DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

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

As a program fully accredited by the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE), the principal educational objective of the program is to prepare students for beginning, generalist social work practice with diverse 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. Methods include: speakers from human service organizations, case examples, a field trip and unique final exam using a community experience and reflection.

SWSS 003. Human Needs and Social Service. 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.

SWSS 004. Working with Refugees. 3 Credits.
Provides students an interdisciplinary, entry-level opportunity to learn about the social construction of refugees, the experiences and circumstances of people who become refugees and the apparatus set up to support them using social work/social justice approach.

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 Engagemnt&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 055. Special Topics. 1-18 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 Engagemnt,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 099. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

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 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 147.

SWSS 150. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

SWSS 160. Soc Wrk Pr:Child,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. Prerequisite: SWSS 002.

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. Prerequisites: SWSS 002, SWSS 147, SWSS 164, SWSS 165. Pre/Co-requisites: SWSS 004, SWSS 060. Co-requisites: SWSS 148, 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 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 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.

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: Senior standing. Co-requisites: SWSS 171, SWSS 173.

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: SWSS 168; Senior standing. Co-requisites: SWSS 172, SWSS 174.

SWSS 171. Field Experience Seminar I. 3 Credits.

SWSS 172. Field Experience Seminar II. 3 Credits.

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. Prerequisite: Senior standing. Co-requisites: SWSS 168, 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. Prerequisites: SWSS 171, SWSS 173; Senior standing. Co-requisites: SWSS 169, SWSS 172.

SWSS 189. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

SWSS 193. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Course for specific title.

SWSS 198. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

SWSS 199. Internship. 1-18 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion. 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 implications 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 222. 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 289. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

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.

SWSS 297. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

SWSS 298. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

SWSS 299. Internship. 1-18 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.