DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

http://www.uvm.edu/~socwork/

The principal educational objective of the program is to prepare students for beginning social work practice with individuals, families, small groups, organizations, and communities.

MAJORS

SOCIAL WORK MAJOR

Social Work B.S.

GRADUATE

Social Work M.S.W.

See the online Graduate Catalogue for more information

Courses

SWSS 002. Foundations of Social Work. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the profession of social work, its functions, values, knowledge, and the problems it addresses. Includes a service-learning component.

SWSS 003. Human Needs & Social Services. 3 Credits.
Students provide volunteer service in a human service agency, relate observations to theory about clients, agency structure, programs, and operations, and assess their commitment to the profession of social work. Prerequisite: SWSS 002 or Instructor permission.

SWSS 005. Biosociopolitical Issues SW. 3 Credits.
Outlines human body organ systems and extrapolates from the biological into the socio-political. Bioethical dilemmas, environmental racism, and multiple chemical sensitivity studied from a social work perspective. Prerequisite: Social Work major or Instructor permission.

SWSS 007. Quantitative Meth SW Research. 3 Credits.
Introduction to statistics and social work research methods. This course introduces students to quantitative methodology in research and practice.

SWSS 008. Civic Engagement&Self-Reflectn. 1 Credit.
This seminar is specifically designed for Dewey House residents to accompany their residential learning experiences and their collective and individual service in the community.

SWSS 047. D2: Theories in Social Work I. 3 Credits.
Critical examination of traditional and contemporary theories of social work and human behavior and their application in generalist direct practice social work. Prerequisites: SWSS 002; SWSS 003.

SWSS 048. D2: Theories in Social Work II. 3 Credits.
Critical examination of traditional and contemporary theories of social work and human behavior and their application in generalist group and macro practice contexts. Prerequisites: SWSS 002; SWSS 003; SWSS 047.

SWSS 055. Special Topics. 1-6 Credits.
Designed so that its content and structure may accommodate special issues not offered within the boundaries of an existing course. Open to First-Year and Sophomore students.

SWSS 058. Civic Engagement,Ldrshp,Pub Spk. 1 Credit.
This course is specifically designed for Dewey House residents in their second year to accompany their residential learning experiences as student directors and their community impact proposal and project.

SWSS 060. D1:Racism & Contemporary Issue. 3 Credits.
Study of perception, conceptualization, and comprehension of racism. Strategies, techniques, and procedures to identify and decrease many facets of racism.

SWSS 140. D1:SW w/Indigenous: VT Abenaki. 3 Credits.
An introduction to social work practice and cultural competency with the Abenaki tribe in Northwestern Vermont. An understanding of tribal history and traditions prepares students to work effectively and respectfully from a cross-cultural perspective. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing; Social Work major.

SWSS 147. D2: Theories in Social Work I. 3 Credits.
Critical examination of traditional and contemporary theories of social work and human behavior and their application in generalist direct practice social work. Prerequisites: SWSS 002, SWSS 003.

SWSS 148. D2: Theories in Social Work II. 3 Credits.
Critical examination of traditional and contemporary theories of social work and human behavior and their application in generalist group and macro practice contexts. Prerequisites: SWSS 002, SWSS 003, and SWSS 147.

SWSS 150. Independent Study. 1-12 Credits.
Supervised practicum, readings, or research on special topics not within the boundaries of an existing course for advanced level students. Prerequisites: Social Work major, Instructor permission, pre-arrangement.

SWSS 160. Soc Wrk Pr:Chld,Fam&Youth Svc. 3 Credits.
Explores perspectives relevant to child protection and family support. Emphasizes skills in writing reports, giving oral testimony, making referrals, interdisciplinary collaboration, ethical decision making, cultural competence. Pre/co-requisite: Junior status in Social Work; SWSS 002, SWSS 003, SWSS 047, SWSS 048; or permission of Instructor.

SWSS 163. Theory & Integration Prep Sem. 3 Credits.
This course is a bridge between theories studied in pre- and co-requisite courses and senior year. It prepares the student for their field practicum. Pre/co-requisites: SWSS 047, SWSS 048, SWSS 164, SWSS 165, and SWSS 166.

SWSS 164. Intro Social Work Research. 3 Credits.
Introduction to models and methods of social research from a social work perspective. Prerequisite: SWSS 002, SWSS 003, SWSS 047, SWSS 048, or Instructor permission.
SWSS 165. Iss & Pol in Social Welfare I. 3 Credits.
An introduction to economic, political, historical, and social forces that influence the development and implementation of social welfare policy. Prerequisite: SWSS 002, SWSS 003, SWSS 047, SWSS 048, or Instructor permission.

SWSS 166. Iss & Pol in Social Welfare II. 3 Credits.
In-depth examination of social welfare policy and accompanying social services in the U.S.; major policy analysis models presented and used. Prerequisite: SWSS 165 or Instructor permission.

SWSS 168. Social Work Practice I. 3 Credits.
Social work theory and practice methods employed by social workers in providing services to individuals, families, and small groups. Prerequisite: Social Work major, Senior standing or Instructor permission.

SWSS 169. Social Work Practice II. 3 Credits.
Social work theory and practice methods employed by social workers in providing services to groups, organizations, and communities. Prerequisites: Social Work major; SWSS 168; Senior standing; or Instructor permission.

