Social Work advocates for social justice and promotes the general welfare of every member of society. This unique and rewarding field examines the relationship of individuals to their environments and analyzes how the larger systems of a person’s environment—the community, particular social policies, certain assumptions or beliefs about a person or group—affect the adverse circumstances in which many people find themselves. Social workers are individuals, like you perhaps, who commit themselves to helping others change those circumstances in order to better their lives and to improve the society in which we live.

As a major in Social Work, you will enjoy an interdisciplinary program that is designed specifically to prepare you as a beginning-level “generalist” practitioner. This means that you will leave The University of Memphis understanding how to work both with individuals and with larger “client systems,” such as families, organizations, and community groups.

Your program will include courses not only in social work itself, but also in sociology, anthropology, biology, and other fields that will lay the foundation for your understanding of the complex dynamics of human beings in their social environments. Your studies should also lead you to question your own beliefs, values and attitudes in such a manner as to foster conscious, intelligent professional growth. This self-awareness will be crucial as you learn to work with individuals or groups that will likely include people very different from yourself: children, the elderly, drug addicts, the homeless, the poor, gays and lesbians, victims of domestic violence.

A unique feature of our program is the field practicum, which gives every student the opportunity to work, with a supervisor, in one of Memphis’s social service agencies. This gives you first-hand experience with a few of the many career options you can enjoy with a degree in Social Work.

What are some of the courses I’ll take?

- Introduction to Social Work
- Human Behavior and the Social Environment
- Social Welfare Policies and Programs: Theory and Applications
- Social Work Practice
- Social Work Research
- Child Welfare Policy and Services
- Field Seminars and Field Instruction

The Department of Social Work is located within the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy (SUAPP), an interdisciplinary unit that also includes the Division of City and Regional Planning, The Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, the Division of Health Administration, and the Division of Public and Non-Profit Administration.
# SOCIAL WORK
## SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

### Freshman Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1010</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 1020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE MATH</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>PHIL 1611</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Social/Behav. Sci.- ANTH 1200</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>GE Humanities/Fine Arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Foreign Lang. 2010</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>BA Foreign Lang. 2020</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>GE Social/Behavioral Science*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester Totals: 15-16 hrs. 15 hrs.

### Sophomore Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 2201 or 2202</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>GE History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 2010</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>GE Fine Arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Social Science*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 1010/1011 - GE Nat. Science w/lab</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>BIOL 1020/1021 - GE Nat. Science w/lab</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 2911</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SWRK 3902</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester Totals: 16 hrs. 16 hrs.

### Junior Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 3903</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>SWRK 3904</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 3920</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SWRK 3930</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 3311</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SWRK 3906</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UD Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 3422 (GE History)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>COMM 2381</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester Totals: 16 hrs. 15 hrs.

### Senior Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SWRK 4831</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 4830</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SWRK 4841</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRK 4840</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>UD Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester Totals: 12 hrs. 15 hrs.

*Complete two of the following: SOCI 1010, PSYC 1030, POLS 1030, ECON 2020*

GE = General Education Requirements  
BA = Bachelor of Arts college requirements  
UD = Upper division

Foreign Language Requirement – See the Undergraduate Catalog: [http://catalog.memphis.edu](http://catalog.memphis.edu)

Degree hours = 120  
42 Upper Division hours required for graduation

No more than 2 hours of physical education courses may be counted toward a degree.

Residence – 30 of the last 60 hours must be taken at University of Memphis; at least 60 hours must be at a four-year institution; transfer students must earn at least 6 hours of a major at UM and at least 3 hours of a minor at UM
**SOCIAL WORK COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

SWRK 2010 and 2911 are prerequisites for all other courses in the Division of Social Work; may be taken after earning 30 credit hours, as specified in the note accompanying the requirements for the major; and are required of Social Work Majors.

**SWRK 2010. Social Work Profession and Practice.** (3). Overview of social work as profession, including introduction to its value base, knowledge base, and skill base; and roles of social workers in social service agencies. Volunteer experience required. Two and one-half lecture hours, one and one-half laboratory hours per week.

**SWRK 2011. Writing for Social Work.** (3). Overview of the writing and documentation methods used by social workers.

**SWRK 2911. Social Response to Human Need.** (3). Introduction to historical and contemporary issues related to American social welfare systems; analysis of impact on vulnerable populations, value implications, change processes, and culturally relevant concepts of need.

**SWRK 3902. Human Behavior and Social Environment.** (3). Overview of human development from birth through old age; focus on interaction of biological, psychological, and socio-cultural factors; major developmental theories, transitional phases, and variant lifestyles; relevance to social functioning and social work practice.

**SWRK 3903. Social Work Practice I.** (4). Overview of traditional social casework methodology; emphasis on theoretical approaches and generalist practice; beginning applications of case study model.

**SWRK 3904. Social Work Practice II.** (3). Continuation of SWRK 3903, with emphasis on application of theory through assessment, intervention planning, use of community resources, and functions of social workers; extensive case analysis.

**SWRK 3906. Social Work Practice III.** (3). Theory and application of group dynamics concepts as applied to community structures and functions, roles of social worker in these settings.

**SWRK 3920. Social Welfare Policies and Programs: Theory and Application.** (3). Overview of social welfare policy development and methods; programs resulting from these efforts; influence of competing value orientations; exposure to differing models of policy analysis; and implications for professional practice including the role of social work in developing, implementing, and evaluating social programs.

