



EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

83 WINDHAM STREET • WILLIMANTIC, CONNECTICUT 06226 • 860-465-5000

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND SOCIAL WORK

SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM MISSION

The Social Work Program of Eastern Connecticut State University prepares effective generalist social workers who advance human well-being, draw upon client strengths in practice, empower the oppressed, and are committed to the promotion of social justice.

2009-10

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WORK **(BSW)**

EASTERN'S SOCIAL WORK MAJOR IS ACCREDITED BY THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

For additional information, visit the Social Work Program web site at
<http://www.easternct.edu/depts/sociology/socialwork.htm>

The 58 credit social work major is intended to provide students with the knowledge, values, and skills necessary for beginning generalist social work practice. The major combines a liberal arts perspective with professional social work content on social work values and ethics, human diversity, social and economic justice, populations at risk, social welfare policy and services, generalist practice, social research, and field work experience. Graduates of the program are prepared for generalist social work practice in a wide variety of governmental and private agencies offering services to individuals, groups, and communities.

PRE-SOCIAL WORK MAJOR:

Students interested in the social work degree should begin as pre-social work majors, typically during their freshman and sophomore years. The pre-social work major emphasizes completion of the University Liberal Arts Core Curriculum (LAC), which all Eastern students must complete regardless of major, and social work liberal arts foundation courses which provide background for the eleven junior/senior year courses which comprise the core of the social work major.

TRANSFER STUDENTS:

Students planning to enter Eastern's social work program from other institutions should attempt to select courses applicable to the social work liberal arts foundation and the LAC. Transfer students should be aware that course equivalency credit cannot be given for Junior and Senior level social work practice or field work courses (SWK 300, 320, 333, 350, 420, 450, and 475) unless taken in a CSWE accredited social work program. Credit earned in such courses typically is accepted by Eastern toward the 120 credits required for a bachelor's degree but may not be substituted for social work program requirements. The social work program does not grant social work course credit for life experience or previous work experience.

PART-TIME STUDENTS:

Students wishing to complete the BSW degree on a part-time basis through Eastern's School of Continuing Education should meet with the Social Work Program Coordinator to plan an individual course of study. Such students should be aware that social work practice courses must be taken with their accompanying research or field course (SWK 300 with SWK 333, SWK 320 with SWK 350, and SWK 420 with SWK 450).

ADMISSION TO THE SOCIAL WORK MAJOR:

Because of the small program size and sequential curriculum, students must be accepted into the social work major no less than four academic semesters prior to their expected graduation date. Admission to the social work major is competitive and is not guaranteed by admission to Eastern Connecticut State University. The Social Work Program accepts approximately 30 new students each year.

Students may apply for admission to the social work major following completion of approximately 45 credits including an introductory social work course (SWK 200 or equivalent). The introductory course must include at least 20 hours of field experience. At the discretion of the social work faculty, volunteer or other social agency experience may be substituted for the pre-admission field work requirement.

Additional admissions requirements include:

- GPA with special attention given to grades earned in SWK foundation courses. An over-all GPA of at least 2.3 (C+) is preferred.
- Completion of the college writing requirement (ENG 100) or its equivalent
- Completion of SWK 200 and at least four of the five liberal arts foundation areas listed below

Application forms for the social work major are available from the Social Work Office (Webb Hall 421), the Program Coordinator, or may be downloaded from the Program's web admission page at <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/sociology/socialworkadmit.htm>. Completed applications include:

- The Social Work Program application form
- Academic transcript(s) showing grades for college courses completed
- The social work professional evaluation form completed by a social work or human service professional who can evaluate the student's potential for success in a social work career.
- A personal statement written by the student describing his/her motivation for entering the field of social work and personal attributes or experiences which will contribute to the student's potential for effectiveness in the social work profession.
- An affirmative action form which may be returned with the application or under separate cover to the Social Work Program secretary

Applications should be submitted to the Social Work Program Coordinator by January 31 in order to enter the social work major the following September. Applications are reviewed by the social work faculty which will convey its decisions to applicants by March 15. A limited number of seats is held for a second round of application reviews conducted prior to the beginning of fall classes to accommodate transfer students and others who miss the January deadline.

