



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Certificate in Social Work Studies

The Certificate in Social Work Studies (CSWS) is a 15-credit post-baccalaureate certificate program based on foundation level generalist social work practice. The purpose of social work practice is to empower individuals for personal fulfillment through a strengths-based approach and to promote social justice in communities, organizations, and social policy. The CSWS certificate program is a non-degree program. Non-degree students do not qualify for federal financial aid. Non-degree students may qualify for an alternative education loan(s). If you are looking for such alternative loans check out The UMaine Office of Financial Aid's website: <http://www.umaine.edu/stuaid/> or call the Office of Financial Aid (581-1324) to find out about any state loans which non-degree students could look into for assistance.

The core curriculum is built around the foundation year program. The University of Maine Master in Social Work (MSW) program may utilize some distance education technology and off-site locations to meet the needs of a statewide audience. We strive to offer at least one of our courses a semester through distance education.

This certificate can benefit you if you work in a human service agency such as a mental health center, in child welfare, in a child and family services agency or one of the many other social service settings. If you are licensed in the State of Maine, you may also submit certificate courses as part of Board's continuing education requirements. The 15 credit certificate program is also an excellent opportunity to learn more about The University of Maine MSW program by taking Master in Social Work courses.

All courses taken through the Certificate in Social Work Studies are recorded on your transcript and credits earned can be applied towards the MSW degree if the student is accepted into the School of Social Work Master in Social Work program if the courses have been taken within six years and you have earned at least a "B," although it is best to strive for an "A" if you are considering applying to the MSW program. Enrolling in the Certificate in Social Work Studies program does not guarantee admission into the matriculated MSW program. For further information e-mail socialwork@umit.maine.edu or call 581-2389.

COURSES THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO THE 15-CREDIT CERTIFICATE

The certificate is made up of five required courses (SWK 540, SWK 550, SWK 591, SWK 650 and SWK 580)

REQUIRED SOCIAL WORK FOUNDATION COURSES:

These courses are regularly offered at the Orono campus, The University of Maine Hutchinson Center (FHC) in Belfast in the fall and spring. If you are interested in taking any of these courses please contact the administrative assistant in the School of Social Work. Phone: 581-2389 or e-mail: vkane@maine.edu

SWK 540 Social Welfare Policy and Issues for Generalist Practitioners
Analysis of the provision of social services and the interrelatedness of practice and policy analysis with emphasis on dimensions of choice in social welfare policy and the accompanying major issues.
Prerequisite: MSW student or permission. 3 Credits

SWK 550 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I.
Examines research and theories related to normative life span development as influenced by age, gender, social class, social structures, oppression and other environmental factors. Uses systems theory and person-in-environment construct as the analytical framework. Considers implications for social work practice and social welfare policy. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission.
3 credits

SWK 591 Social Work Research I
Integration of social work theory, practice and research including problem formulation, research design, ethical concerns and protocols for protection of human subjects. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission.
3 credits

SWK 650 Human Behavior and the Social Environment II.
Examines research and theories related to normative development of families, small groups and communities. Explores the impact of age, gender, social class, social structures, oppression and other environmental factors. Examines social structures and context of organizations and institutions and their impact on individuals, families, small group and communities. Considers implications for social work practice and social welfare policy. Prerequisite: MSW student or permission.
3 credits

SWK 580 Adult and Child Psychopathology
Overview of DSMIV, gender differences in mental illness, current conceptions of serious mental illness, impact of psychiatric labeling and stigma on individuals and families.
Prerequisite: SWK 550 and MSW student or permission.
3 credits