



School of Social Work

Social Work Student Success Meeting

September 16, 2026



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS.

WELCOME From the Chair & Director

Dr. Susan Elswick



School of Social Work Faculty Introductions



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS



Social Work Open House Purpose and Objectives

- Professor Kenya Anderson
- BA Program Coordinator



Purpose of the Seminar

- We welcome you to the School of Social Work and wish you a meaningful experience in the program and profession.
- Review of Social Work UG program & expectations.
- Discuss the profession of Social Work.
- Highlight our supportive academic structure.
- Overview of the curriculum and field practicum.
- Answer questions about our programming and the field of Social Work.

Objectives

- Participants will be informed about the BASW program mission and vision to create a just world through innovative scholarship, quality education, and community engagement.
- Participants will know the program's expectations and aims to prepare students with necessary skills to practice in complex settings across global perspectives.
- Participants will strengthen their sense of belonging in the School of Social Work.

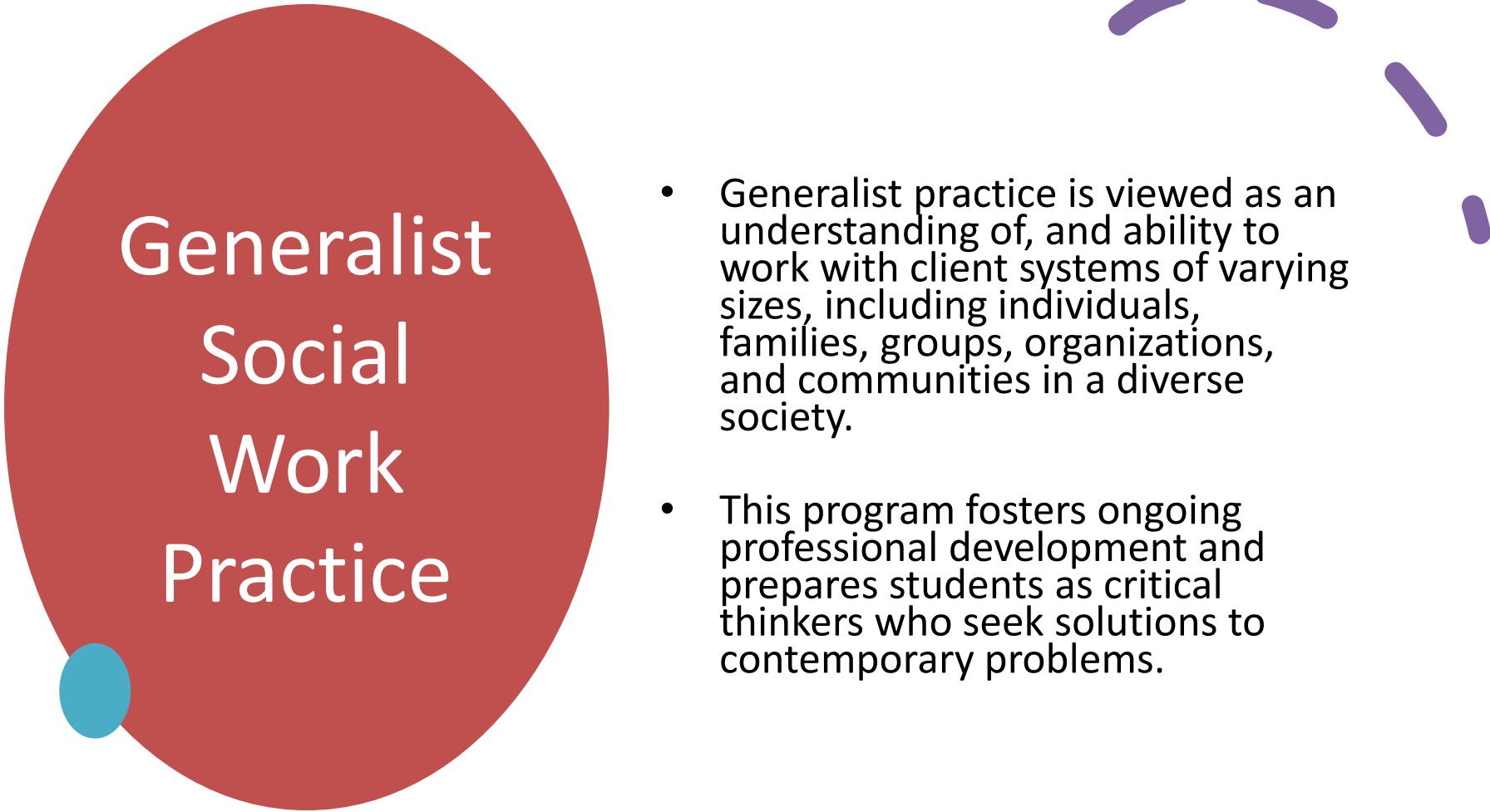


Things you should know...



