

Social Work

Master of Social Work

The mission of the Department of Social Work at the University of North Dakota is to prepare entry-level and advanced generalist Social Workers within the region to advance practice knowledge, values and skills consistent with the highest ideals of the profession by:

1. empowering vulnerable, oppressed, disadvantaged, and rural populations
2. maximizing opportunities for every individual to realize his or her highest potential
3. promoting respect, awareness, and appreciation for culture and social justice at every level of society.

The Master of Social Work program at the University of North Dakota is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The Council on Social Work Education (2002) states, "The purposes of social work education are to prepare competent and effective professionals, to develop social work knowledge, and to provide leadership in the development of service delivery systems. Social work education is grounded in the profession's history, purposes, and philosophy and is based on a body of knowledge, values, and skills. Social work education enables students to integrate the knowledge, values, and skills of the social work profession for competent practice." All MSW students must complete foundation and advanced generalist concentration social work courses. Foundation courses may be completed either through a CSWE accredited Bachelor of Social Work program or the UND MSW part-time distance program. Advanced generalist concentration courses may be completed through the full-time on-campus program or the part-time distance program. The full-time program can be completed in a maximum of two years and the part-time program can be completed in a maximum of four years.

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements for the Foundation courses offered through the part-time Distance Program are:

1. Satisfactory completion of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution.
2. At least 30 credit hours of liberal arts courses in such fields as biology, music, languages, anthropology, economics, political science, history, literature, sociology, psychology, and philosophy.
3. A course with human biology content.
4. A grade of C or higher in a statistics course prior to entering the Advanced Generalist Concentration portion of the MSW program.
5. Willingness to abide by the National Association of Social Worker's Code of Ethics and the University of North Dakota Code of Student Conduct.
6. An undergraduate GPA of 2.75 overall or a GPA of 3.00 in the last two years of the undergraduate program.
7. A minimum TOEFL Score of 550 on the paper-based test or 213 on the computer-based test, or for the Internet based TOEFL, a composite score of 79, with minimum scores of 21/30 (Speaking*); 19/30 (Listening); 19/30 (Reading); and 17/30 (Writing) for applicants whose native language is not English. Applicants may also meet language requirements by presenting IETLS scores of 6.5. *Applicants being considered for Graduate Teaching Assistantships must achieve these minimum TOEFL scores, but have a minimum score of 26/30 on the Speaking subtest.
8. Students who have received a bachelor's degree or higher from the United States or English-speaking Canada are not required to submit the TOEFL.

For Advance Standing admissions requirements please consult the Academic Catalog.

Degree Requirements

Students seeking the Master degree at the University of North Dakota must satisfy all general requirements set forth by the Graduate School as well as particular requirements set forth by the Social Work Department.

Degree Requirements for Students Completing Both Foundation and Concentration Courses:

1. Successful completion of 60 credit hours of courses approved by the social work faculty with at least a 3.00 grade point average. The number of electives required is dependent on whether a student selects the independent study or the thesis option.
2. Satisfactory completion of Foundation courses (24 credit hours).
3. Satisfactory completion of the Advanced Generalist Concentration courses (36 credit hours).
4. Completion of SWk 997, an independent study and comprehensive exam, or SWk 998, a thesis.
5. Completion of at least 24 semester credits at UND. Transfer credits must be obtained in a CSWE accredited program, and a maximum of 15 credits will be allowed for transfer.
6. At the completion of MSW Foundation courses, students must complete the MSW Foundation examination for assessment purposes.
7. The development of a program of study in the semester in which the full-time student first enrolls in Concentration courses, or the second semester in which the part-time student enrolls in Concentration courses.

For Advance Standing degree requirements please consult the Academic Catalog.

Faculty

For a current list of faculty members and their areas of interest, please see department website.

Contact Information

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Apply ONLINE:
<http://graduateschool.und.edu>

Online Option

This graduate program is also available online. In-state tuition is available for all distance programs regardless of your residency status. For complete details about online and distance programs at UND, including curriculum, how distance programs work, and technical requirements, please visit: www.distance.und.edu.

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