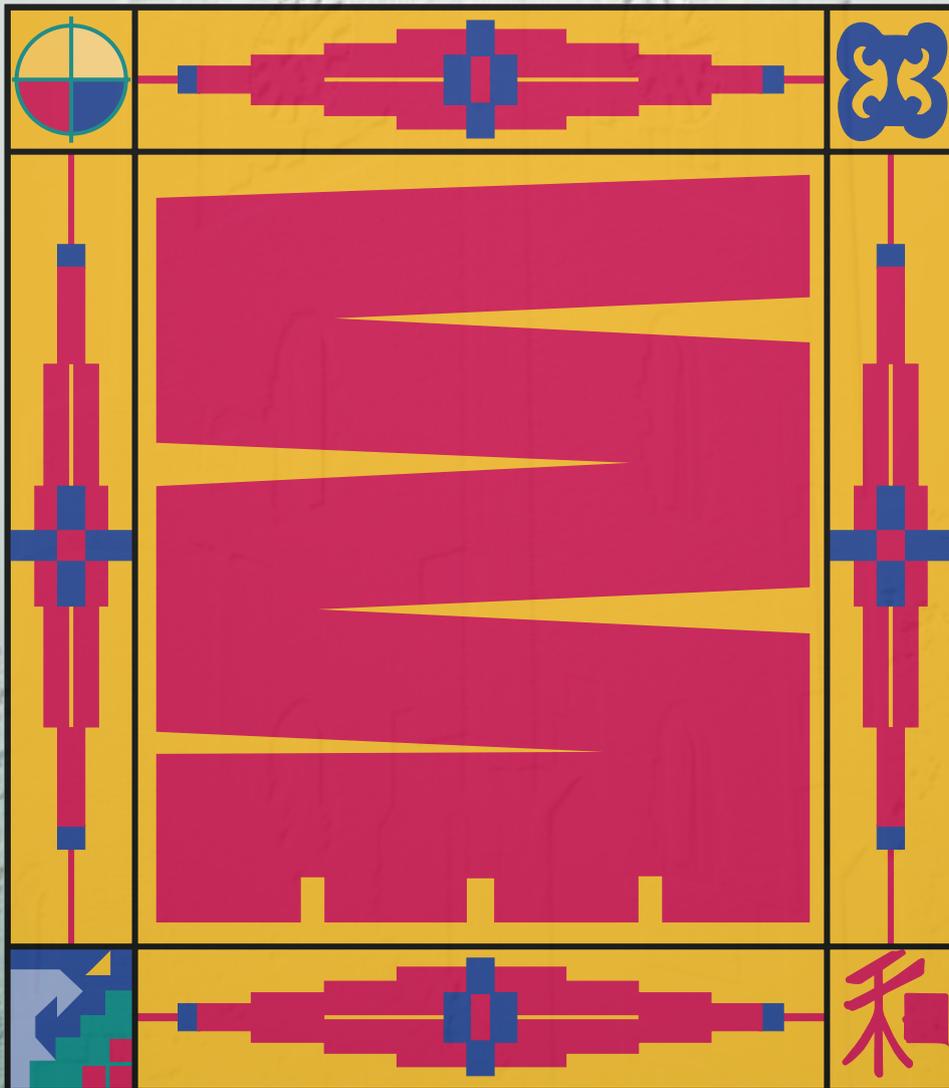


MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

School of Social Work

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Honors **BASW** TEACHING
RESEARCH Diversity
International **MSU** OUTREACH
SERVICE Field Education



www.socialwork.msu.edu

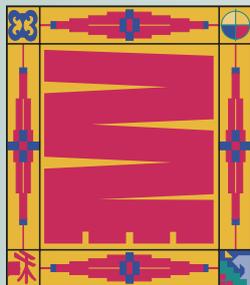
Michigan State University provides an excellent setting for social work education. As a Research I University, MSU creates and advances knowledge, attracting scholars worldwide.

As the nation's pioneer land-grant university, MSU extends learning to actively serve Michigan, the nation, and the international community. With more than 200 programs of study, students at MSU have extensive opportunities for collaboration in a wide variety of disciplines. The East Lansing campus is beautiful, rich in resources, and located near the state capital, giving our students extraordinary access to the policy debate and the policy formation process.

The School of Social Work has one of the oldest undergraduate degrees in social work in the United States, a master's degree program that was inaugurated shortly after World War II, and a PhD program. The School's BASW and MSW programs have been continuously accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The doctoral program is a member of the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE). All three programs of the School of Social Work have produced many distinguished practitioners, educators, researchers, and leaders in human services.

School of Social Work Faculty

The range of expertise within the School of Social Work faculty is exceptionally broad and corresponds to most student interests. Faculty engage in research projects relating to violence, women, juvenile delinquency and restorative justice, infant mental health, ethnic conflict, child welfare, kinship care, post-adoption services, foster care, law and social work, aging and gerontology, end-of-life issues, welfare reform, family development, LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) issues, schools, leadership development in the emerging democracies, use of arts with disadvantaged populations, family development, teaching and learning, and technology application in social work.