Mission

- The School of Social Work resides in the School of Urban Affairs & Public Policy within the College of Arts and Sciences. The School offers three degree programs and four graduate certificates.
 - The College provides quality undergraduate and graduate education by training students to think critically about their course of study, themselves, and the world around them.
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- The mission of the Bachelor of Arts degree in social work is to prepare students for entrance into the profession of social work as generalist practitioners.
 - This mission is consistent with professional social work values and our commitment to serve vulnerable populations while promoting social justice.



Generalist Social Work Practice

- Generalist practice is viewed as an understanding of, and ability to work with client systems of varying sizes, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in a diverse society.
- This program fosters ongoing professional development and prepares students as critical thinkers who seek solutions to contemporary problems.



The School of Social Work seeks to be a leader in social work education by preparing students for generalist practice.

Effective Communication



Communication

- Email
- Telephone
- Microsoft Teams
- One Drive
- Canvas: Announcements and Notifications
- Social Work Website
- Departmental Facebook Page
- Volunteer and Job Postings
- Handbooks: BASW Program & Field Manual (Annual)

Communication Tools

Campus E-mail – Check Regularly & Include Your U#

Rollover to personal account:
iam.memphis.edu Identity
Management System

Navigate – schedule advising, academic planning, emails, texts, and other communication





Social Work Student Handbook

- Provides overview of the undergraduate social work program.
- Helps you determine if social work – as a major and career option – is for you and your long-term goals.
- Guide as you progress through the social work major.



Professional Communication



Dr. Susan Neely-Barnes
Dunavant Professor



Professional Communication

- Communicating with:
 - Professors
 - Peers
 - Class
 - Written communication
 - What to do when there is miscommunication...
- 

Written Communication

- It is important that when someone reads your writing the reader understands what you mean and there are no spelling or grammatical errors.
- Discussion Posts: Make posts that are on topic and within the scope of the course material.

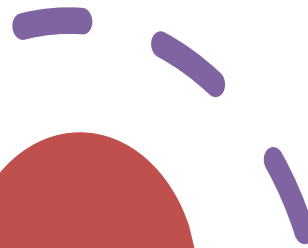


Email Etiquette

- Tips when sending an email to your instructor, teaching assistant, or classmates, you should:
- Use a clear and descriptive subject line.
- Put the most important part at the very beginning.
- Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them. This is especially important with many people using smart -phones and tablet PCs to view email.
- Sign your message with your name and return e-mail address. Use the recommended student signature available at: <https://www.memphis.edu/emailsignatures/>
- Think before you send the e-mail to more than one person. Does everyone really need to see your message?
- Similarly, be sure that the message author intended for the information to be passed along before you click the “forward” button.
- If you are sending an email while upset or angry, think about not sending it until you’ve cooled off. A 24-hour resting period is often a good idea.

Teamwork

Learning how to work in teams is an important skill for social workers.



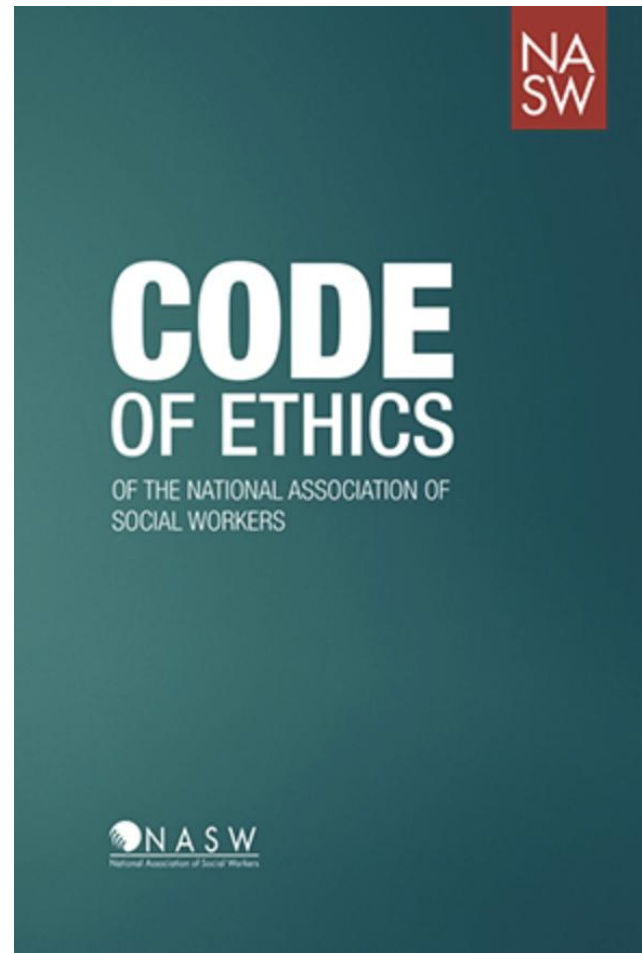


Professionalism



Social Workers are guided by a *Code of Ethics*

- A professional Code of Ethics protects the welfare of the public from harm that can be done by social workers who act unethically. The public has a right to expect the highest degree of integrity from members of the social work profession.



