

# SOCIAL WORK, BSW

## Program Description

### Mission Statement

The Bachelor of Social Work Program of La Salle University has its roots in the tradition and mission of the Christian Brothers. The BSW Program supports the University's mission to prepare students for "a commitment to the common good." Students integrate the Lasallian value of "service rooted in solidarity and justice" with the liberal arts tradition and the theory, skills and values of the social work profession, preparing students for generalist social work practice.

### BSW Program Goals

1. To develop competent social work professionals grounded in knowledge, values, and skills necessary for generalist practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
2. To prepare students for social work practice with diverse people and populations.
3. To educate students about local, national, and international issues of social, economic and environmental justice so that they become agents of change.
4. To provide a curriculum that challenges students to integrate and act upon the values and ethics of the social work profession.
5. To motivate students to know the importance of and exhibit a commitment to the ongoing development and care of the personal and professional self.
6. To prepare students for lifelong learning.

### About the Program

The Social Work Program provides a rigorous curriculum that builds on a liberal arts foundation. Courses address the knowledge, skills, and values associated with professional social work practice. Students integrate theory and practice during 600 hours of field practicum across three semesters.

The Social Work Program is offered in full-time, part-time, and accelerated formats. The full-time program format is offered during the day in fall and spring semesters on Main Campus. Students take a minimum of four courses to maintain full-time status. The part-time program format is offered during fall, spring and summer semesters on Main Campus. Students typically take 2-3 courses each semester. The accelerated program format is designed as a degree completion program for students who have completed a significant number of general education courses. Courses in this 16-month program are offered primarily in 4-6 week modules in a hybrid format over the calendar year. Some course offerings in the program are online or hybrid; most courses are offered face-to-face. Both full and part-time faculty teach in all program formats.

The Social Work Department at La Salle University offers the Bachelor of Social Work and is accredited by the Board of Accreditation, Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the national accrediting body for baccalaureate and masters social work programs. CSWE Board of Accreditation (BOA) establishes the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (2022) to assure that social work programs are meeting accreditation standards. The standards to which accredited social work programs are held can be viewed at [www.cswe.org/epas](http://www.cswe.org/epas) (<http://www.cswe.org/epas/>) or by accessing the link on the La Salle University Social Work Program website. The curriculum is designed to develop the

student's knowledge, skills and values in social work and mastery of nine (9) social work competencies.

## Why Take This Major?

Social work is a discipline that seeks to facilitate the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities through personal, interpersonal and social change. Social workers use their knowledge and skills in a vast array of traditional and non-traditional settings including mental health centers, hospitals, schools, law practices, athletic organizations, libraries, community centers and in local, national and international government.

Students in our social work major integrate theory and practice through coursework and 600 hours of supervised fieldwork. Our faculty are committed teachers, scholars and practitioners who support and challenge students to grow personally, academically, and professionally.

In the Lasallian spirit, we maintain close advising relationships with our students and encourage collaboration and community among students and between faculty and students.

With a BSW degree...

- **You'll be a professional as soon as you graduate.** Those with a bachelor's degree in social work may become licensed and immediately begin working in the field.
- **You'll get a job in your field.** Over 95% of graduates of La Salle's Social Work Program secure a job in the field within six months of graduating and/or continue on to graduate school; some are even offered jobs as soon as they finish their internships. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects rapid growth of social work employment (16% through 2026 – much higher than the average of all occupations).
- **You could complete graduate school in just one year rather than two.** With a BSW from a CSWE-accredited school such as La Salle, you can enter an MSW program as an Advanced Standing student if you meet the graduate school requirements. You could enter La Salle and earn both your BSW and MSW degrees in 5 years.
- **You'll have opportunities to work in a variety of roles and in a range of settings.** Counseling individuals and families, facilitating groups, working with communities toward social change, influencing policy, diversity training, working directly with people of all ages—from children to older adults. Social workers are found in mental health centers, hospitals, hospices, clinics, schools, nursing homes, residential facilities, private practice, child welfare agencies, courts, and countless other non-profit and for-profit organizations. Social workers provide over 60% of mental health services in the U.S. today.