Students applying for admission to the program will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Completion of SWK 200 Introduction to Social Work or an equivalent course
- Grade Point Average, with special attention given to grades earned in liberal arts foundation courses. An overall GPA of at least 2.3 ('C+') is preferred for program admission
- Number of social work program liberal arts foundation areas completed (at least four required)
- Evidence of the applicant's commitment to the ideals and practice of the social work profession
- The applicant's potential for enriching diversity in the Social Work Program through life experience or membership in an underrepresented demographic group
- Personal behavior and classroom performance demonstrating likelihood for adherence to the ethical expectations and obligations of professional social work practice as contained in the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics.

PROGRAM ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS:

The Social Work Program recognizes its responsibility as gatekeeper to the profession including an obligation to protect clients who will be served by program graduates. Academic standards enforced by the program include both competence in social work knowledge, values, and skills as demonstrated by students' classroom and field agency performance; and behavior in conformance with the ethical and behavioral expectations of the social work profession. Ethical and responsible conduct is expected of social work majors in classroom activities, on field assignments, in the university, and in the community. Social work majors must earn a grade of 'C' or better in all required social work courses including and beyond SWK 200. Failure to conform to the program's academic standards will result in a review of the student's performance in the Social Work Program by the program faculty and may result in dismissal from the social work major. Students should consult the Social Work Program Student Handbook for further discussion of program academic requirements and expectations.

THE SOCIAL WORK CURRICULUM:

THE PRE-SOCIAL WORK MAJOR:

LAC/GER REQUIREMENTS:

Eastern Connecticut State University identifies itself as the state's public liberal arts university. To fulfill this mission the university requires all students to complete a Liberal Arts Core Curriculum (LAC). The LAC requires students to select from menus of approved courses to complete a variety of content categories. Completion of either the LAC is a graduation requirement for all students regardless of major. For more complete information about the LAC, see the university catalog.

Some social work liberal arts foundation courses and social work major courses may be used to fulfill LAC requirements. Transfer students are encouraged to consult with Eastern's Office of Admissions to determine which LAC requirements their transfer credits may complete. The attached plan of study offers guidance about use of courses for both social work major and university LAC requirements.

LIBERAL ARTS FOUNDATION AREAS (Freshman/Sophomore year courses):

Pre-social work majors must complete at least four of the following liberal arts foundation areas prior to admission to the social work major. Completion of all five areas below is required for the BSW degree.

- **Sociological foundation:** A course or courses providing a foundation for understanding the organization and functioning of human societies, social institutions, and groups. Typical courses used to fulfill this requirement include: SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology, SOC 300 Sociological Theory
- **Anthropological foundation:** A course or courses providing a foundation for understanding of, and appreciation for, the diversity of human ways of life and cultural perspectives. Typical courses used to fulfill this requirement include: ANT 106 Cultural Anthropology, ANT 337 Urban Anthropology, ANT 358 Anthropology of Violence
- **Human biology foundation:** A course or courses providing a foundation for understanding the biological bases of human physical development and behavior. The course typically used to fill this requirement is: BIO 202 Human Biology.
- **Psychological foundation:** A course or courses providing a foundation for understanding the psychology of individual perception and behavior. The typical course used to fulfill this requirement is PSY 100 General Psychology

- **American government foundation:** A course or courses providing a foundation for understanding the American political system and government. Typical courses used to fulfill this requirement include: PSC110 American Government and Politics, PSC 200 State and Local Politics and Government.

PROFESSIONAL FOUNDATION:

SWK 200 Introduction to Social Work (Required for admission to the social work major)

THE SOCIAL WORK MAJOR:

Junior Year (acceptance into the major required):

Both semesters:

Substantial completion of the Liberal Arts Core is expected.

Fall Semester:

SWK 311 The Social Environment and Human Behavior (Pre/co-requisites: Completion of Sociology and Anthropology foundations)

SWK 325 Social Welfare Policy (Pre/co-requisite: Completion of American government foundation)

SWK 330 Research for Social Work I

Spring Semester:

SWK 300 Generalist Practice With Communities and Organizations

SWK 312 Human Behavior and the Social Environment (Pre/co-requisites: Completion of Psychology and Human Biology foundations)

SWK 333 Research for Social Work II (4 credits)

Senior Year:

All social work program liberal arts foundation courses must be completed prior to admission to the senior level social work courses below.