Social Work Code of Ethics (NASW)

Social Work Values (Principles)



Ethical Standards (Ethical Responsibilities)

- Clients
- Colleagues
- Practice Settings
- Professionals
- Social Work Profession
- Broader Society

Boundaries distinguish professional relationships from social or personal relationships.

Professional Boundaries





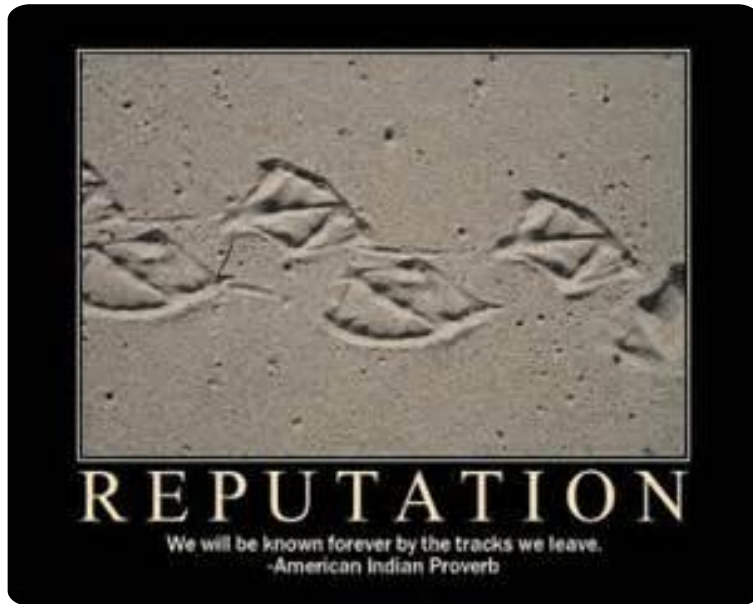
What does appropriate classroom etiquette look like in-person and online?

- Come to class on-time.
- Put your cell phone away!
- Come to class prepared to participate.
- Follow directions for course assignments.
- Reread all assignments before turning them in to check for spelling and grammatical errors.

WEB Course Netiquette

- Remember that all college level communication should have correct spelling and grammar.
- Avoid slang terms such as “wassup?” and texting abbreviations such as “u” instead of “you”.
- Use standard fonts that are optimized for online reading (e.g., sans serif) along with a consistent and readable size (12 or 14 pt.)
- Avoid using the caps lock feature AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETED AS YELLING.
- Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons. Not everyone knows how to interpret them.
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken literally or offensively.
- Log-in early to be sure your computer has the correct software to run a virtual Meeting.
- Please use your **full name** when prompted for your name or change it upon registration. This will be how I know who is in attendance.
- Treat your peers and instructor(s) with respect, even in email or in any other online communication.
- Always use your professors’ proper title: Dr. or Prof., or if you're in doubt use Mr. or Ms. (Corollary: Make sure if you use a gender-specific title that you are clear on their gender. Some names can be gender ambiguous.)
- Minimize background distractions and use virtual meeting backgrounds. Support for Microsoft Teams: <https://www.memphis.edu/umtech/solutions/teams.php>
- Viewing this short **YouTube video on Netiquette**

Your Reputation and Your Career are related!



- **Protect your personal information visible on the internet.**
- **Show respect and kindness to everyone.**
- **Go beyond what's expected of you.**
- **Be honest always.**
- **Keep your commitments.**

School of Social Work Social Media Guidelines

- Legal, ethical, and clinical responsibilities as professionals
- Students are expected to adhere to social work values, ethics;
- Engage in professional conduct as outlined in the NASW Code of Ethics when using social media communication tools, whether using a personal site, agency site, or University site.
 - Service Learning/ Volunteerism
 - Field Placement
 - Privacy and Confidentiality
 - How to apply the professional code
 - Tips to maintain a positive online presence





Advising & Program Application



BASW Partners

Traditional Program Option

- Freshmen with less than (30) credit hours are advised in the Academic Advising Center
- All other in-person students advised by social work faculty advisors
- Changes in the Spring 2027-CWC Third Wednesday
- All current advisors remain active for fall 2026

