Learning Center by visiting https://llc.ou.edu/.

**OU Cares** – OU Cares is an initiative sponsored by the Graduation Office designed to assist students in overcoming barriers to their success at O.U. Students can receive assistance for issues such as choosing a major, improving GPA and student skills, homesickness, financial concerns, planning for graduation, and many others. https://www.ou.edu/content/graduatesooner/about_us/ou_cares.html

**Personal Safety** – Information on campus safety is available at [http://www.ou.edu/oupd](http://www.ou.edu/oupd). The website The Police Notebook provides safety information and numbers to call for help. Also, OU Safewalk is available for all students from 8 p.m. - 2 a.m. who need accompaniment while traveling across campus. Students can request the service by calling 405-324-9255. Someone will arrive within 10-15 minutes at any OU campus location and escort persons on foot to their campus destination.

**Additional Safety Numbers:**
- OU Police Department, Non-emergency: (405) 325-9255
- Campus Crime Stoppers: (405) 325-7867
- Number Nyne (Crisis Center): (405)325-6963
- Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT): (405) 325-7700
- OU has installed special telephones at various outdoor locations in academic and housing areas on campus that are connected directly to the OU Police. These phones may be located by a blue light and a blue sign with the word “Emergency.” Simply open the blue cabinet and lift the handset to talk to the police dispatcher.

**SCHOOL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE**

**Undergraduate Social Work Association:** Students may join and participate in the Undergraduate Social Work Association. This group offers opportunities to serve both on campus and in the community. Officers are elected at the beginning of the fall semester.

**Student Advisory Councils and Committee Memberships:** Students are encouraged to become members of the O.U. College of Arts and Sciences – Dean’s Student Advisory Council. This body meets once a month with the Dean of the College to provide insight into the student experience. Additionally, the Director of the School also meets with the School Student Advisory Council to receive insight into student experience within the School.

Additionally, students are recruited to serve on one or more of several School committees that manage the governance of the School, such as the Undergraduate Program Committee, Curriculum Committee, Generalist Practice Committee, Field Education Committee and others. This opportunity provides the School with student input into how the school is governed.

**Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society:** Students may join this social work honor society. Phi Alpha recognizes student academic achievement within the School and also provides avenues for service to the community.

**CHILD WELFARE PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CWPEP)**

The Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program provides stipends to selected students who make a commitment to work in public child welfare. Its Web address is: The Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program in partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services offers students the opportunity to make a commitment to serve Oklahoma families and children at risk of abuse or neglect. Applications are available after the first of the year to all full-time junior and senior social work undergraduates and to full-time and part-
time social work graduate students at both the Norman and Tulsa programs. The CWPEP also is available to current OKDHS/Child Welfare employees and to employees of the tribes that have Title IV-E agreements with OKDHS and work in the tribe’s Indian Child Welfare program. CWPEP provides financial assistance to eligible applicants who are accepted into the program and agree to the terms of the legal contract. CWPEP works with the students in practicum placements within OKDHS/CW or the tribe’s ICW program. Applicants must be citizens of the United States and have criminal background and driving records checks. Upon graduation with a BSW or MSW degree, social workers are employed by OKDHS as CW specialists or return to the tribe in ICW. Students who do not fulfill the terms of the contract are required to repay all the funds provided or expended in their behalf. CWPEP graduates are given priority hiring status by OKDHS upon passing the required State Merit Exam. CWPEP is a wonderful opportunity for those students seeking a career in public child welfare and interested in experiencing the challenge of CW social work. For more information contact: Linda Smith at (405) 325-7174/linda.smith@ou.edu. Also, visit their web address at http://socialwork.ou.edu/child-welfare-professional-enhancement-program.

FACULTY
http://socialwork.ou.edu/faculty-contact-information
APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: UNDERGRADUATE SOCIAL WORK COURSE LISTING

S WK 2113 – Introduction to Social Work, Prerequisite: SOC 1113 or concurrent enrollment; sophomore or junior standing. Defines the profession of social work and describes its historical development. Provides foundation knowledge in social work values, professional ethics, and the history of social welfare and social services policy in the United States. (F, Sp)

S WK 2233 – Statistics for Social Work, Prerequisite: DMAT 0123, MATH 0123 or math placement exam. Introduction to statistics and data analysis in social work and the helping professions. Covers descriptive statistics (univariate and bivariate), inferential statistics (estimation and significance tests) and data interpretation (causality and generalizability) (F, Sp, Su) [I-M]

S WK 3003 – Interviewing Skills for Generalist Practice, Prerequisite: majors only; co-requisite: S WK 3103, S WK 3233. Introduction to basic interviewing and communication skills utilized in culturally sensitive, generalist social work practice. Emphasis on the development of self-awareness and skill development, and on providing both didactic and experiential learning. (F)

S WK 3103 – Generalist Practice with Individuals & Families Prerequisite: majors only; co-requisite: S WK 3003, S WK 3233. First of three generalist social work practice courses explicates a generalist perspective that focuses on the knowledge, values, skills, and techniques appropriate for engagement, assessment, intervention and evaluation with individuals and families. (F)

S WK 3113 – Generalist Practice - Families & Groups Prerequisite: S WK 3103; co-requisite: S WK 3243. The second of three generalist social work practice courses; explicates a generalist perspective that focuses on the knowledge, values, skills and techniques appropriate for engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation with families and small groups. (Sp)

S WK 3233 – Human Behavior: Individuals and Families, Prerequisite: majors only; co-requisite: 3003, 3103. Within a social systems framework and biopsychosocial perspective, students learn empirically-based theories which deal with life-span development and family dynamics. This course provides a theoretical foundation for micro level generalist practice. (F)

