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Welcome

Welcome to the Full-Time MSW Program at UW-Madison School of Social Work! We are pleased you chose our program. The information provided will help ensure a successful academic year.

Professional School Behavior & Performance Expectations

The MSW is an advanced professional degree. Social work professionals adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/default.asp in all aspects of practice. As persons preparing for professional practice, you will find that adherence to the Code begins now and continues throughout your educational experience. We expect students in our School of Social Work to comply with standards through appropriate professional behavior and demeanor in classroom settings, field placement settings, in group meetings; and in interactions with faculty, instructors, advisors, and staff and with each other. More information pertaining to professional and respectful behavior is found in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook https://socwork.wisc.edu/rights

Advising

The School of Social Work offers both academic and professional advising to students. Students are not assigned individual faculty advisors.

Academic Advising

Mary Paulauskis, MSSW and Belinda Velazquez, MSSW are academic advisors for all professional program students. They assist students with tracking academic requirements, understanding academic policies and procedures, and with matters students may encounter that impede academic progress. We encourage students to meet with an Academic Advisor at least once a semester:

- **Belinda Velazquez**, MSSW, 323 School of Social Work, 263-3660, bvelazqu@wisc.edu
- **Mary Paulauskis**, MSSW, 325 School of Social Work, 263-3660, paulauskis@wisc.edu

In-person, phone and Skype appointments can be made via the School of Social Work’s website http://socwork.wisc.edu/ or by calling the main office at 608-263-3660.
Common Reasons Why You May Want To See An Academic Advisor:

- Assist with course selection
- Discuss alternatives within the program
- Provide referral and support services for individual student needs
- Assist with career resources
- Guide students in the process of selecting a focus area
- Clarify School Social Work and Graduate School policies and procedures
- Offer guidance regarding Certification and Licensure in Wisconsin

Professional Advising

Faculty (field faculty, focus area chairs, classroom faculty and agency supervisors) through classroom and field experiences contribute to students’ professional advisement relative to knowledge and skills in areas of study or fields of practice and professional practice roles. Faculty are a great resource for careers in social work related to their fields of expertise.

First Things First

Activate Your Net ID

The Graduate School and the School of Social Work direct you to activate your Net ID at: https://mynetid.wisc.edu/activate

You will need your 10 digit student campus ID number, provided in your Graduate School acceptance letter. The NetID and password, which you create, are needed to access many campus applications and services, such as the MyUW-Madison, Web Enrollment and Office 365. If you have problems with your NetID or password, contact the DoIT Help Desk at (608) 264-4357 https://kb.wisc.edu/page.php?id=6127.

Activate Your UW-Madison E-mail Account

Every student should activate a “wisc.edu” e-mail account. This is the only way advisors, faculty and other university officials will communicate with you. Please make it a habit to check your wisc.edu e-mail account daily. You must activate your NetID before you activate your email account. https://kb.wisc.edu/page.php?id=1140.

- If you were enrolled in a class or completing your degree at UW-Madison in the most recent spring term, your wisc.edu email account would still be active and you do not need to create a new account.
• If you have never been a student at UW-Madison, you must wait until the last week in June 2017 for the Graduate School to grant you access to activate your student email account.

**School of Social Work Portal**

The checklist sent with your acceptance letter directs students to submit critical documents to the School through the Social Work Portal:

- NASW Code of Ethics
- School of Social Work Plagiarism Policy
- Duty to Disclose and Consent to Release of Information
- Student Rights & Responsibilities
- Exemption Declaration Form
- Field Preference Form
- Full Time Confirmation Response Form

Please follow instructions and timelines for completing each item.

**Enroll in Courses**

MSW students enroll beginning July 5th 2017 for Fall classes. In your Student Center (found in MY UW) you will receive an invitation to enroll from the Office of the Registrar along with your assigned “Earliest Appointment Time”. Enrollment information is available on the Office of the Registrar’s website [https://registrar.wisc.edu/enrollment_information.htm](https://registrar.wisc.edu/enrollment_information.htm)

The Fall Schedule of Classes is available at: [http://registrar.wisc.edu/schedule_of_classes_students.htm](http://registrar.wisc.edu/schedule_of_classes_students.htm)

**Obtain Your University Photo ID Card**

To be eligible for an ID card, a student must be enrolled for classes and be able to present another form of photo identification. For information, hours and location please refer to the WISCARD/UW-Madison PHOTO ID card link: [https://kb.wisc.edu/vip/page.php?id=11076](https://kb.wisc.edu/vip/page.php?id=11076)
**Curriculum**

The MSW Program curriculum is outlined below. Courses are taken sequentially. Most courses are only offered once per academic year. The Generalist Practice Year courses, must be completed before the Advanced Generalist Specialization Year courses are taken. Advanced Generalist Specialization courses are taken concurrently with Advanced Practice Field & Integrative Seminar (SW 800/801).

