

# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

The Department of Social Work offers the Bachelor of Social Work degree, preparing and developing generalist social workers for culturally competent, transformative practice that promotes equity, social justice and well-being within a local-global context.

## Bachelor of Social Work

A Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree will equip students for immediate professional practice and effective service delivery with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in a wide range of health and human service practice settings. Once accreditation for the program is finalized, students will be eligible to apply for state licensure and be prepared to pursue graduate social work (MSW) studies.

Any admitted UTSA students may select social work as their major.

### BSW Practice Sequence Application Requirements

Students who have successfully completed at least 42 hours of coursework, including the majority of their Texas Core Curriculum, may apply for formal admission to the BSW Upper-Level Practice Sequence. Only students formally admitted to the BSW Practice Sequence will be eligible to continue on to take upper-division Social Work Core Curriculum courses.

To be formally admitted to the BSW Practice Sequence, students must, at minimum, meet the following criteria:

- Complete at least 42 semester credit hours of coursework, including the majority of the Texas Core Curriculum
- Attend a BSW Program Information Session
- Submit a completed application for admission to the UTSA BSW program
- Have an overall cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher
- Complete SWK 1013 with a "C-" or better
- Complete SWK 2013 with a "C-" or better either prior to admission or during the student's first semester in the BSW Program
- Complete STA 1053 Basic Statistics with a "C-" or better
- Submit two Professional or Academic References
- Submit a Résumé
- Submit a 2–4-page Application Essay

Applications will be evaluated by the BSW Committee using a standard evaluation rubric to determine admission status. Students are notified of their admissions decision via email from the BSW Program Director or their designee. A social work major not accepted to the formal BSW Practice Sequence may apply a second time at the next available opportunity. If they are not accepted after the second attempt, they will be required to change their major.

### Core Curriculum Requirements (42 semester credit hours)

Students seeking the Bachelor's of Social Work must fulfill University Core Curriculum requirements in the same manner as other students. The courses listed below will satisfy both degree requirements and Core Curriculum requirements; however, if these courses are taken to satisfy

both requirements, students may need to take additional courses to meet the minimum number of semester credit hours required for this degree.

SWK 1013 Introduction to Social Work should be used to satisfy the core requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

STA 1053 Basic Statistics should be used to satisfy the core requirement in Mathematics.

### Core Curriculum Component Area Requirements (<http://catalog.utsa.edu/undergraduate/bachelorsdegreeregulations/degreerequirements/corecurriculumcomponentarearequirements/>)

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| First Year Experience Requirement | 3         |
| Communication                     | 6         |
| Mathematics                       | 3         |
| Life and Physical Sciences        | 6         |
| Language, Philosophy and Culture  | 3         |
| Creative Arts                     | 3         |
| American History                  | 6         |
| Government-Political Science      | 6         |
| Social and Behavioral Sciences    | 3         |
| Component Area Option             | 3         |
| <b>Total Credit Hours</b>         | <b>42</b> |

### Gateway Course

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Social Work must successfully complete the following Gateway Course with a grade of "C-" or better in no more than two attempts. A student who is unable to successfully complete this course within two attempts, including dropping the course with a grade of "W" or taking an equivalent course at another institution, will be required to change their major.

| Code     | Title                       | Credit Hours |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| SWK 1013 | Introduction to Social Work | 3            |

### Degree Requirements

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|------|-------|--------------|
|------|-------|--------------|

#### A. Required courses for Social Work Core

|                                     |  |           |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|
| <b>Introductory Course</b>          |  | <b>3</b>  |
| SWK 1013                            | Introduction to Social Work                            |           |
| <b>Diversity and Social Justice</b> |  | <b>3</b>  |
| SWK 2013                            | Diversity and Social Justice in San Antonio and Beyond |           |
| <b>Policy</b>                       |  | <b>3</b>  |
| SWK 2103                            | Social Welfare Policy Analysis                         |           |
| <b>Human Behavior</b>               |  | <b>6</b>  |
| SWK 3013                            | Human Behavior and the Social Environment I            |           |
| SWK 3023                            | Human Behavior and the Social Environment II           |           |
| <b>Research</b>                     |  | <b>3</b>  |
| SWK 3203                            | Applied Social Work Research                           |           |
| <b>Practice Courses</b>             |  | <b>15</b> |
| SWK 3403                            | Ethics and Professionalism in Social Work              |           |
| SWK 3413                            | Generalist Social Work Practice                        |           |

