B.S.W. in Social Work

Overview

Degree Requirements

Description
The B.S.W. degree prepares students to work as generalist social workers in a variety of settings with individuals, families, groups, communities, or organizations.

Premliminary Requirements
Newly admitted students may declare a major in social work without formal application to the program, as well as students with previous college-level course work who have a minimum resident and overall GPA of 2.0. Students declaring a major prior to formal admission to the program will be assigned an adviser in the social work department. At the initial advising meeting, majors will complete the social work contract, review the NASW Code of Ethics, and review the policy for progression through the program.

Additional Information
After successful completion (successful completion is defined as earning a "C" or better) of SW 315, SW 321, and SW 330, the student makes formal application to the department for admission to the program prior to enrolling in SW 335, Practice I. Students who do not earn a "C" or better may repeat a course once. Students who do not make satisfactory academic progress will be advised to choose a different major. Requirements for formal admission include:
1. Overall GPA of 2.0 and successful completion of SW 315, SW 321, and SW 330 (successful completion is defined as earning a "C" or better).
2. Request for voluntary disclosure of misdemeanor, felony, or substantiated case of abuse of a child or vulnerable adult; the purpose is to discuss the possible impact of a felony or other legal misconduct on the ability to complete an internship, take the license examination, or practice social work;
3. Completion of the application, including an essay/personal statement identifying why the student wants to be a social worker;
4. Completion of an interview with the admissions committee at the discretion of the committee;
5. Consensus of admissions committee for recommendation of unconditional admission, conditional admission (with clearly identified concerns with a plan developed for addressing the concerns), or no admission.
6. Submission of the complete application to: University of Mississippi Social Work Department P.O. Box 1848 University, MS 38677-1848
7. Submission of the application after successful completion of SW 315, 321, and 330.
8. Deadlines for admission:
   - Oct. 15, for admission the following spring semester.
   - March 1, for admission the following fall semester.

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

Goals/Mission Statement
To prepare competent and ethical generalist social workers, for scientific inquiry, who are leaders, committed to diversity and social and economic justice and the enrichment of quality of life with systems of all sizes and at all levels of society.

General Education Requirements
See the General Education/Core Curriculum for the School of Applied Sciences. An additional 18 hours is required in the following related subjects: 6 hours of history, PSY 311 (3 hours), POL 101 (3 hours), and 6 hours of social science electives (to be chosen from anthropology, economics, political science, psychology, sociology, or social work).

Course Requirements
Specific requirements for the major include SW 201 OR 315, 216 OR 316, 321, 322, 330, 335, 340, 417, 436, 437, 438, 450, 495, and 496.

Other Academic Requirements
A minimum grade of C is required in all social work courses. No student may enroll in a social work course until a minimum grade of C has been obtained in prerequisite courses. No social work course may be taken more than twice. A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required in the 46-hour block of required professional (SW) courses in order for a student to graduate with this degree. Majors progress through the curriculum by passing courses in sequential fashion. Majors failing to reflect both an understanding and an endorsement of the Social Work Code of Ethics in course assignments, exams, and in required community service activities will be advised to seek another major.

https://catalog.olemiss.edu/2025/fall/undergraduate/applied-sciences/social-work/bsw