### Generalist Practice Foundation

(1st Year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Cr</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Cr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW 605 Field of Social Work*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>SW 606 Social Policy**</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 711 Human Behavior &amp; Environ*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>SW 640 SW w/Ethnic &amp; Racial Grps**</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 441 Generalist Practice with Indv.,Families &amp; Groups*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SW 650 SW Research Methods**</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 442 Generalist Practice with Communities &amp; Orgs*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>SW 612 Psychopathology in Generalist Practice**</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 400-Field &amp; Integrative Sem. I*</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>SW 401-Field &amp; Integrative Sem. II**</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Only offered in Fall semester  
**Only offered in Spring semester

### Advanced Generalist Specialization with Focus Area

(2nd Year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Cr</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Cr</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adv. Practice (in focus area)*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Elective (or 840)**</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy &amp; Services (in focus area)*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Elective**</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective** (or SW 840)**</td>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Elective**</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 800-Field &amp; Integrative Sem. III*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>SW 801-Field &amp; Integr. Sem. IV (in focus area)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(in focus area)</td>
<td>11-12</td>
<td></td>
<td>12-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Only offered in Fall semester  
** Electives may taken inside or outside the School of Social Work  
***840 may be taken in either Fall or Spring semester

Advanced Generalist Specialization Focus Areas

The School offers four areas of focus within the Advanced Generalist Specialization. Students complete their area of focus in the second year or advanced standing year of the program. The focus areas are:

- Aging
- Child, Youth & Family Welfare
- Health
- Mental Health

Optional Subfocus Areas

Students may elect to pursue a more specialized area (subfocus) within their area of focus. At minimum, a subfocus area consists of one substantive course (content or practice) and a field placement in the subfocus area.

Current subfocus areas are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus Areas</th>
<th>Sub-Focus Examples (optional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aging</td>
<td>Developmental Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Policy and Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child, Youth and Family Welfare</td>
<td>Child Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Social Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Developmental Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Policy and Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Developmental Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Policy and Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>Substance Use Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Policy and Administration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student-designed subfocus areas may also be approved when an appropriate substantive course and field placement can be identified. Students should inform the advisors if they are choosing to pursue a subfocus.

Course requirements and other details about our focus areas and subfocus areas are found in the “Specialization Handbook.”
Field Education

The School of Social Work offers approximately 12 field units with placements in over 100 agencies throughout Dane County and its contiguous counties.

- Occasionally there are opportunities for placements in other parts of the state. This option requires consultation with the Field Director.
- Field units and their associated placements run the gamut of social work venues of practice and cross a variety of system types and sizes.
- Students are placed in agencies for one academic year.
- Generalist Year:
  - Generalist year field placements are 16 hours per week, including two hours of field seminar. It is based on 16 weeks per semester.
  - Students complete 256 hours per semester (includes field placement and integrative seminar).
  - Students are at the same field placement both semesters.
- Specialization Year:
  - Specialization year field placements are 20 hours per week, including two hours of field seminar. It is based on 16 weeks per semester.
  - Students complete 320 hours per semester (includes field placement and integrative seminar).
  - Students are at the same field placement both semesters.
- Generally Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are reserved for Field hours

For complete details about the field program and how it operates please see the Field Handbook (http://socwork.wisc.edu/files/field/FieldHandbook.pdf)

Core Social Work Competencies

The aims of the curriculum are to prepare MSWs as autonomous practitioners with the ability to integrate social work knowledge, skills and values, affective and cognitive processes that promote well-being at the individual, family, group, organization and community level. To achieve these aims, the curriculum is built around nine core competencies listed below:

1. Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
2. Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice
3. Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
4. Engage in Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice
5. Engage in Policy Practice

6. Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities

7. Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities

8. Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities

9. Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations and Communities

**How Courses are Offered**

Most courses meet once a week (two hours) on T or R. Generally M,W,Fs are reserved for field placement hours and seminar. Courses like 605, 606, 612, 640, 650 and 711 are larger lecture-type courses. Some courses provide TA or lab sections of approximately 20 students per lab. Discussion Sections/Labs are generally scheduled on Mondays or Wednesdays. Most elective courses are seminar style with 25-35 students. Courses are usually offered only once a year. Exceptions to this are found in the “Specialization Handbook.”


