

SOCIAL WORK, BS

The bachelor's degree in social work is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Its primary objective is to prepare students for beginning generalist social work practice.

The program prepares students for potential employment in both public (federal, state, and county) and private social service agencies. Students are trained to work and affect change among individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. The program helps prepare students to engage in critical thinking and actively apply research to practice, policy, advocacy, education, and leadership. A sample of career possibilities includes caseworker, psychiatric social worker, youth counselor, and alcohol/drug counselor.

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
	General Curriculum Requirements (p. 1)	27
	Major Requirements (p. 1)	69
	General Electives	24
	Total Credits	120

General Curriculum Requirements: Social Work and Criminal Justice

For courses that satisfy the distribution requirements in humanities, natural science, and social science, see the GER listing in the current *Timetable* (<http://www4.uwm.edu/schedule>). The UWM General Education Requirements (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext>) apply to all students who were not enrolled in an accredited institution prior to 1986.

Code	Title	Credits
English		
Refer to Proficiency Requirements in General Education Requirements. Contact a school advisor for specific information.		
Mathematics		
Refer to Proficiency Requirements in General Education Requirements. Contact a school advisor for specific information.		
Liberal Arts Foundation		
<i>Arts</i>		
	Select 3 credits of General Education-approved arts course in the history, philosophy, theory, or practice of the creative and interpretive arts	3
<i>Foreign Language</i>		
Completion of two years of high school-level instruction in a single foreign language, or satisfactory completion of at least two semesters of a single foreign language, or approved demonstration of foreign language ability		
<i>Humanities</i>		
COMMUN 103	Public Speaking	3
	Select 9 credits of General Education-approved humanities courses	9
<i>Natural Science</i>		
	Select 6 credits of General Education-approved natural science courses to include a lab or field course	6
<i>United States History and Institutions</i>		

Select Option 1: History 151 and 152 or Option 2: one 400 level U.S. history course plus one additional course listed below. 6

Select one of the following:

Option 1:

HIST 151 & HIST 152	American History: 1607 to 1877 and American History: 1877 to the Present
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Option 2:

HIST 4XX	400 level U.S. History Course
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and one of the following:

ECON 100	Introductory Economics
ECON 103	Principles of Microeconomics
POL SCI 104	Introduction to American Government and Politics
POL SCI 105	State Politics
POL SCI 385	American Political Thought
POL SCI 405	State Government:
POL SCI 411	Constitutional Law: Government Powers and Federalism
POL SCI 412	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties
POL SCI 471	Problems in Law Studies:
SOCIOL 200	Contemporary American Society

Total Credits 27

Major Requirements

The undergraduate social work major includes a pre-professional component. Social work intended majors spend their first two years building a liberal arts foundation and fulfilling proficiency requirements. Freshmen and sophomores may begin to take courses offered in the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare.

Students must complete at least 120 credits to obtain the degree. The major in Social Work requires a minimum of 42 credits in Social Work or Helen Bader School of Social Welfare courses (students can take courses in criminal justice and have them count toward the major as elective credit), and 27 credits in social sciences courses, for a minimum of 69 credits in the major. The Department requires that students attain at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA, including transfer credits, in order to declare the major. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 cumulative GPA in order to graduate from UWM.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
SOC WRK 100	Introduction to Social Work	3
SOC WRK 206	Introduction to Social Welfare Policy	3
SOC WRK 250	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SOC WRK 310	Social Work Methods I ¹	3
SOC WRK 410	Social Work Methods II ^{1,2}	3
SOC WRK 427	Social Work Methods III ^{1,3}	3
SOC WRK 421	Field Education & Integrated Field Seminar I ^{1,2}	5
SOC WRK 422	Field Education & Integrated Seminar II ^{1,3}	5

SOC WRK 604	Social Systems and Social Work Practice	3
SOC WRK 662	Methods of Social Welfare Research ¹	3
SOC WRK 665	Cultural Diversity and Social Work	3

