

SOCIAL WORK, BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK (594P, 594)

Program Coordinator

Whitney Cassity Caywood, whitney.cassitycaywood@wku.edu

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). During the four semesters required for completion of the social work major, students acquire knowledge, skills, and values that demonstrate competency in generalist social work practice. The major includes a 400-hour Field practicum or internship at a social service agency where students apply classroom learning under the supervision of a professional social worker. As a bachelor level social worker, graduates may work with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and/or the entire community with a primary focus on coordinating services in a variety of settings with multiple populations. For this reason, graduates must be flexible enough to work with people of various ages, backgrounds and cultures. With a BSW students are eligible to apply to any CSWE-Accredited Advanced Standing (accelerated) Master of Social Work program in the U.S. (Application requirements vary by program.)

The Social Work major consists of 54 semester hours, 42 core hours in social work and 12 hours in supportive courses. It is not necessary to have a minor for graduation.

Consistent with the program's emphasis on a liberal arts foundation, during the freshman and sophomore years, students will take courses in English, political science, economics, math, biology, sociology, psychology, and also public speaking and history. These courses will also fulfill several of the Colonnade requirements. A list of the required liberal arts and sciences courses that must be taken as prerequisites for applying to the social work major is available on the departmental webpage or can be obtained from the department.

A student receiving a "D" or lower in any course used for the social work major will be required to repeat the course. If it is a core social work course, then the course must be repeated before proceeding to the next course in the sequence.

Admission Requirements

The academic advisor reviews the student's academic status. If necessary, students are advised to fulfill prerequisites for admission to the program. Upon completion of prerequisite courses, including SWRK 101 (with a minimum grade of "C"), students must complete an application process for formal admission to the social work program. The BSW Admissions and Retention Committee reviews each application. Students must have attained a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 and sophomore status at the time of application in order to be admitted. Guidelines for admission and retention are stated in the BSW Student Handbook, which is available in the departmental office or on www.wku.edu/socialwork (<https://www.wku.edu/socialwork/>). The following 15 hours are required for admission:

Code	Title	Hours
SWRK 101	Foundations of Human Services	3
ENG 100	Introduction to College Writing	3
PSY/PSYS 100	Introduction to Psychology	3

or PSY/PSYS 220	Introduction to Lifespan Developmental Psychology	
SOCL 100	Introductory Sociology	3
or AGRI 108	Rural Sociology	
DEI Course ¹		3
Total Hours		15

Additional Required Courses for Social Work Major

Code	Title	Hours
It is recommended to take these courses prior to admission.		
PS 110	American National Government	3
ECON 150	Introduction to Economics	3
or ECON 202	Principles of Economics (Micro)	
or ECON 203	Principles of Economics (Macro)	
Select one of the following statistics courses:		
SWRK 344	Social Work Statistics and Data Analysis	3
or MATH 183	Introductory Statistics	
or SOCL 300	Social Statistics	
or PSY 313	Statistics in Psychology	
or PSYS 313	Statistics in Psychology	
or PH 383	Biostatistics in the Health Sciences	
Total Hours		9

Program Requirements (54 hours)

A baccalaureate degree requires a minimum of 120 unduplicated semester hours. More information can be found at www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php. (https://www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php)

Students who began WKU in the Fall 2014 and thereafter should review the Colonnade requirements located at: <https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>. (<https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>)

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
SWRK 101	Foundations of Human Services	3
SWRK 301	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Human Services	3
SWRK 330	Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3
SWRK 345	Social Work Research Methods	3
SWRK 357	Case Management	3
SWRK 375	Social Work Practice I	3
SWRK 378	Social Work Practice II	3
SWRK 379	Introduction to Social Work Communication Skills	3
SWRK 381	Social Work Practice III	3
SWRK 395	Social Welfare Policy and Issues	3
SWRK 480	Social Work Field Practicum I	3
SWRK 481	Social Work Field Seminar I	3
SWRK 482	Social Work Field Practicum II	3