**Statistics, Other Exemptions & Advanced Standing**

Decisions about exemptions are made by faculty based on information provided on Exemption Declaration Form (in Student Portal) or through passage of an exemption exam(s). When a course is evaluated as equivalent or a student passes an exemption exam, the student receives the exemption which means you do not need to take the course, nor do you have to “make up” the credits.

**Statistics Prerequisite Requirement**

Incoming MSWs are required to have completed an approved statistics course before starting the program in the Fall. To be approved for exemption the stats course should meet the following criteria:

- Course topics that must be covered: distributions, measures of central tendency, dispersion and shape, the normal distribution, experiments to compare means, standard errors, confidence intervals, effects of departure from assumptions, method of least squares, regression, correlation assumptions and limitations, basic ideas of experimental design.
• The statistics course must have been completed within the past five years (from academic year of graduation to academic year of enrollment in our MSW Program).
• A grade of C or better is required (no C- or CD).

A syllabus from the semester you took the statistics course should accompany the Exemption Declaration Form (found in the Student Portal) unless your course is listed on the Social Work/Social Welfare Course Equivalencies. If you have not yet completed the stats prerequisite, we are offering SW 673 Statistics for Social Work in our “Summer Bridge” semester. See https://socwork.wisc.edu/summer-bridge-term for details.

**Advanced Standing for BSWs**

If you have a BSW from a CSWE (Council on Social Work Education) accredited School of Social Work, you may qualify for “Advanced Standing” in our MSW Program. Follow the instructions and the information found with the Exemption Declaration Form found in the Student Portal.

Advanced standing is a status given to incoming MSW students based on having earned a BSW in a CSWE accredited program within the past 5 years (from academic year of graduation to academic year of enrollment in our MSW Program). In addition, BSW students must have earned grades of B or better in their comparable generalist courses. Full Advanced Standing means that the incoming MSW student has exempted out of all Generalist Practice Foundation (1st year) courses.

**Exemptions from Generalist Year Courses for non-BSWs**

Exemptions out of generalist year courses for non-BSW students may be given to: Students who have completed one or more comparable generalist courses in an accredited BSW program with a grade of B or better (no older than 5 years from academic year of graduation to academic year of enrollment in our MSW Program) OR successfully passing exemption exams.

**Exemption by Examination (BSWs and Non-BSWs)**

Exemption exams are taken by:

• Students whose BSW is more than 5 years old from (from academic year of graduation to academic year of enrollment in our MSW Program)¹

¹ See Field Education Handbook for information related to the foundation year field exemption.
• UW-Madison Social Welfare majors\(^2\) whose graduation date is more than 5 years old (from academic year of graduation to academic year of enrollment in our MSW Program)
• Students who did not attain a grade of “B” or better in their social work courses or did not attain a grade of “C” or better in statistics.

Others interested in testing out of class Exemption exams are taken the week before classes begin each semester. See [https://socwork.wisc.edu/mswexemptions](https://socwork.wisc.edu/mswexemptions) for details.

**Summer Bridge Term**

If you are seeking Advanced Standing, but have not taken or qualified (e.g., earned less than a grade of “B” or have a BSW older than five years) for exemption from the courses below, you should take these courses during the Summer Bridge Term [https://socwork.wisc.edu/summer-bridge-term](https://socwork.wisc.edu/summer-bridge-term), prior to starting the program in the fall:

- Psychopathology (SW 612)
- Social Work with Ethnic and Racial Groups (SW 640)
- Research Methods (SW 650)
- Statistics (SW 673)

**Instructions for enrolling in Summer Bridge courses may be found at the following link:** [https://socwork.wisc.edu/summer-bridge-term](https://socwork.wisc.edu/summer-bridge-term).

**Attending Part Time in the Full-Time Program**

Attending the Full-Time MSW Program on part-time basis requires that students plan their course of study with an Advisor.