SWSS 171. Field Experience Seminar I. 3 Credits.
Weekly integrative seminar; discussion of practice within field agency. Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in SWSS 173.

SWSS 172. Field Experience Seminar II. 3 Credits.
Weekly integrative seminar; discussion of practice within field agency. Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in SWSS 174.

SWSS 173. Field Experience I. 6 Credits.
Supervised field-based learning of 15-20 hours per week. Students are placed in human service agencies and organizations and learn the application of social work, theory, ethics and skills. Pre/co-requisite: Social Work major; Senior standing; Instructor permission; taken concurrently with SWSS 168 and SWSS 171.

SWSS 174. Field Experience II. 6 Credits.
Supervised field-based learning of 15-20 hours per week. Students are placed in human service agencies and organizations and learn the application of social work, theory, ethics and skills. Pre/co-requisite: Social Work major; Senior standing; Instructor permission; SWSS 168 and SWSS 171; taken concurrently with SWSS 169 and SWSS 172.

SWSS 197. Readings & Research. 1-4 Credits.
Prerequisite: Social Work major. Pre-arrangement only. Variable credit.

SWSS 198. Readings & Research. 1-4 Credits.

SWSS 199. Laboratory Experience. 1-12 Credits.
Supervised practicum for advanced level students. Pre/co-requisite: Social Work major; Instructor permission; pre-arrangement.

SWSS 200. Contemporary Issues. 1-6 Credits.
Content and structure may accommodate special issues not especially appropriate within the boundaries of an existing course. Prerequisite: Instructor Permission.

SWSS 212. Social Work Practice I. 3 Credits.
A comprehensive introduction to concepts and skills employed by social workers in interactions and interventions with individuals, families, and groups is provided. Prerequisite: MSW standing; or Instructor permission.

SWSS 213. Social Work Practice II. 3 Credits.
Knowledge and skills of social work practice with organizations and communities is emphasized. Prerequisite: Completion of SWSS 212; MSW advanced standing; or Instructor permission.

SWSS 216. Th Found of Hum Beh&SOC Envr I. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the biological, psychological, cultural/social, and economic forces that influence human behavior and their implication for social work practice. Prerequisite: MSW standing; or Instructor permission.

SWSS 217. Th Found Hum Beh&Soc Envr II. 3 Credits.
Focus is on theories regarding the nature and functioning of human service organizations and communities in relation to meeting human needs. Prerequisite: SWSS 216 or Instructor permission.

SWSS 220. Soc Welfare Pol & Services I. 3 Credits.
An introduction to history and philosophy of social work and social welfare and the structure of service programs is provided. Prerequisite: MSW standing or Instructor permission.

SWSS 221. Soc Welfare Pol & Services II. 3 Credits.
Focus is on the analysis of the economic, political, and social forces that influence the development and implementation of social welfare policy. Prerequisite: SWSS 220; or Instructor permission.

SWSS 224. Child Abuse & Neglect. 3 Credits.
An MSW foundation elective that considers child abuse and neglect from historical, cultural, sociopolitical and psychological perspectives and examines professional social work responses to them. Prerequisite: Matriculation in the foundation year of Graduate study in Social Work; or Instructor permission.

SWSS 225. Transf Ourselves&Comm:SW Persp. 3 Credits.
An MSW foundation elective that examines systems of oppression and social work strategies to decrease biased practices and create more equitable communities and institutions. Prerequisite: Matriculation in the foundation year of graduate study in Social Work; or Instructor permission.

SWSS 226. Assessment Theory Social Work. 3 Credits.
An MSW foundation elective analyzing competing and complementary assessment theories and their implications in social work in health/mental health and with children and families. Prerequisite: MSW standing or Instructor permission.

SWSS 227. Found of Social Work Research. 3 Credits.
An introduction to qualitative and quantitative methods of applied social research including program evaluation and the evaluation of practice and application to social work is taught. Prerequisite: MSW standing or Instructor permission.
SWSS 228. Aging: A Strength & Hum Right Per. 3 Credits.
An examination of aging for social work policy and practice from the perspectives of strengths, social justice, human rights and critical social constructionism.

SWSS 229. D2: Soc Work & Disability Rights. 3 Credits.
A multi-cultural, age, gender, economic and international exploration of having a disability in terms of language, labeling, rights, social location, legislation, services and personal narratives.

SWSS 280. Perspectives on Social Work. 4 Credits.
Taking a social constructionist stance, students explore guiding concepts of the MSW curriculum and their application to social work practice, policy, human behavior and research. Pre/co-requisite: MSW standing.

SWSS 290. Foundation Yr Field Practicum. 3-4 Credits.
Supervised field-based learning of 15-20 hours per week. Students are placed in human service agencies and organizations and learn the purposeful application of generalist social work theory, ethics, and skills. Prerequisite: Permission of Coordinator of Field Education.

SWSS 293. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SWSS 294. Advanced Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

SWSS 296. Social Work in Global Context. 3 Credits.
Study of social work issues in different parts of the world. Located at the University of Lapland in Finland. Prerequisite: Background in human services or social work major; or MSW standing; permission of the Instructor.