
Social Work

In the College of Health and Human Services

OFFICE: Hepner Hall 119
TELEPHONE: (619) 594-6865

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Faculty

Emeritus: Ajemian, Baily, Brennen, Butler, Davis, Dean, Griffin, Guidry, Haworth, Ishikawa, Kahn, Kelley, Kukkonen, Raymer, Reichert, Riehman, Sardinas, Siman, Stanford, Valle, Zuniga

Director: Harbert

Associate Director: Finnegan

Professors: DeGennaro, Harbert, Jones, Landsverk

Associate Professors: Barrio, Clapp, Engstrom, Finnegan, Harris, Hohman, Hughes, Packard, Rasmussen, Shillington

Assistant Professors: Carrilio, James, Mathiesen, Min, Sucato

Lecturers: Dudley, Eichler, Fong, Keith, Letourneau, London, Marsden, Milstein, Newell, Okamura, Segars, Siegel, Stanger, Walden O'Cull

Offered by the School

Master of Social Work degree.

Master of Social Work and Juris Doctor degrees
(concurrent program).

Master of Social Work and Master of Public Health degrees
(concurrent program).

Major in social work with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.

Minor in social work.

The Major

The profession of social work is deeply committed to the relief of human distress and inequality, and to the assistance of people in the meeting of their social, psychological, and economic needs. The objective of the School of Social Work is to assist students in acquiring the essential knowledge, philosophy, and basic skills required for beginning professional social work practice; namely, to develop a philosophy which recognizes individual human welfare as the purpose and goal of social policy, to develop an awareness and understanding of human behavior, to attain a level of competence in practice methods and skills, to acquire knowledge in methods of research in social work, and to accept responsibility for continued development of competence in their practice after they have completed their academic education.

The social work major is designed to apply to a wide variety of social work practice settings. Preparatory coursework for the major includes a basis in the liberal arts and sciences. The upper division curriculum is intensive, encompassing coursework in cultural pluralism, human behavior, social policy and program evaluation, social work practice, and social work research. Required field experience is an integral part of the program.

The B.A. degree prepares students for immediate employment in those social work positions which do not require graduate level preparation, as well as providing the foundation for graduate study.

Impacted Program

The social work major is an impacted program. Students must enter the University under the social work premajor code (21040). To be admitted to the social work major, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete with a grade of C or higher: Social Work 110, 120, 130; Biology 100 or any three units in a human biology course;

Economics 100 or three units of any economics course; Community Health Education 101; Psychology 101; Sociology 101; Psychology 270 or Sociology 201 or Statistics 250. These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC);

- Complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units;
- Have a cumulative GPA and SDSU GPA of 2.40 or higher;
- To gain entry into the major, students must fulfill the premajor requirements described in the catalog in effect at the time they declare the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

Social Work Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences
(Premajor Code: 21040) (Major Code: 21041)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog entitled "Graduation Requirements." No more than 51 units in social work courses can apply to the degree.

A minor is not required with this major.

Preparation for the Major. All new students to this program are considered premajors and are assigned the 21040 premajor code. The code will stay in effect until students complete the 27 unit preparation for the major coursework. Students must come to the Undergraduate Adviser to complete a change of major form to the 21041 major code in order to take the upper division courses (exceptions to this are SWORK 350 and 360 which can be taken without the major code change). Students must change to the major code prior to REG-LINE registration or the computer will not permit access to any social work course. The following nine courses constitute the preparation for the major: Social Work 110, 120, 130; Biology 100 or any three units in a human biology course; Economics 100 or three units of any economics course; Community Health Education 101; Psychology 101; Sociology 101; Psychology 270 or Sociology 201 or Statistics 250. (27 units)

Foreign Language Requirement. Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language as part of the preparation for the major. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

Upper Division Writing Requirement. Passing the University Writing Examination or completing one of the approved writing courses with a grade of C (2.0) or better.

Major. A minimum of 41 upper division units, in a prescribed course sequence, to include Social Work 350, 360, 361, 370, 381, 382, 483A-483B, 489A (4 units), 489B (4 units), 491, and six units of upper division electives in social work (3 units may be taken from another department).

Time Limitation: All social work courses taken for the premajor and major must have been taken and completed within seven years of the granting of the undergraduate degree. Courses taken prior to the seven year rule must be repeated. This policy applies to courses taken at SDSU or transferred from another four-year college or university or appropriate courses from a community college. No exceptions will be made to this policy.

Life Experience: No social work premajor or major courses can be waived or credit given towards the undergraduate degree for life experience including but not limited to employment, time spent in the military, training or workshops or volunteer experiences.

Transfer Credit: Transfer credit students may transfer 18 nonsocial work courses in the premajor and nine units of Social Work 110, 120, 130 from a California community college or four year institution with a signed articulation agreement with SDSU. Students from outside the state must have transcripts evaluated to determine if their courses meet SDSU criteria to be accepted for the premajor. The 41 units in the major can only be transferred from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited or candidacy status social work undergraduate program.

Prescribed Course Sequence: Students must complete all 300-level social work courses (18 units) before they will be allowed to enroll in Social Work 483A and 489A. There is no required order of the 300-level courses so they may be taken in any combination or in either Fall or Spring semesters.