|   |  |          |
|---|--|----------|
| SWK 3423  | Practice Skills: Interviewing and Documentation        |          |
| SWK 4103  | Methods I  |          |
| SWK 4113  | Methods II   |          |
| <b>Integrative Practice Seminar courses concurrent with practicum placement</b> |  | <b>6</b> |
| SWK 4203  | Integrative Field Seminar I                            |          |
| SWK 4213  | Integrative Field Seminar II                           |          |
| <b>Field Practicum</b>  |  | <b>6</b> |
| SWK 4303  | Field Practicum I                                      |          |
| SWK 4313  | Field Practicum II                                     |          |
| <b>B. Support Electives</b>   |  |          |
| <b>1. SWK electives</b>   |  | <b>6</b> |
| Select two SWK elective courses: At least 3 of 6 SCH must be upper division.    |  |          |
| <b>2. Cultural competence, diversity, and anti-racism electives</b>             |  | <b>6</b> |
| Select two courses from the list below:   |  |          |
| AAS 2113  | African American Culture, Leadership and Social Issues |          |
| AAS 4013  | Topics in African American Studies                     |          |
| ANT 2053  | Introduction to Cultural Anthropology                  |          |
| ANT 3203  | Native North Americans                                 |          |
| BBL 2003  | Language, Culture, and Society                         |          |
| CRJ 4403  | Race, Ethnicity, and Criminal Justice                  |          |
| CRJ 4463  | Gender and Crime                                       |          |
| HUM 2093  | World Religions  |          |
| MAS 2013  | Introduction to Chicana/x/o Studies                    |          |
| MHU 3013  | Inequality and Health                                  |          |
| PSY 3053  | Multicultural Psychology                               |          |
| REGS 2003   | Intersectional Approaches to Social Justice            |          |
| SOC 3043  | Race and Ethnic Relations                              |          |
| SOC 3203  | Gerontology  |          |
| SOC 3413  | Sociology of the Mexican American Community            |          |
| WGSS 2013   | Introduction to Women's Studies                        |          |
| WGSS 2023   | Introduction to LGBTQ Studies                          |          |
| Additional courses not listed may be accepted with advisor approval.            |  |          |
| <b>3. Local-Global thinking electives</b>                                       |  | <b>6</b> |
| Select two courses from the list below:   |  |          |
| GES 3003  | Global Sustainability                                  |          |
| GES 3663  | Urban Sustainability in Global Context                 |          |
| GLA 1013  | US in Global Context                                   |          |
| GLA 2603  | Introduction to Global Politics                        |          |
| GLA 3043  | International Human Rights                             |          |
| HTH 4043  | Global Health  |          |
| LAS 2013  | Latin American Foundations                             |          |
| PAD 2073  | Foundations of Civic Engagement                        |          |
| SPN 3053  | Spanish for Healthcare Professionals                   |          |
| TIS 3003  | Introduction to Translation and Interpreting           |          |
| WGSS 4863   | Transnational Feminisms                                |          |
| Any modern language course at the 2000 level and above.                         |  |          |