The cover art is an original design based on an idea from Dorothy Harper Jones, PhD, Professor Emeritus, School of Social Work, created by Linda L. Lawrence, BASW, LMSW, MSU School of Social Work clinical instructor. Starting in the upper left corner is a Native American Symbol with many ancient and contemporary meanings, including the four directions, the four seasons, and the four colors. When mixed together, they make brown, of which we are all shades. Upper right is an African Adinkra symbol meaning the blood ties of all human relations. Lower left is a Central American symbol for preservation of earth, sea, and sky. Lower right is a Japanese symbol for harmony. The symbol in the center is an African symbol that represents our changing roles over a lifetime.

BASW Program Unique Features

- ◆ *Personalized attention* to student educational needs and interests.
- ◆ *Interactive and small classes.* Most upper-level social work courses have fewer than 25 students in each section.
- ◆ *Primary objective of preparation for beginning generalist social work practice,* with required courses in human behavior in the social environment, social welfare policy, research, social work practice, and field instruction.
- ◆ *Personalized field placements* with local agencies and programs focusing on generalist social work practice.
- ◆ *Strong foundation in the liberal arts and social sciences.* Students graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work.
- ◆ *Diversity,* with a special interest in strengthening families, communities, and advancing social justice for oppressed populations.
- ◆ *Opportunity to study abroad* in one of the many international programs sponsored by the University.
- ◆ *Research opportunities* with faculty around current social work generalist practice issues.
- ◆ *Funding opportunities* for research and study abroad/study away.
- ◆ *Accreditation* by the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE), with eligibility for advanced standing MSW programs upon graduation.

Honors Program

In addition to the regular undergraduate program, the School offers an honors program to a number of highly qualified students who are members of the Honors College. Students interested in the Honors Program in Social Work should consult the faculty honors advisors.

Undergraduate Field Education

Field education is required of all School of Social Work seniors. Through field education, the student has the opportunity to develop and enhance professional knowledge and skills with diverse populations, age groups, and problem areas. Such opportunities abound in both public and private agencies throughout the greater Lansing area and beyond.



Our students say it best...

"I really enjoyed the "family" aspect of the BASW program; the students you meet in classes become your closest friends. The undergrad advisor truly loves, empowers, and believes in the students. The opportunities available in the BASW program (student leadership, undergrad research, comprehensive social work education) really set me up for success as a grad student and in my social work career." —Sara



"The BASW program at MSU is so unique because it is like a little family. Classes are small, professors are attentive and actually get to know you and your interests, and your classmates become your allies. The faculty and staff in the social work program are amazing. I graduated two years ago and still maintain close relationships with numerous professors and staff members; they continue to mentor and guide me throughout my career. You're going to be challenged, exhausted, and pushed; but it is all worth it in the end!" —Jessica

"The thing I remember most about the social work program at MSU is the lifelong friendships I made during the program. These friendships taught me the theories of community and people working together to help each other were not just readings, but are actually a real part of practicing in the social work field and in living a healthy and successful life." —Josh



"The thing I was most impacted by during my time in the undergraduate social work program was the sense of community and belonging. It was wonderful to be around smart and creative people who had the same passions that I did. I learned so much from my fellow classmates, and we all supported and pushed each other to help people in need." —Ali

Mission Statement

We are dedicated to educating students for competent, responsive, and ethical social work practice. Our teaching, research, and outreach seek to promote positive change and social justice for diverse communities, organizations, groups, families, and individuals.

BASW PROGRAM

Admission Requirements

Students are enrolled in the program at two levels:

- ◆ As social work *preference students*: new freshmen, transfer students, and those who change their major preferences during the freshman and sophomore years.
- ◆ As social work *major admits*: students who have completed all social work prerequisites and have applied and been accepted into the School of Social Work as juniors.

Acceptance into the major as juniors entitles students to enroll in upper-level social work courses required for the Bachelor of Arts in Social Work. Students usually apply for acceptance into the major at the end of the first semester of their sophomore year. Admission to the upper-level program is competitive, and enrollment in the first level offers no guarantee of admission to the second level.

Admission to the major is determined by the faculty on the basis of the following:

- ◆ Completion of seven prerequisite courses before the Fall semester of the junior year as follows: Introduction to Social Work (SW 200), Introduction to Sociology (SOC 100), Introduction to American National Government (PLS 100), Introduction to Psychology (PSY 101), either Introduction to Microeconomics (EC 201) or Macroeconomics (EC 202), a 200-level psychology course, and a body science course (PSL 250, HNF 150, PSY 209, or ZOL 141).
- ◆ Work or volunteer experience in human services field.
- ◆ Two references.
- ◆ A personal statement.
- ◆ GPA.

Once admitted to the program, students must enroll for courses in the semester for which they are accepted. New cohorts begin each Fall semester. If they decide not to enroll in the program that semester, they will need to reapply the following year, with no guarantee of readmission.

Transfer Students

Upper division transfer students will be admitted into the School of Social Work on a competitive basis. Students normally transfer at the end of their sophomore year. Applications for admission to the University should be submitted in the Fall semester of their sophomore year. The Admissions Office sends the supplemental application for the School of Social Work after the University application has been processed. Admitted students should plan to begin their social work studies in the Fall semester.

Applications

Applications are accepted and reviewed once each year in the Spring semester. Students typically apply early Spring semester of their sophomore year. An application must be submitted and accepted to enroll in upper-level social work courses. Applications can be found at:

www.socialwork.msu.edu/basw/admissions

Please contact the social work advisor or program director with any questions.

More information about the BASW program can be found at:

www.socialwork.msu.edu/basw

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