## Why Social Work at La Salle?

- A curriculum that integrates theory and practice
- 600 hours of supervised internship. Our Office of Field Education will work with you to find a placement
- Day, Evening, and Accelerated program formats to fit your schedule
- Personalized attention from faculty who are social work practitioners as well as educators
- Supportive community of students and faculty
- Integration of Lasallian values
- The program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

- WE)
- The La Salle program is held in high esteem by the local social service community

- full admission
- conditional admission
- no admission

## Criteria for Acceptance into The Major

Social work is a professional degree program and as such, students must formally apply to the Social Work Program for admission to the major. This is a separate process in addition to general admission to the University and prepares students for similar application processes for graduate school and future careers. A student can declare social work as a major upon admission to the University; however, the student is only formally accepted into the Social Work Program with the successful application process described below.

The application for admission to the La Salle University Social Work Department must be submitted during the semester the student is enrolled in SWK 340 Preparation for Professional Practice, and no later than September 30.

The student must meet the following criteria for admission into the Social Work Program:

- An overall GPA of 2.30 (Students with a GPA below 2.30 may apply for conditional acceptance to the program)
- A final grade of C (75%) or better in all Social Work courses
- An affinity with and commitment to the values and ethics of the social work profession as set forth in the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics
- Two letters of recommendation. One recommendation should be from a person associated with a community service experience in which the student has participated. The second recommendation will be an academic reference from a University faculty member other than La Salle University Social Work Department full-time faculty. A second recommendation from a person associated with a community service experience may be substituted for the academic reference with permission from the Social Work Department Chair.
- A reflection on personal influences statement. The student will complete a personal statement (maximum of four pages, typewritten and double-spaced) discussing the motivations for choosing social work as a profession and describing significant people and life events that have been instrumental in the decision to seek a degree in social work. The student will address areas of special interest or concern relevant to social work. Note: The reflection on personal influences paper completed in SWK 160 Introduction to Social Work will be accepted, with appropriate revisions in content and form, to fulfill this requirement.
- Copy of current college/university transcript.
- Copy of current criminal clearance.<sup>1</sup> (Date of clearance must be within one year from date of submission to Social Work Department.)
- Copy of current child abuse clearance.<sup>1</sup> (Date of clearance must be within one year from date of submission to Social Work Department.)
- Review of the NASW Code of Ethics and signed application form.<sup>2</sup> NASW Code of Ethics: <https://www.socialworkers.org/about/ethics> (<https://www.socialworkers.org/about/ethics/>)
- The student will submit the completed application online.
- The full-time Social Work Department faculty will review the student's application, and each will vote on the student's candidacy.
- The student will be notified of the Department faculty's decision in writing. The admission decisions include:

1

A history of criminal conviction and/or child abuse does not automatically preclude admission to the Social Work Department. The student is required to proactively share this information with the Field Director and with the field practicum supervisor in the agency. The student is responsible for informing the Social Work Department of any changes in criminal and/or child abuse status.

2

In the event of a violation of the NASW Code of Ethics, the student may not be granted admission to or continuation in the Social Work Program.

## Continuation Policy

Continuation in the Social Work Program requires that a student majoring in social work receive a grade of C (75%) or better in all SWK courses.

A student is permitted to take a course a maximum of three times to achieve a grade of C or better.

In some cases, a student may not proceed to an upper-level course without first receiving a C or better in a lower-level course.

Social Work students are required to have an overall GPA of a 2.3 by the Fall semester prior to beginning the Field Practicum in the Spring semester.

A student must have an overall GPA of 2.5 and a GPA of 2.5 in the social work major to graduate with the BSW degree.

## Degree Earned

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

## Required for Graduation

- Courses
  - Major: 15
- Credits
  - Major: 45
  - Total: 120
- GPA
  - Major: 2.50
  - Cumulative: 2.50

## Student Learning Outcomes

Students in social work programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) are required to meet the following competencies.

### CSWE 2022 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards

1. **Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior**
2. **Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice**
3. **Engage Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) in Practice**
4. **Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice**
5. **Engage in Policy Practice**

6. **Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**
7. **Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**
8. **Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**
9. **Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

## Progress Chart

### Level One - Core Courses

12 courses and 2 modules required.

### Major Requirements

Major requirements include 4 Level Two ILO requirements, *fulfilled through the major*.