Fall Semester:

SWK 320 Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families

SWK 350 Field Instruction and Seminar I (6 credits)

(SWK 320 and 350 must be taken concurrently - Prerequisites SWK 300, SWK 312, and SWK 333)

Spring Semester:

SWK 420 Generalist Practice With Groups and Organizations

SWK 450 Field Instruction and Seminar II (6 credits)

(SWK 420 and 450 must be taken concurrently - Prerequisites SWK 320 and 350)

SWK 475 Social Work Senior Seminar

For additional information about the social work program contact:

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SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM FACULTY:

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SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM WEB SITE:

<http://www.easternct.edu/depts/sociology/socialwork.htm>

Eastern Connecticut State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, or sexual orientation in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities. The Social Work Program actively seeks diversity in its social work majors. We encourage applications from persons of color and other underrepresented groups.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WORK

PLAN OF STUDY FOR LAC STUDENTS

LIBERAL ARTS CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Tier I: Methods and Concepts	Tier II: Synthesis and Application	Tier III: Independent Inquiry
* First Year Liberal Arts Colloquium (LAP 130) * College Writing * Health and Wellness (HPE 104) * Mathematics Arts in Context Literature and Thought Historical Perspectives Natural Sciences (BIO 202) Social Sciences (SOC 100, PSY 100)	Applied Information Technology (Fulfilled by SWK 333) Creative Expression Cultural Perspectives Natural Sciences Individuals and Societies (Fulfilled by SWK 311)	Culminating Liberal Arts Experience (SWK 475 - approval anticipated)

* Must be completed within the first 30 credits at Eastern

Tier II prerequisites:

Tier I Mathematics for Tier II Information Technology
 Tier I Natural Sciences for Tier II Natural Sciences
 Tier I Social Sciences for Tier II Individuals and Societies
 One of the following for Tier II Creative Expression
 Tier I Arts in Context
 Tier I Literature and Thought
 One of the following for Tier II Cultural Perspectives
 Tier I Arts in Context
 Tier I Literature and Thought
 Tier I Historical Perspectives
 Tier I Social Sciences

Tier III prerequisite:

At least two Tier II course categories must be completed prior to Tier III course enrollment

PRE-SOCIAL WORK MAJOR (freshman/sophomore years):

FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE YEARS (Required Social Work Liberal Arts Foundation)

At least four foundation areas must be completed for program admission.

_____ **Sociological foundation**
 (SOC 100 or SOC 300)

_____ **Human biological foundation**
 (BIO 202 Human Biology)

_____ **American government foundation**
 (PSC 110 or PSC 200)

_____ **Anthropological foundation**
 (ANT 106, ANT 337, or ANT 358)

_____ **Psychological foundation**
 (PSY 100 General Psychology)

SOPHOMORE YEAR (Social Work Professional Foundation Courses)

Fall Semester:

_____ **SWK 200 Introduction to Social Work**
(Required for Program admission –
complete before first 45 credits)

Spring semester:

_____ **Study abroad or National Student
Exchange** recommended second
semester

Both semesters

Continued progress toward completion of Social Work Foundation and LAC requirements expected.

SOCIAL WORK MAJOR:

Grade requirement: Social work majors must earn a grade of 'C' or better in all required courses beyond the liberal arts foundation level in order to be accepted into or continue in the Social Work major. These courses are: SWK 200, 300, 311, 312, 320, 325, 330, 333, 350, 420, 450, and 475.

JUNIOR YEAR:

Both semesters - Substantial completion of LAC requirements expected.

Fall Semester:

_____ **SWK 311 Social Environment &
Human Behavior** (Pre/co-requisites:
SOC, ANT foundations)

_____ **SWK 325 Social Welfare Policy**
(Pre/co-requisite: American
government foundation)

_____ **SWK 330 Research for Social Work I**

Spring semester:

_____ **SWK 300 Communities and Organizations**
(Prerequisites SWK 311, SWK 325, Co-requisite
SWK 330)

_____ **SWK 312 Human Behavior & Social
Environment** (Pre/co-requisites: PSY, BIO
foundations)

_____ **SWK 333 Research for Social Work II – 4 cr.**
(Pre-requisite SWK 330, Co-requisite SWK 300)

SENIOR YEAR:

All liberal arts foundation and professional foundation courses must be completed prior to admission to senior year practice, field, and seminar courses.

Fall semester:

(Prerequisites: SWK 300, SWK 312, and SWK 333)

_____ **SWK 320 Social Work Practice with
Individuals and Families**

_____ **SWK 350 Field Instruction & Seminar - 6 cr**

Spring semester:

(Prerequisites: SWK 320, SWK 350)

_____ **SWK 420 Social Work Practice with Groups
and Organizations**

_____ **SWK 450 Field Instruction & Seminar -6 cr**

_____ **SWK 475 Social Work Senior Seminar**