S WK 3243 – Human Behavior: Organizations and Communities, Prerequisite: majors only; S WK 3233; co-requisite: S WK 3113. Building on the theoretical content in S WK 3233, students learn theories related to organization and community dynamics and behavior. Special attention is given to establishing theoretical foundations for the assessment of mezzo and macro level systems. (Sp)

S WK 3313 – Social Welfare Policy: Analysis and Practice, Prerequisite: majors only; S WK 2113, S WK 3233. An undergraduate level historical and descriptive review of federal and state social welfare programming, introduction to social welfare policy analysis, and the role of the social work profession in affecting change in social welfare policy. (Sp)

S WK 3323 – Human Diversity and Social Justice, Prerequisite: majors only, or permission of instructor; SOC 1113; and junior standing. Provides undergraduate students with social work...
knowledge of human diversity from a social justice perspective. Knowledge of diverse groups’ norms/values, differential power, societal oppressions, and transactions between and within social groups are emphasized. (F)

**S WK 3960 – Honors Reading**  Prerequisite: Admission to Honors Program, may be repeated; maximum credit six hours. Honors reading will consist of topics designated by the instructor in keeping with the student’s major program. The topics will cover materials not usually presented in the regular course work. (F, Sp, Su)

**S WK 3970 – Honors Seminar**, 1 to 3 hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Honors Program. May be repeated; Maximum credit six hours. The projects covered in this course will vary. The content will deal with concepts not usually presented in regular course work. (Irreg.)

**S WK 3980 – Honors Research**, Prerequisite: Admission to Honors Program. May be repeated; Maximum credit six hours. The course will provide an opportunity for the gifted honors candidate to work at a special project in the student’s field. (F, Sp, Su)

**S WK 4083 – Undergraduate Social Work Research I**, I Prerequisite: senior standing; S WK 2223 or equivalent, and S WK 3113. Introduction to the design and implementation of quantitative and qualitative research methods appropriate to social work practice evaluation and program evaluation. (F)

**S WK 4093 – Undergraduate Social Work Research II**, Prerequisite: S WK 4083. Introduction to applied data analysis methods appropriate to research in social work practice evaluation and human services program evaluation. (Sp)

**S WK 4103 – Generalist Practice with Organizations & Communities** Prerequisite: S WK 3113; S WK 3243; Corequisite: S WK 4311, S WK 4315. Third of three methods courses in the social work practice sequence using a generalist practice model focusing on knowledge, values, and skills of professional social work practice with various client systems. Course emphasizes development of knowledge and skills specific for assessment and intervention with organizations and communities. (Sp)

**S WK 4170 – Special Topics in Social Work**. Prerequisite: upper-division standing or permission of director. May be repeated up to three times with change of content; maximum credit nine hours. Focus is on issues significant to social work or social welfare. (F, Sp, Su)

**S WK 4311 – Practicum Seminar I**: Prerequisite: senior standing; S WK 3113; Co-requisite: S WK 4315. Integration of knowledge, values and skills derived in social work courses with practicum situations. (F, Sp, Su)

**S WK 4315 – Practicum I**: Prerequisite: senior standing; S WK 3113; Co-requisite: S WK 4311. A structured, educationally directed experience in social work practice, provided under the supervision of a qualified social worker as practicum instructor. (F, Sp, Su)

**S WK 4325 – Practicum II**: Prerequisite: S WK 4311, S WK 4315; Co-requisite: S WK 4331. A continuation of the educational experience in S WK 4315. In combination with SWK 4331, this course comprises the General Education Capstone experience in Social Work. (F, Sp, Su) [V]
S WK 4331 – Practicum Seminar II  Prerequisite: S WK 4311, S WK 4315; Co-requisite: S WK 4325. A continuation of the educational experience in 4311. In combination with 4325, this course comprises the General Education capstone experience in social work. Focus is on the integration of theories, principles, and skills for evaluating generalist practice competency. (F, Sp, Su, Irreg)

S WK 4333 – Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above. Survey of the theoretical and research writings on the etiology, dynamics and social work treatment of substance abuse (alcohol and drugs) in contemporary American society. Considerable emphasis on social work practice (casework and group work) with substance abusers.

S WK 4990 – Independent Study, Prerequisite: Three courses in general area to be covered; permission of instructor, advisor, and undergraduate program coordinator. May be repeated; maximum credit six hours. Contracted independent study for topics not currently offered in regularly scheduled courses. Independent study may include library and/or laboratory research and field practicum projects. (F, Sp, Su)
APPENDIX B: SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE AND EDUCATION RESOURCES

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS-WASHINGTON D.C.**
http://www.naswdc.org
This is the website for the National Association of Social Workers, which is the largest social work membership organization in the United States. The link page on this website is a gateway to a diverse array of websites pertaining to every area of interest and concern in social work practice.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS-OKLAHOMA**
http://www.naswok.org/
This is the website for the Oklahoma Chapter of NASW. This website will provide you with local social work information and links.

**COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION**
HTTP://WWW.CSWE.ORG
The CSWE website will provide you with links to all other graduate and undergraduate social work programs in the United States. Also, you are encouraged to review the Curriculum Policy Statement for Baccalaureate Degree Programs in Social Work Education under the Accreditation link on the main page.

**ASSOCIATION OF BACCALAUREATE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM DIRECTORS**
http://www.bpdonline.org
The BPD website provides information of interest to all individuals who are interested in undergraduate social work education.

**ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORK BOARDS**
http://www.aswb.org/
This is the primary website that will provide basic information and links to the social work state licensing boards in all of the 50 states. These links will provide you with the contact information necessary to apply for licensing in the varying states.

**OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS**
http://www.state.ok.us/~osblsw/
This website will provide you with all of the rules and regulations regarding social work licensure in the state of Oklahoma.