



## EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

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### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND SOCIAL WORK

## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WORK (BSW)

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

2011-2012

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

#### SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM MISSION

The Social Work Program of Eastern Connecticut State University prepares bachelor-level generalist social work professionals who competently and effectively advance social justice and human rights. Ready for professional practice and graduate study upon graduation, our students promote human well-being by employing practice skills that are grounded in social work's body of knowledge and professional values. Students are ready to serve diverse client populations especially those most vulnerable and oppressed. The Social Work Program improves the lives of people of the region and state by increasing the number of effective social work practitioners who serve our residents.

For additional information, visit our program website at <http://www.easternct.edu/socialwork>

The 58-credit social work major provides students with the competencies essential for beginning professional practice as a social worker. Through classroom curriculum and extensive field experience, students achieve the knowledge, values, and skills necessary for generalist social work practice. The major combines a liberal arts perspective, disciplinary foundation in the social and behavioral sciences, and professional social work content on social work values and ethics, human diversity, social and economic justice, social welfare policy and services, social research, practice, 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, families and groups, and other change strategies for organizations and communities. *Admission to the social work major is based on application to the program in order to be admitted into a cohort of students who complete required courses in the junior and senior undergraduate years.*

#### 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, 330, 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 fewer 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 40 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 fieldwork requirement.

Additional admissions requirements include:

- Satisfactory 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
- Completion of 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.easterncst.edu/socialwork/documents/Applicationform.pdf>

Completed applications include:

- Contact information and course completion matrix
- Behavioral survey
- Pre-admission fieldwork statement
- Personal essay 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
- Professional reference completed by a social work or human service professional who can evaluate the student's potential for success in a social work career.
- Transcripts from all institutions of higher education
- Affirmative Action form (optional)

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 on or about March 15. A limited number of seats are held for a second round of application review 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 social work 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 for admission*)
- Evidence of the applicant's commitment to the ideals and practice principles 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 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 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 SOCIAL WORK 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 and course pre-requisites for all junior courses.

**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. With the exception of archaeology, any anthropology course offered at Eastern can be used to fulfill this requirement.

**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

The social work major is a planned, sequenced educational experience comprising 40 credits of classroom and fieldwork. Admitted students complete the major in learning communities in which courses are completed in four semesters.

## BSW PLAN OF STUDY

<b>PRE-SOCIAL WORK MAJOR</b>	
FRESHMAN and SOPHOMORE YEARS   Required Social Work Liberal Arts Foundation At least four foundation areas must be completed for program admission. Either semester.	
_____ 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 Both semester continued progress toward completion of Social Work Foundation and LAC requirements	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
_____ SWK 200 Introduction to Social Work <i>(Required for Program admission – complete before first 45 credits)</i>	Students considering participation in the National Student Exchange or study abroad should plan their experience for the Sophomore year spring semester.
<b>SOCIAL WORK MAJOR</b>	
SOCIAL WORK MAJOR   <b>Program Admission Required</b>   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 All liberal arts foundation and professional foundation courses must be completed prior to admission to junior year courses.	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
_____ SWK 311 Social Environment & Human Behavior (Pre/co-requisites: SOC, ANT foundations)	_____ SWK 300 Communities and Organizations (Prerequisites SWK 311, SWK 325, Co-requisite SWK 330)
_____ SWK 325 Social Welfare Policy (Pre/co-requisite: PSC foundation)	_____ SWK 312 Human Behavior & Social Environment (Pre/co-requisites: PSY, BIO foundations)
_____ SWK 330 Research for Social Work I	_____ SWK 333 Research for Social Work II (Pre-requisite SWK 330, Co-requisite SWK 300)
SENIOR YEAR	
Fall Semester   Prerequisites: SWK 300, SWK 312, and SWK 333	Spring Semester   Prerequisites: SWK 320, SWK 350
_____ SWK 320 Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families	_____ SWK 420 Social Work Practice with Groups and Organizations
_____ SWK 350 Field Instruction & Seminar	_____ SWK 450 Field Instruction & Seminar
	_____ SWK 475 Social Work Senior Seminar