UMGlobal Students

- Primary advisor will be assigned by UMGGlobal
- Social Work Advisor will consult as an additional advisor
- Schedule using Navigate
- Must complete program application
- Spring Advising Changes

BASW Program Application- Required

- Faculty review of application to identify potential and suitability for the social work profession.
- Students are admitted to the major of social work (SWRK) only after they have satisfactorily completed (with at least a grade of C-) SWRK 2010, and SWRK 2011, or the equivalent of those courses (if the student has taken social work courses at other institutions of higher education).
- **SWRK 3011 Professionalism Course- Application Embedded
- Personal Goals Statement.
- Concentration is required. Selection in application process.
- Agree to abide by NASW Code of Ethics
- Possible Admission Outcomes: Yes, No, Conditional
- Applications remain open for (1) year from submission date.

BASW Program Application Decisions

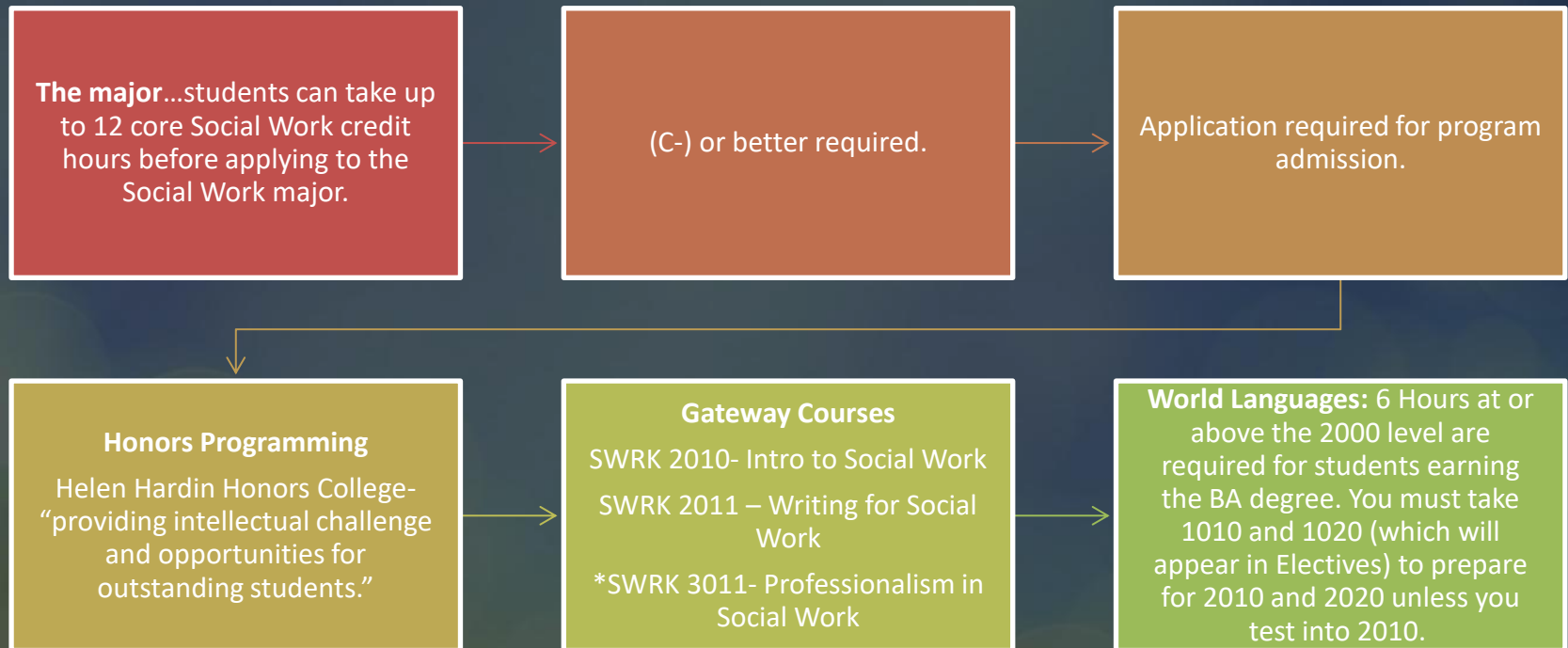
- Letter sent to student to notify of program acceptance decision. Options include denial, conditional admission, or admission.
- The Department Chair reviews all denied applications.
- Conditional Admission requires a second submission to be reviewed by initial faculty reviewer or program director.
- A third review of the same application will be sent to the Department Chair for review.
- Students unable to receive timely program acceptance will be advised to consider the social work minor or a different program of study.
- Student Support Meeting- includes student, advisor, and course instructor