- Students must enroll in courses according to prerequisites and proper course sequencing.
- A minimum of two courses each semester (4 credits) is required.
- The required credit load in years 2 & 4 (illustrated below) is a full time credit load.
- Any exceptions to these policies must be discussed ahead of time with an Advisor. Consult with an Advisor before enrolling for courses each semester.

\(^2\) Students with a Social Welfare major from UW-Madison School of Social Work (no older than 5 years from academic year of graduation to academic year of enrollment) who obtained a grade of B or better in (one or all) of the following courses: 205, 206, 457, 640, 650. (A grade of C or better is acceptable for the Statistics pre-requisite.)
Part-time Curriculum Sequence Illustrated

Fall Semester, Year 1
- SW605
- SW711

Spring Semester, Year 1
- SW606
- SW640

Fall Semester, Year 2
- SW400 (Field & Seminar), M, W, F 16 hrs/wk
- SW441 (with Lab)
- SW442

Spring Semester, Year 2
- SW401 – continuation of field & seminar
- SW 612
- SW 650

Fall Semester, Year 3
- Policy & Services (in focus area)
- Social Work Elective

Spring Semester, Year 3
- SW Elective
- SW Elective

Fall Semester, Year 4
- SW800 Filed & Seminar III (20rs/wk)
- Advanced Practice (in focus area)

Spring Semester, Year 4
- SW 801 Field & Seminar IV (20 hrs/wk)
- SW 840 Advanced Macro Practice

Grading

Below is a grading scale used by many social work instructors for classroom courses. Field course instructors use a similar scale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Outstanding, surpasses requirements in all areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88-93</td>
<td>A/B</td>
<td>Surpasses requirements in many areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82-87</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Meets requirements in all areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76-81</td>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>Meets requirements in some areas, below in others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-75</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Below requirements in most areas, not acceptable Graduate work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64-69</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Below requirements in all areas, not acceptable Graduate work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;=63</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Fails to meet minimal requirements in all areas, not acceptable graduate work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other grades but excluded from the GPA calculation ([http://registrar.wisc.edu/grades_and_gpa.htm](http://registrar.wisc.edu/grades_and_gpa.htm)) are grades of:

- S or U (Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory) in courses taken on the Pass/Fail basis
- Cr or N (Credit or No Credit) in courses offered on a Credit/No Credit basis
• DR (Dropped), indicates the course was dropped.

• I (IN for Cr/N Courses) (Incomplete), a temporary grade used when work is not completed during a term.

• EI (Extended Incomplete), a temporary grade for an extended time limit to remove an Incomplete.

• PI (Permanent Incomplete), a permanent grade replacing an Incomplete incurred in a student's last semester in residence and not removed within five years.

• NR (No Report), indicates that a grade was not submitted by the instructor. Has no net effect on GPA.

• NW (No Work)..."should be used for students who enroll in a course and then never attend. 'No Work' in this context means that the instructor has no evidence that the student ever attended, in that no course work was ever submitted. Any student who does attend for part of the semester, and then stops participating should be given a grade of 'F' unless there are grounds for assignment of a grade of 'I'(Incomplete)."

• P (Progress), a temporary grade used for courses extending beyond one term. The final grade determines the grade for each term and replaces P grades for the course.

• Q (Question on Credits), a temporary grade used during grade reporting to indicate a credit problem. A Q grade may be represented on a grade report as "?.."

• W (Withdrawn) indicates the student withdrew from the University while enrolled in the course.

Audited courses, denoted as such by 'AU' in place of a number of credits, are graded either S (Satisfactory) or NR (No Report).

**Satisfactory Progress Criteria**

Overall Graduate GPA requirement is 3.00.