Social Work Electives

Select 5 credits in SOC WRK or CRM JST courses 5

Social Science Requirements

Select 27 credits in the social sciences to include the following distribution: ⁴ 27

Select 15 credits taken in a single area of concentration from one of the following: anthropology, economics, history, political science, psychology, or sociology. At least 6 of these credits must be upper division (300 level or above). ⁵

Select 12 credits taken in at least two other social sciences from the list above, outside the area of concentration ⁶

Content Area Requirements

The student must have at least one course in each of the following content areas: social change, organization and institutions, personality theory, biological processes, and ethnic/minority studies. The standard social work curriculum leaves enough flexibility in the choice of social science and elective courses to enable students to develop informal program options according to their interests.

Total Credits 69

¹ Minimum grade of B or better required.

² To be taken concurrently.

³ To be taken concurrently.

⁴ At least 6 of these credits must be approved as General Education social sciences.

⁵ Courses must be approved as General Education social sciences or carry no General Education designation. For history, see the College of Letters and Sciences Breadth List (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list/#History>).

⁶ Other social sciences such as geography, philosophy, etc., are not included in the social sciences for the major, nor do they count in the 69-credit rule.

No academic credit for life experience and previous work experience is granted in lieu of field placement.

All credit for required courses must have been earned within 10 years of graduation.

Fieldwork

The field education sequence required for social work majors consists of two semesters of placement, beginning as early as the junior year. A total of 256 hours in the field is required each of the two semesters. The field courses are taken concurrently with the methods sequence. Students are required to maintain a grade of B or better in each social work methods and field course. When a student does not, the student's academic progress is reviewed by the chair of the Social Work Department. In certain cases, the student may be referred to the Faculty Review Panel and may not be allowed to continue in the major.

For further information about fieldwork, consult the Field Staff Office, Enderis Hall, Room 1075, (414) 229-6526

Declaring Your Major

In addition to the normal University admission requirements, students apply on a separate application for admission to the Social Work major. Students who have not yet been admitted to the Social Work major are still able to take a sequence of Social Work courses. Students must formally be admitted into the Social Work major prior to beginning field placement. The requirements to apply to the Social Work major are:

- Completion of 48+ credits
- Completion of Social Work 100, 250, and 206
- Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher, including all transfer work.

All of these requirements must be satisfied at the time a student applies. Applications are found online and an advisor should be consulted for more information.

Undergraduate Academic Advising

The Office of Student Services in the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare, located in Enderis Hall Room 1110, offers undergraduate student academic advising from professional advisors who are familiar with the Social Work and Criminal Justice curriculum, College requirements, and university policies. Advisors can also provide information on scholarship opportunities, tutoring, and student organizations that align with a student's interests.

These advisors provide services such as new freshman orientation, course selection, assistance with registration, and review of transfer credit. Students are assigned to a permanent professional advisor upon admittance into the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare and are encouraged to meet with their academic advisor at least once each semester. Please call (414) 229-4852 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

Transfer Students

The Helen Bader School of Social Welfare welcomes students from other academic areas on the UWM campus and students transferring to UWM from other institutions. Students planning to transfer into either major from another institution should meet with an academic advisor as soon as they are admitted and the transfer credit evaluation process has been completed. During this meeting, the student and advisor will review transfer course equivalencies, discuss program requirements, and create an academic plan for coming semesters. Students may meet with their advisor in person or by phone. Please call (414) 229-4852 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

Honors in the Major

Honors in the Major are granted to students who have earned a GPA of 3.500 or above in major courses, including social science credits completed at UWM.

Honors in the School of Social Welfare Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

Honors Degree and Honors Degree with Thesis

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college>) section of this site.

Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. In schools and colleges in which fewer than 15% of the traditional students have a 3.500 GPA, all-university honors will be awarded to approximately the top 15% of graduating students. A criterion GPA (not lower than 3.200) for this 15% will be calculated based on statistics from the previous comparable semester. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

Contact Information

Office of Student Services

Enderis Hall, 1110
2400 E Hartford Ave.

Phone: 414-229-4852
hbssw@uwm.edu