BASW **Advising**

- Academic Advising
 - Academic Planning
 - Guidance to Graduation
- Assigned a faculty advisor
 - Mentors as students select courses, fulfill requirements, and explore career possibilities.
- UMdegree - Unofficial Transcript
- NAVIGATE
- File and intent to graduate- degree completion
- CAS Graduation Analysts
- Commencement Ceremony – Must be approved to graduate by deadline for participation.
- Considerations



Curriculum



Certifications, Concentrations, & Minors

Certifications

Non-profit Leadership
Certification

Child Welfare Certification –
Tennessee Department of
Children's Services

Major Concentrations Fall 2025:

School Social Work
Concentration & Licensure

Child Welfare Concentration

Generalist Concentration

Course Sequencing

General Education

Major Requirements*

BA Requirements

SWRK Minor – 21 credit hours

swrkpermits@memphis.edu

Social Work Concentration Course Requirements

Generalist

Child Welfare SWRK 4934
& 4935

Prof. Cherry Malone/ DCS
Liaison

School Social Work SPED
2000, SPED 3803, &
SWRK 4937

Dr. Susan Elswick

Service Learning in Classes

SWRK 2010 – Placed at an agency. This is a generalist practice service learning where they are learning the roles of SW in community programs. They do 30 hours and present on their experience.

SWRK 3010- Must complete a practice experience where you identify social work policies in practice at a local agency and present experiences and findings.

SWRK 3903- In this class students perform 50 hours of service to employ some of the techniques learned in the skills class into their experience. Again, there is a final presentation.

SWRK 3904 – Student practice group skills in a month-long group-based project. It is a support group.

Degree Planning Resources

BASW Student
Handbook

Undergraduate
Catalog

SWRK
Course Sequence

School Social
Work Licensure

DCS Certification

Semester
Schedules

Academic
Advising

Plan to add the
BASW Application
Process



AI for All Minor

- This minor is open to all students, regardless of technical background. Whether you are in business, social sciences, the arts or STEM, AI will play a role in your future.
- 12-credit hours - Two core courses - Two electives (courses from the fields of business, education, healthcare and more)

Other Minors

- Anthropology
- K-12 Education
 - Cannot Teach w/Minor
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Public Health
- Armed Services
- Interdisciplinary/ Social Justice/ SUAPP



School Social Work Licensure

- BA students will meet the requirements for Tennessee School Social Work Licensure through the completion of four additional courses to their BA in SWRK degree
 - SWRK 4937:
School Social Work
 - SPED 2000:
Foundation/Exceptional Learn
 - SPED 3803:
Classroom/Behavior Management)
 - Field placement (SWRK 4830-31)

must be within approved school setting.

Funding Your Degree...



UM Tiger Scholarship Manager - Application

Open October – February



Crawford Scholarship



McGaughran Fellowship



Project RAISE



National/International Retailers



Employers



Secular/Nonsecular Organizations

Helen Hardin Honors College

- The ultimate choice for driven students eager to enhance their academic journey in a dynamic and diverse environment.
- Incoming Freshmen
 - The Helen Hardin Honors College welcomes incoming freshmen who have a 3.25+ high school GPA and a 24 ACT or SAT equivalent.
- Continuing Students
 - The Helen Hardin Honors College accepts continuing students who have a 3.25+ college GPA and less than 60 earned credit hours.
- Transfer Students
 - The Helen Hardin Honors College accepts continuing students who have a 3.25+ college GPA and less than 60 earned credit hours.
- Scholarship Service Hours
- Priority Registration
- Graduate with Honors
- Undergraduate students who have achieved **academic honors distinction** (summa, magna or cum as determined by the University policy on GPA) will receive their honor cord at cap and gown distribution.
- Honors Study Abroad
- Undergraduate Research
- Co-Curricular Activities & Others



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Education Abroad

- Katie Norwood, Clinical Associate Professor
- MSW Program Director
 - Annual
 - Summer
- Social Work in Paris

University of Memphis study abroad programs provide students with the opportunity to combine a rigorous academic program with a cross-cultural learning experience that is not available in the United States.

Center for International Education Services
384 Patterson St.
International Center Room 104
Memphis, TN 38152
Phone: 901.678.2814
Fax: 901.678.4949
Email: tigersabroad@memphis.edu

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Social Work in Paris

Date: TBA (end of June through mid -July)