Students in this major must complete **15** courses for this major.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Level One - Core Courses</b>		
<i>Universal Required Courses</i>		
Students must complete the following 4 courses.		
ILO 8.1: Written Communication ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
ENG 110	College Writing I: Persuasion	3
ILO 5.1: Information Literacy ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
ENG 210	College Writing II: Research	3
ILO 1.1: Understanding Diverse Perspectives ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
FYS 130	First-Year Academic Seminar <sup>1</sup>	3
ILO 2.1: Reflective Thinking and Valuing ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
REL 100	Religion Matters	3
<i>Elective Core Courses</i>		
Students must complete 1 course in each of the following 4 ILOs.		
ILO 3.1a: Scientific Reasoning ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
BIO 158	Life Science: A Human Approach	3
ILO 3.1b: Quantitative Reasoning ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
SOC 301	Principles of Statistics	3
	or HSC 217 Statistics for Health Science Profs	
ILO 6.1: Technological Competency ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
Choose course within ILO ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
ILO 8.1a/12.1: Oral Communication/Collaborative Engagement ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
Choose course within ILO ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
<i>Distinct Discipline Core Courses</i>		
Students must complete 1 course in each of the following 4 ILOs. Each course must be from a different discipline. (A "discipline" is represented by the 3- or 4-letter prefix attached to each course.)		

ILO 4.1: Critical Analysis and Reasoning ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
POL 151	Principles Of American Government	3
ILO 9.1: Creative and Artistic Expression ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
Choose course within ILO ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
ILO 10.1: Ethical Understanding and Reasoning ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
Choose course within ILO ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
ILO 11.1: Cultural and Global Awareness and Sensitivity ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
Select one of the following:		
Choose course within ILO ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
SWK 281	Dynamics of People in Diverse Environments (Formerly HBSE II)	3
<i>Universal Required Modules</i>		
Students must complete the following 2 non-credit modules. <sup>2</sup>		
ILO 7.1a ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
Health Literacy Module		
ILO 7.1b ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
Financial Literacy Module		
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
<i>Level Two</i>		
Students must complete 1 course/learning experience in each of the 4 commitments.		
ILO 2.2: Broader Identity (Capstone Course/Experience) ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
SWK 495	Professional Considerations in Social Work (ILO 2.2)	3
Select one ILO from 3.2a, 3.2b, 4.2, 5.2, 6.2, 7.2a, or 7.2b: Expanded Literacies ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
SWK 365	Social Work Research (ILO 3.2a)	3
ILO 8.2b: Effective Expression (Writing-Intensive Course) ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
SWK 495	Professional Considerations in Social Work (ILO 8.2b)	3
Select one ILO from 10.2, 11.2, or 12.2: Active Responsibility ( <a href="https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/">https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/ilo/</a> )		
SWK 461	Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities (ILO 12.2)	3
<i>All Other Required Courses</i>		
SWK 160	Introduction to Social Work	3
SWK 280	Dynamics of Human Development & Diversity (Formerly HBSE I)	3
SWK 281	Dynamics of People in Diverse Environments (Formerly HBSE II)	3
SWK 340	Preparation for Professional Practice	3
SWK 365	Social Work Research	3
SWK 341	Generalist Practice with Individuals	3
SWK 381	Introductory Field Practicum	3
SWK 391	Social Work & Social Policy	3
SWK 460	Generalist Practice with Families and Groups	3

SWK 461	Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities	3
SWK 480	Generalist Field Practicum: Part A	3
SWK 481	Generalist Field Practicum: Part B	3
SWK 495	Professional Considerations in Social Work	3
Two SWK Electives		6
Non-Major Courses <sup>3</sup>		15
SOC 150	Principles of Sociology	
Statistics		
POL 151	Principles Of American Government	
BIO 158	Life Science: A Human Approach	
<i>Free Electives</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 155	Introduction to Psychology	
PSY 220	Psychopathology	

In addition to the requirements listed above, students must take enough courses to the fulfill graduation credit requirements for their School and major.

**Total Credits** 111

1

NOTE. The following students use Level 2 Capstone Experience in Major instead of FYS 130 First-Year Academic Seminar: Honors, BUSCA, Core-to-Core, Transfer, and Non-Traditional/Evening.

2

The Modules are **not** required for Transfer Students, Core-to-Core Students, or BUSCA Students. BUSCA students are required to take modules if/when they pursue a bachelor's degree.

3

Some of these courses will also fulfill ILO requirements.

4

Psychology course that is not Statistics.