SWRK 483	Social Work Field Seminar II	3
Electives ²		12
Select two SWRK electives from:		
SWRK 2XX		
SWRK 3XX		
SWRK 4XX		
Select six hours in consultation with advisor and must be unduplicated. ³		
Total Hours		54

¹ Approved DEI courses are AFAM 190, AFAM/HIST 329, AFAM/HIST 343, AFAM/FLK/ANTH 350, AFAM/FLK 377, ANTH 120, ANTH/FLK 342, ANTH 343, ANTH 360, ASL 302, COMM 365, CRIM 361, CRIM 446, CSJ 200, EDU/SUS 276, ENG/MUS 324, FLK 276, FLK 280, FLK 330, GERO 100, GWS 200, HIST/PS/GEOG/SPAN 200, HIST 302, HIST 309, HIST 310, HIST 325, HIST 332, HIST 353, HIST 354, HIST 358, HIST 359, HIST 364, HIST 365, HIST 380, HIST 390, HIST 420, HIST 430, HIST 462, HON 251, PH 412, PHIL/RELS 202, PHIL 212, PS 373, PS 377, PSYS 353, RELS 331, SOCL 240, SOCL 260, SOCL 362, SOCL 375, SPS 400, SWRK 300

² Approved by the advisor. Six hours of the electives must be in social work. Must be unduplicated.

³ Advisor consent electives are AFAM 190, ACCT 420, CD 489, COMM 345, COMM 349, COMM 362, CNS 110, CNS 432, CRIM 101, CSJ 200, EDU 276, ENG 301, ENG 306, ENG 307, FACS 3**, 4**, FIN 161, FLK 280, FLK 3**, FLK 4**, GERO 100, GEOG 350, GEOG 352, GEOG 480, HCA 340, HIST 320, HIST 321, HIST 364, HMD 211, LEAD 200, LEAD 3**, LEAD 4**, MGT 210, MGT 311, MGT 333, PH 165, PH 3**, PH 4**, PHIL 315, PHIL 320, PHIL 322, PHIL 330, PHIL 350, PHIL 401, PHIL 426, PSY 3**, PSY 4**, REC 220, REC 302, RELS 305, RELS 320, SOCL 309, SOCL 3**, SOCL 4**, SWRK 300, SWRK 305, SWRK 324, SWRK 326, SWRK 356, SWRK 433, SWRK 436, SWRK 437, SWRK 438, SWRK 450, SWRK 451, GWS 200, and GWS 400.

Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SWRK 301		3 SWRK 357	3
SWRK 330 (recommended for Connections - Systems)		3 SWRK 378	3
SWRK 375		3 SWRK 379	3
Connections - Local to Global (Major Advisor Consent Elective #2)*		3 ENG 300	3
Minor/Elective		3 Minor/Elective	3
		15	15

Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SWRK 345		3 SWRK 395	3
SWRK 381		3 SWRK 482	3
SWRK 480		3 SWRK 483	3
SWRK 481		3 Major Social Work Elective #2	3
Elective		3 Elective	3
		15	15
Total Hours 120-121			

* Confirm with advisor.

Finish in Four Plan

First Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
SWRK 101		3 ENG 100	3
HIST 101 or HIST 102		3 PS 110	3
COMM 145		3 Colonnade - Natural & Physical Sciences or World Language (if needed)	3-4
SOCL 100 or AGRI 108		3 Colonnade - Arts & Humanities	3
PSY 100, PSYS 100, PSY 220, or PSYS 220		3 Minor/Elective	3
		15	15-16

Second Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ECON 150, ECON 202, or ECON 203		3 Colonnade - Natural & Physical Sciences (not Biology)	3
SWRK 344, MATH 183, SOCL 300, PSY 313, PSYS 313, or PH 383		3 Connections - Social & Cultural (Major Advisor Consent Elective #1)*	3
ENG 200		3 DEI course	3
Major Social Work Elective #1		3 Minor/Elective	3
Minor/Elective		3 Minor/Elective	3
		15	15