6 credit hours

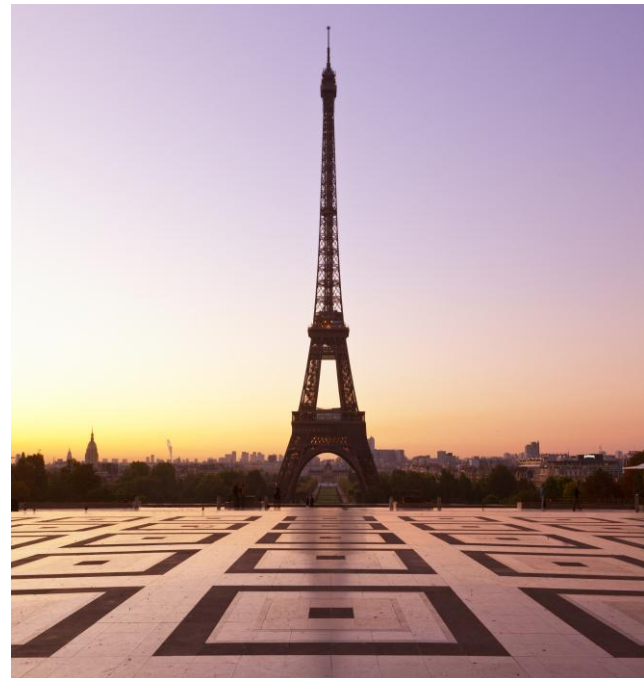
Program Description: The Social Work in Paris program is offered by Ecole Pratique de Service Social (Applied Social Service Training School) in Paris, France. It is a unique pathway to understanding the issues facing society in France and Europe today and gives a comprehensive overview of the social work field in France.

Program Location: Classes will take place in a gorgeous 19th-century building located in the heart of the Montparnasse area of Paris. The school is close to the Latin Quarter and breathtaking Luxembourg Gardens. It is surrounded by great cafés, restaurants, and shops in one of the safest areas of the capital, day or night.

Faculty Leader:

Professor Katie Norwood (kknrwood@memphis.edu) of the UofM Department of Social Work

Paris Summer School of Social Work





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Education Abroad

- Dr Seok Won Jin, Associate Professor
- Social Work and Well Being in South Korea
 - Biennial

- The program visits three different cities - **Seoul, Busan, and Gyeongju** - in just two weeks this summer, and is packed with culture, site excursions, and a chance to study societal wellbeing from a new perspective.
- This **inter-disciplinary, three credit-hour course** is open to **both undergraduate and graduate students** and focuses on the different dimensions of Korean society regarding wellness, including **physical/mental health, societal issues/support structures, and cultural norms.**

University of Memphis study abroad programs provide students with the opportunity to combine a rigorous academic program with a cross-cultural learning experience that is not available in the United States.

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Social Work and Well Being in South Korea

Travel Dates: May 17-30, 2026

Course Dates: Summer 2026

Program Description:

This two-week, faculty-led education abroad program provides students with a unique opportunity to explore the dynamic relationship between global wellbeing trends and cultural practices in South Korea. Seoul and Busan are cities of South Korea where traditional healing, cutting-edge medical technologies, and vibrant popular culture coexist and interact. Students will examine how South Korea's healthcare system integrates Eastern traditional medicine with modern Western biomedical models, and how cultural beliefs, historical experiences and contemporary global forces shape national and community health practices.

Faculty Leader:

The faculty leader for this program is Dr. Seok Jin, who can be reached via e-mail at sjin1@memphis.edu.

Social Work and Well Being in South Korea



Study Abroad Experience

Funding Your Experience



Scholarships for Study Abroad

Fulltime Enrollment
45 credit hours
2.75 GPA



Financial Aid for Study Abroad

Course must match your Course Plan of Study (CPOS) for Federal Financial Aid

Recommendations

- Check the UofM Financial Aid Page
- Financialaid@memphis.edu
- Enrollment Services Center Wilder Tower
- Discuss/Plan with your faculty advisor
- Sophomore Year



Student Social Work Organization

Danielle Seemann, Clinical Assistant Professor
Social Work Student Organization Advisor

Social Work Student Organization (SSWO)

Student Representative:
Madisyn Singleton



Coalition of Black Social Workers

Student Representatives:
Brittany Ward, President
Madisyn Singleton, Vice
President

Faculty Advisor: Kenya Anderson
Clinical Associate Professor



Field Placement Procedures

- Announcing, New BA Field Director
- Professor Tracy Humphrey,
Clinical Assistant Professor