## Recommended Course Sequence

### Full-Time Day

Course	Title	Credits
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
SWK 160	Introduction to Social Work	3
<b>Credits</b>		3
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
SWK 280	Dynamics of Human Development & Diversity (Formerly HBSE I)	3
SWK 391	Social Work & Social Policy	3
<b>Credits</b>		6
<b>Second Semester</b>		
SWK 281	Dynamics of People in Diverse Environments (Formerly HBSE II)	3
One SWK Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		6
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
SWK 340	Preparation for Professional Practice	3
One SWK Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		6

### Second Semester

SWK 341	Generalist Practice with Individuals	3
SWK 365	Social Work Research	3
SWK 381	Introductory Field Practicum	3
<b>Credits</b>		9

### Fourth Year

#### First Semester

SWK 460	Generalist Practice with Families and Groups	3
SWK 480	Generalist Field Practicum: Part A	3
<b>Credits</b>		6

#### Second Semester

SWK 461	Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities	3
SWK 481	Generalist Field Practicum: Part B	3
SWK 495	Professional Considerations in Social Work	3
<b>Credits</b>		9

**Total Credits** 45

## Part-Time Evening

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Spring or Sum Odd Year</b>		
SWK 160	Introduction to Social Work	3
<b>Fall 1 of Odd Year</b>		
SWK 280	Dynamics of Human Development & Diversity (Formerly HBSE I)	3
SWK 340	Preparation for Professional Practice	3
<b>Spring 1 of Even Year</b>		
SWK 281	Dynamics of People in Diverse Environments (Formerly HBSE II)	3
SWK 341	Generalist Practice with Individuals	3
SWK 381	Introductory Field Practicum	3
<b>Sum of Even Year</b>		
SWK 391	Social Work & Social Policy	3
SWK 365	Social Work Research	3
One SWK elective		3
<b>Fall 2 of Even Year</b>		
SWK 460	Generalist Practice with Families and Groups	3
SWK 480	Generalist Field Practicum: Part A	3
One SWK elective		3
<b>Spring 2 of Odd Year</b>		
SWK 461	Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities	3
SWK 481	Generalist Field Practicum: Part B	3
SWK 495	Professional Considerations in Social Work	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		45

## Accelerated

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Sum 1</b>		
SWK 160	Introduction to Social Work	3
<b>Fall 1</b>		
SWK 280	Dynamics of Human Development & Diversity (Formerly HBSE I)	3
SWK 281	Dynamics of People in Diverse Environments (Formerly HBSE II)	3

SWK 391	Social Work & Social Policy	3
SWK 340	Preparation for Professional Practice	3
<b>Spring 1</b>		
SWK 341	Generalist Practice with Individuals	3
SWK 365	Social Work Research	3
SWK 381	Introductory Field Practicum	3
One SWK elective		3
<b>Sum 2</b>		
SWK 460	Generalist Practice with Families and Groups	3
SWK 480	Generalist Field Practicum: Part A	3
One SWK elective		3
<b>Fall 2</b>		
SWK 461	Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities	3
SWK 481	Generalist Field Practicum: Part B	3
SWK 495	Professional Considerations in Social Work	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>45</b>

SWK 381 Introductory Field Practicum, SWK 480 Generalist Field Practicum: Part A, & SWK 481 Generalist Field Practicum: Part B also require 200 hours of Field Practicum.

## Dual Major Requirements

The requirements for a dual major with Social Work are based on the student's choice of second major. Please contact the BSW Program Director for additional information.

## Minors

- Human Services, Minor (<https://catalog.lasalle.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/education-social-work/social-work-bsw/human-services-minor/>)

## Course Descriptions

### Social Work

#### SWK 160 Introduction to Social Work

This course is designed to give the student an overall orientation to the field of social work. It is a basic survey course that examines the social work profession from its beginnings to the present day. The course addresses problems and injustices experienced by individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and societies and the social work profession's response to these challenges. The student will be introduced to the generalist model of social work practice and the theoretical perspectives that inform social work practice, particularly the systems perspective and the empowerment approach. Social work fields of practice and levels of social work involvement will also be examined. Throughout the course, social work values and ethics will be explored. This course has a service-learning (SL) designation and includes a 20-hour community-engaged learning component.

#### SWK 240 Relationships and Sexuality

This course is designed for social work and other undergraduate students to explore issues in relationships and sexuality. This course examines human sexuality from a bio-psycho-socio-spiritual perspective within a developmental framework. Students will have opportunities to examine and clarify personal and societal values, consider issues of diversity, and apply ethical perspectives to issues of sexuality with particular emphasis on underrepresented groups including children, LGBTQ persons, older adults and people with disabilities. Students will learn to apply specific approaches to ethical decision-making to ethical dilemmas of interpersonal relationships and sexuality. This course is offered in a rotating fashion with other Social Work electives.