**SWRK 3930. Social Work Research.** (3). History and methods of social work research including scientific thinking, application of statistical operations, and systematic approaches to acquisition of social work knowledge.


**SWRK 4061. Substance Abuse Treatment.** (3). Evidence based practice in the field of substance abuse treatment.

**SWRK 4830. Field Instruction in Social Work I.** (3). Supervised internship in social service agency or program. Minimum two days per week required.

**SWRK 4831. Field Instruction in Social Work II.** (4). Continuation of supervised internship. Minimum three days per week required. PREREQUISITES: SWRK 4830 and 4840.

**SWRK 4833. Religion and Spirituality in Social Work Practice.** (3). Importance of religion and spirituality in shaping belief systems; psychosocial development; development of social policy; significance of religious institutions in providing social services; examines how religion and spirituality influence the individual, family, community.

**SWRK 4840. Integrative Field Seminar I.** (2). Integration of social work theory with field instruction experiences.

**SWRK 4841. Integrative Field Seminar II.** (2).

**SWRK 4911-19. Special Topics in Social Work.** (3). Topics of contemporary interest in social work profession and in social welfare practices. PREREQUISITE: SWRK 2911, or permission of instructor.

**SWRK 4934. Child Welfare Policy and Services.** (3). Historic overview and contemporary application of child welfare policy; problems in policy development; contemporary American child welfare services in both public and private domains. PREREQUISITE: SWRK 2010, 2911.

**SWRK 4935 - Child Welfare II (3).** Roles and responsibilities of social workers practicing within child welfare system; mastery of practice skills at a range of levels, such as individual, family, and environment designed to develop culturally competent child welfare workers.

**SWRK 4937. School Social Work (3).** Overview of school social work including public education system from the national, state, and local levels.

**SWRK 4939. Mental Health Concepts (3).** Definition, assessment, and classification of mental disorders, psychopathology, and basic psychotherapeutic and psychopharmacological treatment approaches.

**SWRK 4940. Grief and Loss (3).** Normal and unresolved grief and loss as well as therapeutic intervention; values and ethics, cultural diversity and populations at risk as they relate to grief and loss.

Please consult the Undergraduate Catalog at http://catalog.memphis.edu for complete descriptions.
SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The main goal of the baccalaureate social work program is to prepare students for entry level generalist practice. A secondary goal is to provide a strong foundation for students who wish to pursue social work education at the graduate level. Social service and life experiences may not be substituted for any social work course. The social work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Program objectives for a B.A. in Social Work are: a) apply critical thinking skills within the context of professional social work practice; b) understand the value base of the profession and its ethical standards and principles, and practice accordingly; c) practice without discrimination to needs of diverse clientele; d) apply strategies of advocacy and social change that advance social and economic justice.

ADMISSION: Admission to the university will allow students to choose "Pre-Social Work" as their major. Progression to the major of "Social Work" will occur only after the student successfully completes the following course with a minimum grade of "C": SWRK 2010; SWRK 2911

A. University General Education Program (41 hours)
See the Undergraduate Catalog for the University General Education Program requirements.
Students majoring in Social Work must take SOCI 3422 to fulfill part of the American History requirement, BIOL 1010/1011, BIOL 1020/1021 for natural science, and ANTH 1200 for Social/Behavioral Sciences.

B. College and Degree (B.A.) Requirements (6-9 hours)
The College and Bachelor of Arts requirements are in addition to the University General Education Program requirements and are listed in the Undergraduate Catalog.

C. The Major (39 hours in addition to University General Education Program requirements)
Completion of SWRK 2010, 2011, 2911, 3902, 3903, 3904, 3906, 3920, 3930, 4830, 4831(4), 4840(2), 4841(2), BIOL 1010/1011, BIOL 1020/1021, ANTH 1200 (included in the University General Education Program requirements), PHIL 1611 and SOCI 3311 are required.

NOTE: Successful student progression requires each student to earn a minimum grade of “C” in all required courses for the social work major. Students repeating two required classroom courses for the major or field instruction will have an academic review by division faculty in the term following the second course repetition. Although students may declare a social work major at any point in their matriculation, students should have a minimum of 40 hours completed including ENGL 1020, ANTH 1200, and two courses from the following list: SOCI 1010; PSYC 1030; POLS 1030; or ECON 2020 before entering the introductory social work courses, SWRK 2010, SWRK 2011, and SWRK 2911.

D. Electives
Electives may be chosen to bring the total number of hours to 120.

Social Work Minor
Completion of 18 semester hours in sociology and social work courses including SOCI 1010, SWRK 2010, and 2911, and 9 additional upper division hours in social work courses.

For more information, please contact:

The Division of Social Work
Susan Neely-Barnes, Chair
http://www.memphis.edu/socialwork/
McCord Hall 226

Undergraduate Advisor:
Brandon Ousley, bcousley@memphis.edu
901-678-4503

The University of Memphis
http://www.memphis.edu

The College of Arts and Sciences
http://www.memphis.edu/cas

Career Planning & Resources:
Council on Social Work Education
http://www.cswe.org/

National Association of Social Workers
http://www.socialworkers.org

UM Career Services: http://www.memphis.edu/careerservices

The University of Memphis is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action University. It is committed to education of a non-racially identifiable student body.