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Field Courses/ Curriculum

Purpose of Field Placement

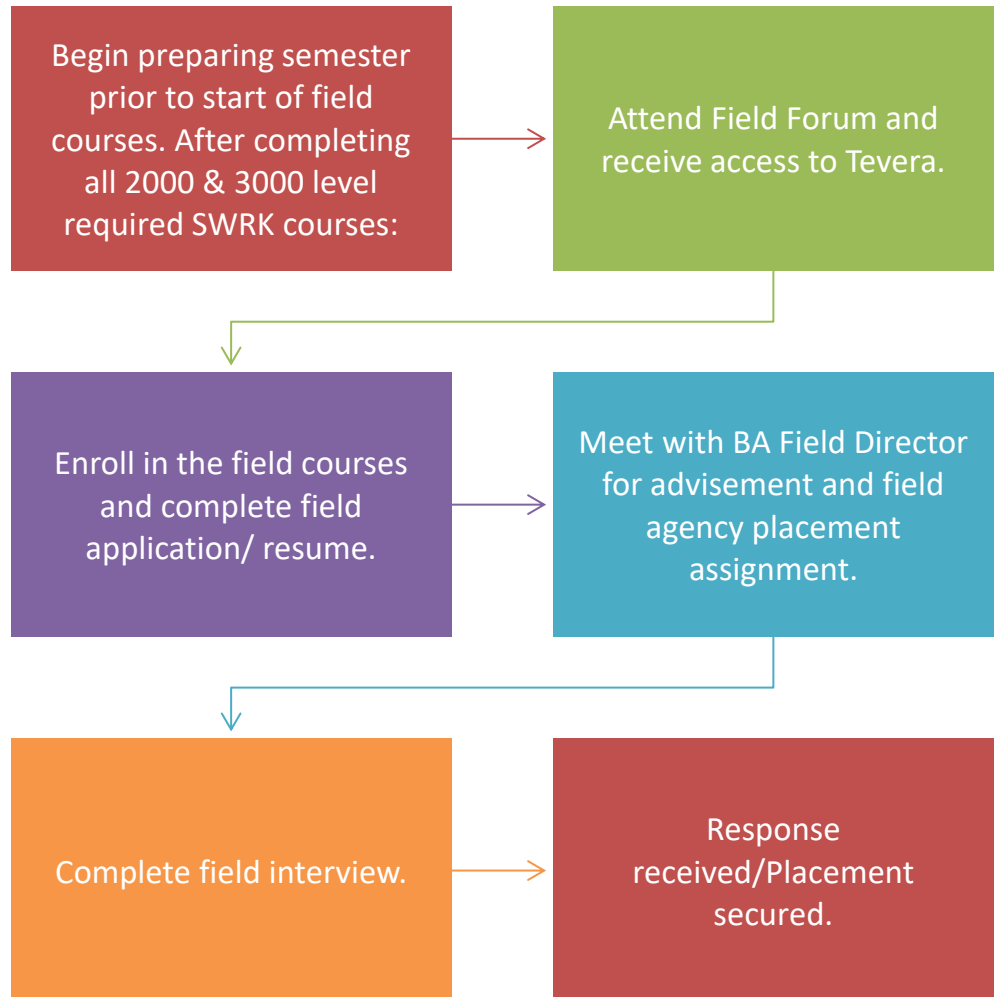
Bachelor of Social Work handbook for Field Practicum

Field Forms

Field Seminar/ Field Instruction.

Traditional/ Block Options. Block only available during Spring & Fall semesters.

Field Placement Procedures



NASW & Liability Insurance

- **NASW**
- www.socialworkers.org
- Ph: 800-742-4089 or 202-408-8600
- Student membership costs \$60
- **Liability Insurance Coverage**
- In order to begin field placement, the student must purchase liability insurance coverage. The minimum coverage to be purchased is the 1,000,000/5,000,000 option. The student must provide a copy of his/her certificate of coverage to the Director of Field Placement, verifying that the insurance is in place before the student can engage in any field activities.
- Since the student is also required to join NASW, the professional organization for social workers, it is likely most cost effective for the student to purchase the liability insurance through the company contracted with NASW to provide such coverage.

Tennessee
Legislative
Internship:
Spring 2027
Block

Paid Internship in Nashville, TN



- Juniors, Seniors, and Graduate Students in law, political science, history, administration, social work, economics, sociology, journalism, and related fields are eligible.
- Students must be at least 20 years of age before January 11th, 2027.
- Students must have a 3.0 or better GPA at the time of application.

The Tennessee Legislative Intern Program was established in 1972 to provide college students from around the State the opportunity to work and learn about the crucial work of making laws for the State of Tennessee.

- Applications submitted by September 18th will be given priority.
- Final deadline is September 24th.



For more information
please reach out to:

LegislativeInternship@
memphis.edu



Experiential Learning Fellowship (ELF)

- ***Applicants must be in the College of Arts and Sciences and have a U of M sponsoring faculty member.***
- The College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) welcomes applications for our Experiential Learning Fellowship (ELF). **This funding supports CAS students participating in otherwise unpaid mentored research, practica placements, or internships related to their field of study.** Awardees will be enrolled in a 0-credit Canvas course and must track hours. Recipients must submit a testimonial upon completion of their fellowship hours reflecting on their experience to receive the award. Testimonials can be written (~150-250 words) or video/audio (~1 minute). Awardees who record testimonials on video at their field site must seek permission from their site supervisor and individuals appearing in the video. Your submitted testimonial may be shared with advisory board members, donors, and used in promotional or fundraising materials.
- **Selection Criteria**
- Declared major in a College of Arts & Sciences program and in good academic standing
- Relevance of proposed experience to program of study
- Relevance of proposed experience to planned career pathway after degree completion
- The imminence of planned graduation date
- Confirmation of placement by sponsoring faculty member
- Participating in a minimum of 65 hours of unpaid mentored research or practica placements