#### SWK 250 Resilience and Strength: An Introduction to Puerto Rico

There is a saying in Latin America - "Puerto Rico: tan lejos de Dios y tan cerca de los EE.UU." (Puerto Rico: So far from God and so close to the United States). This course will look at "la Isla del Encanto" - the Enchanted Island - and the challenges it has faced throughout its history as well as the strength and resilience of the people in facing those challenges. It will examine Puerto Rico from multiple perspectives: historical; its relationship to the US; and, through the eyes of the local Diaspora. This course is a community-based learning course. Throughout the semester we will visit with local organizations that are run by or work with Puerto Ricans in the diaspora in Philadelphia. We may even visit with an organization or two in New York City. Students will be expected to work with a local organization to carry out a project designed by the organization. This course is offered in a rotating fashion with other Social Work electives.

#### SWK 270 Special Topics

These special topics courses are designed to address contemporary issues in generalist social work practice. Topics include gerontology, mental health, child welfare, family violence, drug and alcohol intervention, trauma, immigration, global social work, and social and economic justice. Students are advised to check with the Department Chair about current offerings and to provide suggestions for future topics. These courses are offered in a rotating fashion with other Social Work electives.

#### SWK 271 Special Topics

#### SWK 272 Special Topics

#### SWK 275 Special Topics

#### SWK 276 Special Topics

#### SWK 277 Special Topics

#### SWK 278 Special Topics

#### SWK 280 Dynamics of Human Development & Diversity (Formerly HBSE I)

This course explores the lives of individuals as members of families, groups, organizations and communities. In this course, students consider and critically evaluate the assumptions and values of various bio-psycho-social theories of individual and family development. The role of biological, social, psychological, spiritual, and cultural contexts in the lives of individuals and families will be reviewed. The unique impact of these contexts on diverse population groups including racial and ethnic minority groups, women, LGBTQI persons, children, older adults, and people with disabilities will be evaluated. In addition, the course will examine issues of diversity in individual development and family lifestyle and life cycle development. Emphasis will be placed on the social work profession's ethical responsibility for enhancing personal and social functioning and advancing social justice for individuals and families.

**SWK 281 Dynamics of People in Diverse Environments (Formerly HBSE II)**

This course examines the foundational aspect of social work practice, that is, the development of the "person in environment." The course focuses on people as members of groups, organizations, communities and global society. The impact of these systems on special population groups including racial and ethnic minority groups, immigrants, minority religious groups, women, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, children, older adults, and people with disabilities will be evaluated. The social work profession's ethical responsibility for enhancing individual and social functioning and advancing social, economic, and environmental justice will be emphasized.

**SWK 291 Social Welfare Policy II**

This course will provide an examination of the historical roots of the United States' response to human needs through social welfare policy, including the distribution of power, status, and resources. The experience of oppression and discrimination of vulnerable groups will be stressed. Contemporary social welfare policy in the United States is examined, with emphasis on the reciprocal processes between social work practice and social policy development. A systematic framework for policy analysis will be presented and applied to contemporary social welfare policies, stressing critical thinking in how these policies can be improved to better serve individuals, especially those who have historically experienced oppression and discrimination. Approaches for advancing social and economic justice and human rights will be employed. Ethical issues associated with the allocation of resources will be highlighted. Global interconnections of oppression also are explored. Prerequisite or concurrent with POL 151

**SWK 320 Human Rights and Social Justice for Social Work**

This course will examine social issues and injustices as they relate to social work. A central focus will be the struggles of individuals, families, and communities from around the country and around the world. This course will deepen the student's understanding to the concepts of social justice, human rights, social welfare, liberation and oppression, and explore how these concepts are understood at different times and in different places. In addition, they will discuss ways to promote human rights and social, economic and environmental justice in social work.