|  |   |              |
|--|---|--------------|
| Additional courses not listed may be accepted with advisor approval. |   |              |
| Study abroad opportunities are encouraged, with advisor approval.    |   |              |
| <b>4. Transformative thinking electives</b>                          |   | <b>6</b>     |
| Select two courses from the list below:                              |   |              |
| ANT 3803   | Media, Power, and Public Culture                                    |              |
| ANT 3823   | Applied Anthropology  |              |
| CRJ 2153   | Criminological Theory   |              |
| CRJ 3573   | Restorative Justice   |              |
| CRJ 3643   | Pretrial Diversion and Problem-Solving Courts                       |              |
| COM 3293   | Introduction to Health Communication                                |              |
| COM 3893   | Organizational Communication  |              |
| EDL 3003   | Introduction to Leadership  |              |
| HTH 2623   | Database Management in Community and Public Health                  |              |
| MAS 4013   | Sí se puede! Latino Leadership, Activism and Organizing             |              |
| NDT 3343   | Nutrition in the Life Span  |              |
| PAD 3073   | Civic Leadership Seminar  |              |
| PAD 4853   | Essential Skills for a Career in Public Service (Research Capstone) |              |
| PHI 1043   | Critical Thinking   |              |
| PHI 2123   | Contemporary Moral Issues   |              |
| PHI 3213   | Ethics  |              |
| PSY 2533   | Social Psychology   |              |
| SOC 3083   | Social Change and Development                                       |              |
| Additional courses not listed may be accepted with advisor approval. |   |              |
| <b>C. Free electives in related disciplines</b>                      |   | <b>9-12</b>  |
| <b>Total Credit Hours</b>  |   | <b>78-81</b> |

### Course Sequence Guides for Bachelor of Social Work

These course sequence guides are designed to assist students in completing the requirements for their UTSA undergraduate Social Work degree. *These are merely guides. Students must satisfy other requirements of this catalog and meet with their academic advisor for individualized degree plans.* Progress within these guides depends upon such factors as course availability, individual student academic preparation, student time management, work obligations, and individual financial considerations. Students may choose to take courses during Summer terms to reduce course loads during long semesters.

#### Bachelor of Social Work – Four-Year Academic Plan

##### First Year

| Fall                          |   | Credit Hours |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|
| AIS 1273                      | AIS: Social Sciences and Public Policy (core) | 3            |
| STA 1053                      | Basic Statistics (core)                       | 3            |
| WRC 1013                      | Freshman Composition I (core)                 | 3            |
| American History core         |   | 3            |
| Life & Physical Sciences core |   | 3            |
| <b>Credit Hours</b>           |   | <b>15</b>    |

|                     |  |   |           |
|---------------------|--|---|-----------|
| <b>Spring</b>       |  |   |           |
| SWK 1013            | Introduction to Social Work (core and major) | 3 |           |
| WRC 1023            | Freshman Composition II (core)               | 3 |           |
|                     | Government-Political Science core            | 3 |           |
|                     | Life & Physical Sciences core                | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective                                     | 3 |           |
| <b>Credit Hours</b> |  |   | <b>15</b> |

|                     |  |   |           |
|---------------------|--|---|-----------|
| <b>Second Year</b>  |  |   |           |
| <b>Fall</b>         |  |   |           |
| SWK 2013            | Diversity and Social Justice in San Antonio and Beyond | 3 |           |
|                     | American History core                                  | 3 |           |
|                     | Component Area Option core                             | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective   | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective   | 3 |           |
| <b>Credit Hours</b> |  |   | <b>15</b> |

|                     |                                      |   |           |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Spring</b>       |                                      |   |           |
| SWK 2103            | Social Welfare Policy Analysis       | 3 |           |
|                     | Creative Arts core                   | 3 |           |
|                     | Government-Political Science core    | 3 |           |
|                     | Language, Philosophy, & Culture core | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective                             | 3 |           |
| <b>Credit Hours</b> |                                      |   | <b>15</b> |

|                     |   |   |           |
|---------------------|---|---|-----------|
| <b>Third Year</b>   |   |   |           |
| <b>Fall</b>         |   |   |           |
| SWK 3013            | Human Behavior and the Social Environment I | 3 |           |
| SWK 3403            | Ethics and Professionalism in Social Work   | 3 |           |
| SWK 3413            | Generalist Social Work Practice             | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective                                    | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective                                    | 3 |           |
| <b>Credit Hours</b> |   |   | <b>15</b> |

|                     |   |   |           |
|---------------------|---|---|-----------|
| <b>Spring</b>       |   |   |           |
| SWK 3023            | Human Behavior and the Social Environment II    | 3 |           |
| SWK 3203            | Applied Social Work Research                    | 3 |           |
| SWK 3423            | Practice Skills: Interviewing and Documentation | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective  | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective  | 3 |           |
| <b>Credit Hours</b> |   |   | <b>15</b> |