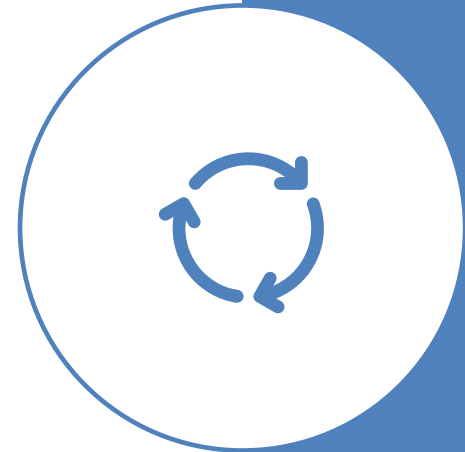
Career Services Specialist

- Serena Whittaker,
- Career Readiness Assistant
- Social Sciences & Humanities
- **Office Hours:**
Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- 400 Wilder Tower, Memphis, TN
38152-3520
(901) 678-2239 | [E-mail Us](#)
- [Career Services Directions and Parking Information](#)
- Services are provided by appointment only.



2026 Fall All Majors Career Fair

- **CAREER SERVICES**
- **2026 Fall All-Major Career Fair**
- Wednesday, September 30, 2026, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- **Maxine A. Smith University Center, Ballroom, Room 300**





Accreditation and Licensure

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

BASW Program Accreditation Since 1974

Competency-
based
Curriculum

Competency-
based
Evaluations

Pathway to
Professional
Licensure

Council on
Social Work
Accreditation
(CSWE)

- Accredits our BA program
 - Our graduates are eligible to seek advanced standing at any accredited MSW program.
 - Our graduates are eligible for baccalaureate level licensure in states that offer it.
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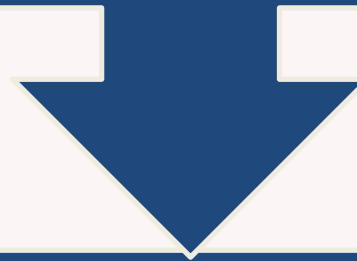
Reaffirmation Timeline

- We are actively completing our reaffirmation review.
 - Site visit is completed today.
 - Thanks to all who participated!



ASWB Pathway to Licensure

State of TN Board of Social
Work is a member of the
Association of Social Work
Boards



Develops and maintains the
licensing examinations.

ASWB is composed of social work regulatory bodies in 61 jurisdictions (49 states, 10 Canadian provinces and Virgin Islands) Guam newest member.

Membership consists of state boards and provincial colleges that regulate social work practice.

Member boards govern the association through the ASWB Delegate Assembly.

Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker, LBSW

- **Education:** Baccalaureate Degree (CSWE Accredited Social Work Program)
- **Scope of Practice:** Generalist
- **ASWB Exam:** Bachelor's Licensing Exam
- **Examples:** Geriatric, Case Management, Senior Services, Community Practice





Actions for Success

- Clarity, know your desired outcome; commit.
- Persistence.
- Emotional resilience; Change limiting beliefs.
- Positive Visualization and Thoughts.
- Build Community.
- Take care of your health and wellness.
- Courage to take positive action.

– Source: <https://raymondter-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/supporting-our-students/student-health-and-safety/you-can-do-it/the-5-foundations.html>

– <https://www.urbanfitness.com.au/blog/motivation-mental-health/7-ways-to-increase-your-chances-of-success>

Campus Resources & Student Empowerment

- **Counseling Center**
- *During Business Hours | Monday–Friday | 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. | Visit 214 Wilder Tower or virtual waiting room*
- *No appointment is required for a student's first Counseling Center visit | Walk in hours Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm | Visit 214 Wilder Tower or virtual waiting room*
- Join the Virtual Waiting Room
- CALL: 901-678-2068
- <https://www.memphis.edu/counseling/>
- Connect with the Coordinator Virtual Monthly Meetings: 3rd Wednesdays
 - **October 21, 2026**
 - SWRK Internships & Concentrations
 - **November 18, 2026**
 - BASW Advising & Graduation
 - **December 2026**
 - Congratulations, Graduates-Alumni



Thank
You.....

We are located in

McCord Hall on the first and
second floors

Tele: 901-678-2616

Valerie Wince, Administrative
Associate

Main Office, Room 208

Questions?