**SWK 324 Travel Study Course****SWK 330 Working with Children/Youth**

This elective course will examine the issues of professional practice in child welfare that will enable students to bring skills and knowledge to bear in assessing and intervening in situations involving children and families. The student will become familiar with a range of both public and private child welfare services and approaches. The legal, social, and psychological ramifications of protective services, foster care, adoption, and permanency planning on children will be discussed. This course will promote the application of culturally competent practice as well as examine roles with special populations in the field of child welfare practice. We will critically examine current child welfare policies and practices, including child abuse and neglect, while reflecting upon the influence of historical events and persons. This course will explore the history and legal framework for the contemporary child welfare system; identify trends in child maltreatment and the organization of services; and identify current reform efforts and debates in policy, programs and practice. Attention will be given to the legal foundation for child welfare practice including federal and state of Pennsylvania laws that affect child welfare decisions. Innovative and creative intervention strategies designed to preserve families and to promote service integration will be presented. Culturally sensitive adaptation of these models will be addressed, along with the need to build partnerships and community collaboration to successfully deliver services to children and their families.

**SWK 340 Preparation for Professional Practice**

This course is designed to prepare the student for the professional practicum in social work. The course will familiarize the student with the roles of the student intern and will guide the student in developing skills for the social work relationship, as well as an understanding of profession practice. The course will assist the student in identifying diverse and vulnerable populations that pose the most challenge for students so that they can gain understanding of, and comfort and experience interacting with various social groups. The course will also introduce interviewing and empathic listening skills and provide opportunities for students to practice these skills. Restriction(s): Open to Social Work majors and Human Services minors only. Prerequisite(s): SWK 160, SWK 280 (SWK 280 may be taken concurrently)

**SWK 341 Generalist Practice with Individuals**

This course is the first of three courses in the social work practice sequence. Each course addresses one or more levels of the generalist social work process with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. This course specifically focuses on 1) initiating the social work relationship, 2) building collaborative relationships, 3) assessing challenges and strengths, and 4) constructing action plans and intervening with individuals. Students utilize ecological/systems and empowerment/strengths perspectives to inform their practice of assessment and planning with individuals. Differential assessment and intervention with diverse populations is examined. Students practice generalist social work skills in the field with individuals and learn to incorporate the values and ethics of the profession into their beginning social work practice. This course is taken with SWK 381 - Introductory Field Practicum. Restriction(s): Open to Social Work majors and Human Services minors only. Social Work majors must be formally accepted into the Social Work Department in order to enroll in this course. Prerequisite(s): SWK 160, SWK 340 or concurrent with SWK 280, SWK 281 Corequisite(s): This course is a co-requisite with SWK 381 and successfully completing and passing both courses is required in order to progress to upper level courses.

**SWK 350 Loss and Grief**

This course investigates the processes of attachment, loss, and grieving. The course explores loss, in life and in preparation for death, and addresses both acceptable and disenfranchised loss and grief. Theories of bereavement and basic counseling and companionship skills are presented. This course is offered in a rotating fashion with other Social Work electives.

**SWK 352 Healing Approaches to Trauma: Working with Individuals and Communities**

This course provides an overview of trauma and explores approaches to healing. We will begin with a basic understanding of individual and collective trauma and trauma-informed practice. The course will introduce a range of approaches to healing, broadening the tools we have for responding to trauma in holistic ways. These innovative approaches may include: clinical therapeutic and self-help, mind-body, body-centered, animal-assisted, collective and community-based, and social justice-oriented. This course may be of particular interest and importance for students of social work, psychology, sociology, nursing, religion, and communication.

**SWK 355 Healthcare Services****SWK 365 Social Work Research**

Social Work Research is a one-semester course. The purpose of this course is to prepare the BSW practitioner to understand the research process, take part in a research project through the steps of design, develop a survey instrument, and seek approval for the project from the La Salle University Institutional Review Board. The student will also be required to read and critique current research articles. The student will be exposed to a variety of social research processes and methods, including qualitative and quantitative methodologies; program evaluation; and needs assessment research. Emphasis on understanding and applying social work values to research will be included. Students will be asked to examine ethical dilemmas which face researchers and those studying research, especially as this relates to work with vulnerable populations. The student will be introduced statistical analysis software used in social work research. Efforts will also be made to incorporate into the class research analysis of current ethical, advocacy, or practice issues, as identified by the instructor and/or students. The underlying values for this course are taken from the NASW Code of Ethics, which will permeate course content and process. Special emphasis will be placed on how research interfaces with successful social work practice.