JUNIOR YEAR (18 units)		SENIOR YEAR (23 units)	
SWORK 350	SWORK 360	SWORK 483A	SWORK 483B
SWORK 361	SWORK 370	SWORK 489A	SWORK 489B
SWORK 381	SWORK 382	SWORK 491	Two Electives

Field Practicum. All students must enroll in field practicum. This is a 16-hour per week internship at a School of Social Work arranged and supervised social work community agency (students are not permitted to locate their own agencies). Students begin field practicum during the fall semester only and must concurrently enroll in Social Work 483A and 489A. The continuation of field practicum is offered in spring semester only when students must concurrently enroll in Social Work 483B and 489B. These courses are sequential and students must complete both "A" courses before going on to the two "B" courses. During the spring semester, preceding enrollment in field practicum, students attend a field orientation meeting and obtain the field application packet from the SDSU Bookstore. Specific date and time is posted on the field bulletin board outside Hepner Hall 119 and announced in class. In addition, students should read the appropriate section in the current student handbook. The section outlines all requirements and processes the student is expected to follow. The coordinator of field instruction evaluates each application to determine whether the student has met all requirements for admission to field practicum and assigns the student to an agency for internship. Students who do not file a field application by the deadline date will not be able to enter field practicum. Specific times and days of field practicum are arranged between the student and the assigned agency, but most agencies require daytime availability. Evening and weekend placements are not available. Students should arrange their schedules appropriately to meet these criteria.

Student Handbook

The School of Social Work has a student handbook for undergraduate majors. The handbook contains policies and procedures not specified in the catalog in addition to information to aid students in completing the social work major. Students must purchase a revised handbook at the beginning of fall semester as long as they are enrolled in a social work program at SDSU. Handbooks are on sale at the SDSU Bookstore under Social Work.

Social Work Minor

The minor in social work consists of 24 units to include Psychology 101, Sociology 101, Social Work 110, 120, 350, 360, 370, and three units selected from Social Work 400, 410, 420, or 496.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses (SWORK)

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

110. Social Work Fields of Service (3) I, II

Fields of services in which social workers perform professional roles. Focus on social work approach to intervention in practice and policy arenas.

120. Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare (3) I, II

Two lectures and three hours of fieldwork.

Orientation to field of social work. Develop understanding of social work principles, goals, values, and methods through readings and class discussion. An unpaid assignment in an agency setting is required. Scheduling is flexible.

130. Contemporary Human and Helping Relationships (3) I, II

Positive and negative dimensions of human relationships and how they can require social work intervention through helping process. Develop students' understanding of themselves in helping relationship.

296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

350. Cultural Pluralism (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Understanding of the American society as a culturally pluralistic social process and an understanding of social work as a culturally directed profession with emphasis on the concept of cultural identities created by one's values, ideologies, knowledge and behavior.

360. Perspectives on Human Behavior and the Social Environment (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Completion of General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Interdisciplinary, comparative, and critical approach to explanatory theories of human behavior. Focus on interrelatedness of factors that affect the nature and quality of human life with linkage to the social welfare of individuals, families and communities.

361. Human Behavior Across the Life Span (3)

Prerequisites: Social work major and junior standing.

Psycho-social, biological, cultural and environmental influences on individual growth and development and how knowledge is utilized by social work generalist practitioners in assessment and intervention.

370. Social Policies and Social Issues (3) I, II

Prerequisites: Social Work 110 and 120.

Major social forces and institutions as they relate to and determine social policy emphasizing social welfare services in an industrialized society. (Formerly numbered Social Work 370A.)

381. Practice Skills Micro (3) I, II

Prerequisites: Completion of social work preparation for the major. Junior standing.

Micro skills within overall generalist practice framework. Written and verbal communication, interviewing, assessment with individuals and small groups.

382. Practice Skills Macro (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Completion of social work preparation for the major. Junior standing.

Development of social work practice skills at macro level. Written and verbal communication needs assessment and resource development with organizations and communities.

400. Social Work Practice: Child Welfare (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Social Work 370.

Problems of children and supportive, supplementary and substitute social services which have been developed to meet these needs.

410. Social Work Practice: Family Issues (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Social Work 370.

Issues relative to social work intervention with families, including major social work and interpersonal family problem situations. Family practice methods and social service provisions, and social policy issues around family needs.

420. Aging and the Social Services (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Social Work 370.

Contemporary status, social problems and needs, and developmental theories of the elderly population. Social services delivery system which serves the elderly.

483A. Generalist Social Work Practice I (3) I, II

Prerequisites: Completion of social preparation for the major, 300-level courses required for major, and concurrent registration in Social Work 489A.

Integration of social work theory, principles, and practice techniques.

483B. Generalist Social Work Practice II (3) I, II

Prerequisites: Social Work 483A, 489A, and concurrent registration in Social Work 489B.

Integrating seminar with emphasis on macro generalist practice theory, principles, and methods.

489A-489B. Field Experience in Social Work (3-9, 3-9) Cr/NC I, II

Prerequisites: Completion of all 300-level social work courses; Social Work 381 and 382 with a grade of C or better and consent of instructor; concurrent registration in Social Work 483A for 489A; concurrent registration in Social Work 483B for 489B; arrangements made during prior semester with coordinator of field instruction.

A minimum of 12 units (6 in Social Work 489A and 6 in Social Work 489B) is required. Students spend 16 hours per week per semester in practice field assignments in selected social work agencies or settings.

491. Methods of Social Work Research (3) I, II

Definition and purpose of research in social welfare and social work. Formulation of research problems, selecting a design and methodology; techniques of collecting, organizing, interpreting and analyzing data.

496. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

497. Investigation and Report (3) I, II

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Analysis of special topics in social welfare.

499. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC I, II

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

UPPER DIVISION COURSE

(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

596. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics in social work. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum combined credit of six units of 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

GRADUATE COURSES

Refer to Bulletin of the Graduate Division.