|                     |                             |   |           |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Fourth Year</b>  |                             |   |           |
| <b>Fall</b>         |                             |   |           |
| SWK 4103            | Methods I                   | 3 |           |
| SWK 4203            | Integrative Field Seminar I | 3 |           |
| SWK 4303            | Field Practicum I           | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective                    | 3 |           |
|                     | Elective                    | 3 |           |
| <b>Credit Hours</b> |                             |   | <b>15</b> |

|               |            |   |  |
|---------------|------------|---|--|
| <b>Spring</b> |            |   |  |
| SWK 4113      | Methods II | 3 |  |

|                           |                              |            |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| SWK 4213                  | Integrative Field Seminar II | 3          |
| SWK 4313                  | Field Practicum II           | 3          |
| Elective                  |                              | 3          |
| Elective                  |                              | 3          |
| <b>Credit Hours</b>       |                              | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>Total Credit Hours</b> |                              | <b>120</b> |

### Social Work (SWK) Courses

**SWK 1013. Introduction to Social Work. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = SOCW 2361)**

This introductory course provides an overview of social work as a profession, with a focus on its unique principles, values and ethics, variety of areas of practice and commitment to advance human rights and social, racial, economic and environmental justice, and to promote human and social well-being. The course will also provide students with a critical understanding of the history and development of the profession. The course is open to all students. Students seeking formal admission to the BSW Program must earn a minimum grade of "C-" in order to be eligible for admission. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**SWK 2013. Diversity and Social Justice in San Antonio and Beyond. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

This course explores how diversity and intersectionality shape human experience within the context of the societal and historical roots of social and racial injustices. The course also introduces distinct approaches to advancing social, racial, economic, and environmental justice through examining diverse local, national, and global voices and movements. The course is open to all students. Students seeking a BSW degree may complete this class prior to formal admission to the BSW Program or during their first semester in the program. Students must earn a minimum grade of "C-" in order to pass this course with credit toward their BSW degree.

**SWK 2103. Social Welfare Policy Analysis. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = SOCW 2362)**

This course examines the overall structure of the American social welfare system from a historical multidimensional contextual perspective that emphasizes the diversity of clients/client systems, problems, needs, and injustices. It also considers the ways in which the social work profession has responded to the demands of social problems across key periods of the American social welfare experience. An emphasis is placed on policy analysis as a foundation for advocacy on behalf of clients/client systems.

**SWK 3013. Human Behavior and the Social Environment I. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Admission to BSW Program or consent of social work advisor. This course focuses on building students' understanding of individual and family life span development with an emphasis on diversity and social justice issues. Ecological systems and cross-cultural development provide the organizing framework for this course. Attention is given to increasing students' understanding of individual and family dynamics by developing their abilities to understand, evaluate, and differentially apply multiple paradigms and theories.

**SWK 3023. Human Behavior and the Social Environment II. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Completion of SWK 3013 or consent of social work advisor. This course focuses on human behavior in groups, organizations, and communities with an emphasis on diversity and social justice issues. Attention is given to increasing students' understanding of group, organizational, and community dynamics by developing their abilities to understand, evaluate, and differentially apply multiple mezzo and macro paradigms and theories.

**SWK 3203. Applied Social Work Research. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Admission to BSW Program or consent of social work advisor and completion of STA 1053 or the equivalent. This research course explores the role of research in culturally competent social work practice that emphasizes the diversity of clients/client systems, strengths, problems, needs, and injustices. The course focuses on research methods and the use of ethical scientific methods used by social workers for evidence-based practice and practice-based evidence.

**SWK 3403. Ethics and Professionalism in Social Work. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Admission to BSW Program or consent of social work advisor. This course socializes students to the social work profession, exploring and applying the NASW Code of Ethics, the Texas State Board of Social Work Examiners' Code of Conduct, and the International Federation of Social Workers' Statement of Ethical Principles. The student will apply professional self-presentation, take responsibility for personal and professional growth, learn professional behaviors in organizations, and apply ethical and professional skills at a local/state/federal and/or global context. Special emphasis will be placed on learning the importance of self-reflection, which incorporates an understanding of one's own personal values.