**SWK 370 Special Topics**

These special topics courses are designed to address contemporary issues in generalist social work practice. Topics include gerontology, mental health, child welfare, family violence, drug and alcohol intervention, trauma, immigration, global social work, and social and economic justice. Students are advised to check with the Department Chair about current offerings and to provide suggestions for future topics. These courses are offered in a rotating fashion with other Social Work electives.

**SWK 371 Special Topics****SWK 372 Special Topics****SWK 374 Special Topics****SWK 375 Special Topics****SWK 376 Special Topics****SWK 377 Special Topics****SWK 378 Special Topics****SWK 379 Special Topics****SWK 381 Introductory Field Practicum**

This is the first of three field practicum courses, to be followed by SWK 480 and 481 respectively. This course is an introduction to social work field practice. The purposes of this course is four-fold: 1) to provide students with an introductory opportunity to integrate the bio-psycho-socio-spiritual perspective and social work theory and practice; 2) to provide students with an educationally-directed experience in order to enhance the development of engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation skills; 3) to orient students to begin to identify with the social work profession and its values, and 4) to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate learning of practice behaviors. In this introductory practicum course the student will focus primarily on the processes of generalist social work with individuals in their social environment. Each practicum setting, however, is unique and many students will have opportunities to participate in most or all aspects of the generalist social work process. This course is taken concurrently with SWK 341 - Generalist Practice with Individuals. In the 200-hour field practicum experience, students begin to develop competency in generalist social work in an approved setting under the supervision of a professional social worker. Restriction(s): Open to Social Work majors only. Social Work majors must be formally accepted into the Social Work Program in order to enroll in this course. Corequisite(s): SWK 341 (This course is a corequisite with SWK 341 and successfully completing and passing both courses is required in order to progress to upper level courses)

**SWK 385 Mental Health & Addictions**

This course will provide students with an understanding of co-occurring disorders, related concepts and theories, and the inter-relationship between mental health issues and substance use and abuse. Mental health issues and substance abuse will be examined using the DSM 5, with specific attention to key symptomology and increased risk. Screening and assessment tools and intervention strategies for co-occurring disorders will be explored. The use of self in a professional setting, and cultural considerations will also be examined. Students will gain an understanding of the implications of current policy on individuals, families, communities and agencies as it relates to mental health and substance use disorders.

**SWK 391 Social Work & Social Policy**

This course will provide an examination of the historical roots of the United States' response to human needs through social policy. The course will examine the effectiveness of various governmental policies – welfare, health, labor, education – to improve the well-being of residents of the U.S. The experience of oppression and discrimination of vulnerable groups will be stressed along with the distribution of power, status, and resources. A systematic framework for policy analysis will be presented and applied to contemporary social welfare policies, stressing critical thinking in how these policies can be improved to better serve individuals, especially those who have historically experienced oppression and discrimination. Cause advocacy will be presented for advancing social, environmental and economic justice, and human rights. Ethical issues and the underlying values associated with the allocation of resources will be highlighted.

**SWK 440 Generalist SWK Pract II**

This course focuses on social work engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation in generalist social work practice with families and with groups. It provides an investigation of and skill development in direct engagement, assessment, intervention, evaluation, and advocacy strategies for effective and ethical generalist social work practice with families and groups. Prerequisites: SWK 341, SWK 381. Open to social work majors only. Concurrent with this course is SWK 480 – Professional Practicum II, an educationally-directed field practicum which helps the students integrate and utilize the skills from SWK 440 with client systems.

**SWK 441 Generalist SWK Pract III**

This course is the third in a three-part sequence in generalist social work practice. This course specifically focuses on engagement, assessment, and interventions/collaborations/evaluation with organizations and communities. However, as in the other courses in this sequence, there will be a focus on the integration of micro, mezzo, and macro skills for effective generalist practice. Social work values and ethics, as in all other social work courses, provide a foundation for this course. Students will acquire knowledge and skills for engagement, assessment and interventions/ collaboration/evaluation with organizations and communities utilizing a systems framework within the empowerment tradition in social work. In this course students will be introduced to a variety of approaches to macro social work practice so that they will gain the necessary skills and knowledge for engagement, assessment, and intervention/collaboration/evaluation on a macro level. Concurrent with this course is SWK 481 – Professional Practicum III, an educationally-directed field practicum which helps the students integrate and utilize the skills from SWK 441 with client systems.