<i>Eastern Connecticut State University Liberal Arts Core Curriculum (LAC) and Required Social Work Courses Which Satisfy the Curriculum</i>		
Tier I   Methods and Concepts	Tier II   Synthesis and Application	Tier III   Independent Inquiry
*First Year Liberal Arts * College Writing ** Health and Wellness * Mathematics Colloquium (LAP 130) Arts in Context Literature and Thought Historical Perspectives Natural Sciences (BIO 202) Social Sciences (SOC 100, PSY 100, ANT 106, PSC 110)	Applied Information Technology (SWK 333) Creative Expression Cultural Perspectives Natural Sciences Individuals and Societies (SWK 311)	Culminating Liberal Arts Experience (SWK 475)
Requirements and Pre-requisites <i>*Must be completed within the first 30 credits at Eastern **Must be completed within the first 30 credits at Eastern</i> <i>Prerequisites   Tier I Mathematics for Tier II Information Technology   Tier I Natural Sciences for Tier II Natural Sciences</i> <i>  Tier I Social Sciences for Tier II Individuals and Societies   One of the following for Tier II Creative Expression: Tier I</i> <i>Arts in Context or Tier I Literature and Thought   One of the following for Tier II Cultural Perspectives: Tier I Arts in</i> <i>Context or Tier I Literature and Thought or Tier I Historical Perspectives or Tier I Social Sciences At least two Tier II</i> <i>course categories must be completed prior to Tier III course enrollment. See the University catalog for all requirements.</i>		

## SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM FACULTY

### Full Time Faculty

Kenneth Cunningham, Assistant Professor, BA, MSW Springfield College; Ph.D. Social Work, University of Connecticut  
 Office Webb Hall 439 Phone: 860-465-0506 Email: cunninghamk@easternct.edu

Margaret E. Martin, Professor, BA Emmanuel College; MSW Washington University; Ph.D. Social Welfare Policy, Brandeis University  
 Office: Webb Hall 429 Phone: 860-465-5704 Email: martinm@easternct.edu

Eunice Matthews, Professor, BSW Morgan State University; MSW Columbia University School of Social Work; Ph.D. Sociology, City University of New York  
 Office: Webb Hall 430 Phone: 860-465-0102 Email: matthewse@easternct.edu

Robert J. Wolf, Associate Professor. BA Drake University; MSW University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration; MA, Ph.D. Sociology, University of California at Santa Barbara  
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### Part Time Faculty

Thomas E. Broffman, BASW University of Pittsburgh; MSW University of Pittsburgh; Ph.D. Social Work, Boston College.  
 Phone: 860-465-5127 Email: broffmant@easternct.edu

Catina Caban-Owen, BA, MSW University of Puerto Rico, MPA University of Hartford, Ph.D. Social Work, University of Connecticut

Nusie Halpin, BA, MSW University of Connecticut

Michael F. Hebert, BA Eastern Connecticut State University, MSW University of Connecticut, MBA (Health Care Management) Rensselaer Polytechnic University

Denise Keane, BA Drew University, MA (Education) University of Connecticut, MSW Springfield College

Gail Shapiro, BA George Washington University, MA Montclair State University, Doctoral Candidate Nova Southeastern University (Conflict Analysis and Resolution)

Jennifer Valva, BSW Eastern Connecticut State University, MSW Springfield College

## SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM OFFICE

Diane Theriaque, Secretary Webb Hall 421 Phone: 860-465-4550 Fax: 860-465-4610 [theriaqued@easternct.edu](mailto:theriaqued@easternct.edu)

## SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM WEB SITE

<http://www.easternct.edu/socialwork>

For additional information about the social work program contact:

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### *Notice of Nondiscrimination*

The Eastern Connecticut State University Social Work Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, age, gender, disability, political 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.

### *Limitations*

*This information is provided to students and applicants for their general information and guidance only. It does not constitute a contract, either express or implied, and is subject to revision at the University's discretion. Information contained here is intended to complement, not replace, the contents of the University catalog and student handbook. Students should be aware that additional requirements may be imposed (even once a plan of study has been prepared) if such requirements are imposed by outside licensing or accrediting agencies. A plan of study may be subject to revision to reflect such additional requirements. The Social Work Program is bound by all Eastern Connecticut State University policies.*