Doctor of Social Work (DSW)

"Pursue Your DSW Degree While Working Full Time"
Response to Community Need

• Need for more practitioners who have the ability to evaluate outcomes.

• Need for more social workers who are prepared for leadership & management positions.

• Projection that higher education social work jobs in TN will grow by 126%.
Program Mission & Goals

The mission of the DSW program is to:

• Prepare practitioner-scholars who can generate new social work knowledge and respond to increasingly complex practice environments.

The DSW program seeks to:

• Enhance the professional skills of practicing social workers and prepare them for supervision, management, and data-driven decision-making.
The program learning outcomes for the DSW are to:

1) Evaluate social work services and practice environments using twenty-first century skills in data-driven analysis and informatics.

2) Demonstrate social work leadership and management skills to respond to complex practice environments locally, nationally, and globally.

3) Educate the next generation of social workers through supervision and training to be leaders in a changing practice environment.

4) Demonstrate leadership skills in interdisciplinary environments in collaboration with diverse clients and communities.

5) Contribute to social work knowledge through research and practice.
Features of the Program

• Fall admission only
• Cohort of 15-16 students
• Part-time
• Online
  ✓ Synchronous meetings
  ✓ 1 week residency each year
• Approximately 3 years
• Dissertation required
One Week Residencies

• Year one: Statistics and Research Boot Camp
  (August 13-15, 2020)
  
• Year two: Management Boot Camp

• Year three: Dissertation Boot Camp
# Coursework

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<th>Year 1</th>
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<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SWRK 8040</td>
<td>Advanced SW Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PADM 8600</td>
<td>Admin Theory &amp; Ethics</td>
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<td><strong>Summer 1</strong></td>
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<td>SWRK 8050</td>
<td>Writing for Publication</td>
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<td><strong>Year 2</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SWRK 8080</td>
<td>Managing SW Practice</td>
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<td>SWRK 8055</td>
<td>Informatics &amp; Data-Driven</td>
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<td><strong>Summer 2</strong></td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<td><strong>Year 3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
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<td>SWRK 9000</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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Certificate Opportunities

• Quantitative Studies in Education
• Qualitative Studies in Education
• Health Analytics
• Higher Education Teaching (proposal in progress from education)
• Clinical Methods (Proposal in progress for MSW or DSW students)
Funding

• Expansion of our graduate assistantship pool
  ✓ May not pay for all expenses
• Looking to create teaching assistantships in future years
• Opportunities through the Graduate School
  https://www.memphis.edu/gradschool/current_students/fellowships/awards_current.php
• Opportunities through Student Affairs
  https://www.memphis.edu/academicsuccess/students/assistantships.php
How does this degree fit with your talents?

• Are you strong in research? Do you have basic algebra and statistics skills?

• How are you with completing self-directed projects without set deadlines? This will impact your ability to finish a dissertation.
What Are Your Career Goals?

• PhD is more marketable than a DSW in higher education settings, particularly research universities.

• Universities don’t typically hire their own graduates for tenure-track positions.

• How do you shape your DSW experience to accomplish your career goals?
Who Are Eligible?

Admissions eligibility includes:

• An MSW degree from a CSWE-accredited program

• A minimum of two-year post-MSW work experience
How To Apply?

What you will need includes:

• Online application
  (www.memphis.edu/graduateadmissions/future/apply_grad.php)
• Official transcripts
• Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score (and TOEFL score, if international)
• Three (3) professional references
• Professional goal statement
• Non-refundable application fee ($35 domestic, $60 international)
• A writing sample (optional)
How To Apply?

Online application: “Summer or Fall 2020”
How To Apply?

Online application: “Create an Account”
How To Apply?

Online application: “Add Program”
How To Apply?

Online application: “My Application”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Personal Information”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Personal Information”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Academic History”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Academic History”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Supporting Information”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Supporting Information”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Program Materials”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Program Materials”
How To Apply?

“My Application / Program Materials / Documents”

Documents

Resume/CV: Please upload a current resume or CV. Be sure to include the following:

- All institutions attended with dates, degrees (MSW required), and majors.
- All paid or unpaid social work related work experiences (a minimum of 2-year post-MSW work experiences required).
- All academic honors and awards.

Personal Goal Statement: Personal Goal Statement should be no more than three (3) double-spaced pages in length, inch margins and 12-point Times New Roman font and should answer the following questions:

1. Describe the primary population you have been serving and the problem of social work interest (e.g., social injustice, poverty, health disparities, etc.)
2. Identify your theoretical approach to direct and/or macro practice as it relates to the identified population as a problem of interest, and then discuss how you applied the theoretical approach to your practice.
3. What motivates you to pursue a DSW at this time in your career and how will a DSW help you to achieve your professional goals as manager, supervisor, researcher, or evaluator?
4. Why did you choose the University of Memphis to pursue a DSW degree?

Writing Sample (optional): Submit a writing sample (e.g., a peer-review journal publication, a capstone paper, in-class assignment paper, etc.) that presents your critical thinking and writing capacity.
How To Apply?

“My Application / Program Materials / Recommendations”
**How To Apply?**

“How My Application / Program Materials / Questions”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My Application</th>
<th>Add Program</th>
<th>Submit Application</th>
<th>Check Status</th>
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**College of Arts and Sciences, School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy**

**DSW - Social Work**

Deadline: 05/01/2020

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**Questions**

Read carefully the following statements, and mark each checkbox of the statements if you understand and agree with it.

I understand that the DSW program will be offered via distance learning. All courses will be available online.

I understand that students in the DSW program will be asked to come to campus approximately one week per year (e.g., the first week of August; specific dates will be informed later) to complete in-person residencies (which are designed to provide the opportunity to become oriented to the program, meet fellow students, meet the faculty, and form dissertation committees).

I understand that students in the DSW program will be required to have synchronous meetings.

I understand that the University of Memphis or the DSW program will not support any visa (including F1-Student Visa) for an international student.

**Prior-Conviction and Ability-to-Practice Social Work**

*Have you ever been convicted of a felony or crime(s) other than a minor traffic violation? A positive answer will not necessarily preclude your acceptance into the program. However, it may prevent placement in some field practicum agencies and/or licensure in certain states.*
How To Apply?

Documents: Resume/CV

• All institutions attended with dates, degrees (MSW required), and majors.
• All paid or unpaid social work related work experiences: A minimum of 2-year post-MSW work experiences required.
• All academic honors and awards.
How To Apply?

Documents: Personal Goal Statement

- No more than three (3) double-spaced pages in length, with 1-inch margins and 12-point Times New Roman font
- Answer the following questions:
  - Describe the primary population you have been serving and the problem of social work interest (e.g., social injustice, poverty, health disparities, etc.).
  - Identify your theoretical approach to direct and/or macro practice as it relates to the identified population and problem of interest, and then discuss how you applied the theoretical approach to your practice.
  - What motivates you to pursue a DSW at this time in your career and how will a DSW help you to achieve your professional goals as manager, supervisor, researcher, or evaluator?
  - Why did you choose the University of Memphis to pursue a DSW degree?
How To Apply?

Documents: Writing Sample (optional)

• Presents your critical thinking and writing capacity.
  • A peer-review journal publication,
  • A capstone paper, or
  • In-class assignment paper, etc.
How To Apply?

Documents: Recommendations

• Three (3) recommendation letter writers that address at least one of the follows:
  ✓ Skills and ethics in social work practice
  ✓ The potential of research on social work areas.
When Is Due?

• Deadline: May 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2020 for Fall 2020 Admission

• Fall admissions only
Contact for Questions

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