**SWK 460 Generalist Practice with Families and Groups**

This three-credit course is the second in a three-part sequence in generalist social work practice that specifically focuses on assessment and intervention with families and groups. Students acquire knowledge and skills of assessment and intervention with couples, families, and groups utilizing a systems framework within the strengths and empowerment traditions in social work. In this course, students will learn social work processes with families and groups and practice social work skills used with these client systems. This course is taken concurrently with SWK 480 - Generalist Field Practicum: Part A, an educationally directed field practicum that assists students to develop competency in generalist social work practice. Another central component of this course is consideration of social work values as the foundation of all social work practice. Students will demonstrate the integration of these values in the classroom and in their field practice. Restriction(s): Open to Social Work majors only. Prerequisite(s): SWK 341, SWK 381 Corequisite(s): SWK 480 NOTE: This course is a corequisite with SWK 480 and successfully completing and passing both courses is required in order to progress to upper level courses.

**SWK 461 Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities**

This course is the third in a three-part sequence in generalist social work practice. This course specifically focuses on engagement, assessment, and interventions/collaborations/evaluation with organizations and communities. However, as in the other courses in this sequence, there will be a focus on the integration of micro, mezzo, and macro skills for effective generalist practice. Social work values and ethics, as in all other social work courses, provide a foundation for this course. Students will acquire knowledge and skills for engagement, assessment and interventions/ collaboration/evaluation with organizations and communities utilizing a systems framework within the empowerment tradition in social work. In this course students will be introduced to a variety of approaches to macro social work practice so that they will gain the necessary skills and knowledge for engagement, assessment, and intervention/collaboration/evaluation on a macro level. This course is taken concurrently with SWK 481 – Generalist Field Practicum: Part B, an educationally-directed field practicum which helps the students integrate and utilize the skills from SWK 461 with client systems. Restriction(s): Open to Social Work majors only Prerequisite(s): SWK 460 and SWK 480 Corequisite(s): SWK 481 (This course is a co-requisite with SWK 481 and successfully completing and passing both courses is required in order to progress to upper level courses)

**SWK 470 Special Topics**

These special topics courses are designed to address contemporary issues in generalist social work practice. Topics include gerontology, mental health, child welfare, family violence, drug and alcohol intervention, trauma, immigration, global social work, and social and economic justice. Students are advised to check with the Department Chair about current offerings and to provide suggestions for future topics. These courses are offered in a rotating fashion with other Social Work electives.



**SWK 480 Generalist Field Practicum: Part A**

Generalist Field Practicum: Part A provides the student with an educationally-directed social work practice experience. The student integrates social work theory and skills acquired in the practice sequence thus far (SWK 340, SWK 341, and SWK 381) to develop competencies for generalist social work practice. This practicum is taken concurrently with SWK 460: Generalist Practice with Families and Groups. The student continues to develop a professional value base and identification with the social work profession. Restriction(s): Open to Social Work majors only. Social work majors must be formally accepted into the Social Work Program in order to enroll in this course. Prerequisite(s): SWK 341, SWK 381 Corequisite(s): SWK 460 (This course is a co-requisite with SWK 440 and successfully completing and passing both courses is required in order to progress to upper level courses)

**SWK 481 Generalist Field Practicum: Part B**

Generalist Field Practicum: Part B provides the student with an educationally directed social work practice experience. The student integrates social work theory and skills that have been acquired in the practice sequence thus far (SWK 340, 341, 381, 460 & 480). While the focus of this practicum is assessment and intervention with organizations and communities, the student will continue to develop skills intervening with individuals, families, and/or groups, as well. The student continues to integrate the values and ethics of the profession into his/her generalist social work practice. This practicum is taken concurrently with SWK 461: Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities. Restriction(s): Open to Social Work majors only. Prerequisite(s): SWK 460, SWK 480 Corequisite(s): SWK 461 (This course is a corequisite with SWK 441 and successfully completing and passing both courses is required in order to progress to upper level courses)

**SWK 495 Professional Considerations in Social Work**

This course strengthens the student's emerging identity within the social work profession. Students review and critique theoretical frameworks and practice situations studied throughout the social work curriculum, with an emphasis on social work values and ethics. As the capstone course, students have a final opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the nine (9) competencies identified by the Educational Policy & Accreditation Standards (EPAS) of the Council on Social Work Education. Restriction(s): Open to Social Work majors only. Prerequisite(s): SWK 460, SWK 480 Corequisite(s): Taken concurrently with or following the completion of SWK 461 and SWK 481.

**Program Contact Information**

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