**SWK 3413. Generalist Social Work Practice. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Admission to the BSW Program. This course focuses on the development of beginning knowledge, skills, and values needed to practice generalist social work within a community context. Emphasis will be placed on the ecosystems, strengths, empowerment, and antiracism perspectives as organizing frameworks for understanding clients/client systems. The student will learn how to apply theories to culturally-sensitive practice through classroom discussions and a community-oriented service learning project.

**SWK 3423. Practice Skills: Interviewing and Documentation. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Admission to the BSW Program and completion of SWK 3013. Through experiential simulations, application activities, and classroom discussions, the student will learn the skills to conduct a culturally responsive helping interview and to complete ethical and professional documentation.

**SWK 4103. Methods I. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Completion of the majority of core social work courses and approval of social work advisor. This course, typically taken concurrently with SWK 4303 Field Practicum I, is designed to facilitate a student's ability to apply culturally competent engagement, assessment, and intervention planning skills with individuals, families, small groups, communities, and organizations from a generalist social work perspective.

**SWK 4113. Methods II. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Completion of SWK 4103 or approval of social work advisor. This course, typically taken concurrently with SWK 4313 Field Practicum II, is designed to facilitate the student's ability to apply evidence-based interventions, termination, and research-informed evaluation practice skills with individuals, families, small groups, communities, and organizations from a generalist social work perspective.

**SWK 4203. Integrative Field Seminar I. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Corequisites: Concurrent enrollment in SWK 4303. This course facilitates students' integration of their field practicum experience and the program's generalist academic curriculum. The students will engage in classroom discussions and analysis, connecting classroom learning with practice in the field while integrating theory with ethical professional practice.

**SWK 4213. Integrative Field Seminar II. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Completion of all generalist social work courses other than those taken concurrently with SWK 4213. Corequisites: Concurrent enrollment in SWK 4313. Taken together with SWK 4313 during the student's final semester in the BSW Program, this course serves as the capstone course for the social work program. This generalist field practicum course builds on knowledge and skills gained in SWK 4203, with a focus on the continued integration of the program's academic curriculum and real-world generalist social work practice. It also serves as the bridge between program goals and generalist competencies. Students demonstrate program competency mastery through the completion of an independent capstone course paper.

**SWK 4303. Field Practicum I. (0-15) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Completion of the majority of core social work courses and approval of program advisor. Corequisites: Concurrent enrollment in SWK 4203. This generalist field practicum course is designed to serve as the integration of professional knowledge, values, and skills in real-world practice. It is a practice course based on supervised assignments designed to facilitate the student's ability to develop and demonstrate independent learning competencies from a generalist social work perspective which includes skill in working with individuals, families, small groups, communities, and organizations. The student completes a minimum of 225 clock hours at an assigned field practicum site affiliated with UTSA. The student will continue in this same practicum setting for SWK 4313. Students must earn a minimum grade of "B-" in order to pass this course for credit toward the degree.

**SWK 4313. Field Practicum II. (0-15) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: Completion of SWK 4203 and SWK 4303. Corequisites: Concurrent enrollment in SWK 4213. This generalist field practicum course builds on knowledge and skills gained in SWK 4303 and SWK 4203, with a focus on demonstrating an understanding of competencies from a generalist social work perspective and skill development with diverse clients/client systems. The student's assignment from SWK 4303 continues in the same field practicum setting. The student completes a minimum of 225 clock hours at an assigned field practicum site affiliated with UTSA. Students must earn a minimum grade of "B-" to pass this course for credit toward the degree.

**SWK 4953. Special Topics in Social Work. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.**

Prerequisite: SWK 1013 with a grade of C- or higher or consent of social work advisor. An organized course offering the opportunity for specialized study not normally or not often available as part of regular course offerings. Special Topics may be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor's degree.