Grades of C are accepted only if they are offset by an equal number of credits of A. Students who receive more than two grades of C or a grade of D or F will be dropped from the MSW Program. Candidates who receive a grade of C in the Field and Integrative Seminar courses may continue only with permission of the faculty and may not offset the grade with a grade of A. (This policy does not apply to grades received for courses taken to meet the Statistic prerequisite while in the program). Refer to the Field Education Handbook for more details about grades in Field.  
https://socwork.wisc.edu/full-time-field-program
**Probation Policy**

In any given semester in which the GPA falls below 3.0 the Graduate School will place you on probation. The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

**Withdrawal from UW-Madison**

Students may need to withdraw from the program for a variety of reasons. Withdrawal indicates that a student intends to stop attending classes for the current semester. Submission of a withdrawal request in MyUW Student Center is required between the first and last day of the semester, when a student wishes to drop all classes in which he or she is enrolled for the current semester. The electronic withdrawal process will not require submission of a signed paper form. Instead, students will submit withdrawal requests via MyUW Student Center, and the requests are then routed electronically to the Graduate School for review. Approval from the Graduate School, as well as from the Office of International Student Services for students on J-1 and F-1 visas, is required before a graduate student is formally withdrawn from the semester. For more information see Canceling Your Enrollment-Withdrawals on the Office of the Registrar’s website at [https://registrar.wisc.edu/canceling_your_enrollment_withdrawal_info.htm](https://registrar.wisc.edu/canceling_your_enrollment_withdrawal_info.htm)

Students who withdraw from the full-time MSW program without having completed at least 8 credits must reapply for admission to the program.

**Access and Accommodations in Instruction for Students with Disabilities**

The University of Wisconsin-Madison and the School of Social Work are committed to providing an accessible, accommodating and supportive teaching and learning environment. The University has programs, resources and policies designed to assist students with disabilities to be successful in their education. The place to start is the McBurney Disability Resource Center: [http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/](http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/)

**Social Work Career Preparation, Job Development and Professional Credentials**

Annually, the School offers workshops on preparing for obtaining a social work position after graduation. In Spring we hold a Job Fair for you to learn about positions vacancies
and meet with prospective employers. On our website students will find links to professional social work credentials and links to certification licensure information.

**Career Development Series**

The School of Social Work annually provides to our MSW program students opportunities to prepare for the professional work environment.

Faculty, instructors, former students and community practitioners present on topics drawn from recent research, new practice techniques, certification and licensing requirements, and preparing for a career in social work. Sometimes the topic is about the use of technology in the practice or social work or how to take constructive feedback. Instruction may be delivered via lecture, seminar, workshop, mentoring, and book/journal article discussion.

Examples of previous offerings:

- LCSW OR CAPSW: Educating our Community and Students about the Appropriate Social Work Certification/Licensing for Particular Social Work Career Paths
- Mental Health (MH) specialization area information session
- Mindfulness Meditation For Stress Reduction
- Child, Youth and Family Welfare (CYFW) Specialization Information Session
- Health, Aging and Disability (HAD) Specialization Information Session
- Wisconsin Certification /Licensure: Beginning the Process
- Joining Professional Social Work Membership Organizations: The Benefits to Students as They Transition from Student to Social Worker
- Mindfulness: Self Awareness & Self Care in Social Work
- Resume Writing
- Cover Letter Writing
- Job Interviewing
- Compensation Negotiation
- Pre-Job Fair Preparation Workshop

**Job Fair**

The Annual Job Fair will be held March 2, 2018 across the street from the School at the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery. You’ll want to bring copies of your resume and dress professionally for this event. Students have been interviewed and received job offers during this event.
Professional Social Work Credentials & Continuing Education

Certification is a legal status required to use the title "Social Worker," and licensure is necessary to practice social work. To learn more about the requirements for these processes as well as requirements for continuing education post-degree, please review information from our website: https://socwork.wisc.edu/credcont

- State of Wisconsin Social Work Certification Instructions (MSW & BSW)
- State of Wisconsin School Social Work Certification
- State of Wisconsin Clinical Social Work Certification
- Other States: Social Work certification and licensure state-by-state clickable map

School Communication Mechanisms

WiscList (Social Work email distribution list)

We have established a list-serve for our social welfare and social work students in the undergraduate Social Welfare Major, BSW and MSW programs. The purpose of this email distribution list is to disseminate information to the social work community (students, faculty, staff and others) about job openings, seminars and other events of interest. Upon graduation, you are welcome to stay on the distribution list. To subscribe, visit the Digital Communication & Media (http://socwork.wisc.edu/communication-media) portion of our website.

Social Media: Facebook, Twitter & YouTube

Facebook and Twitter

Connect with the School of Social Work on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/UWMadisonSchoolOfSocialWork) or Twitter (@UWMadSocialWork) for news, announcements, and updates. Facebook or Twitter accounts are not necessary to view content, but accounts are necessary to post or interact with the School’s content. These accounts are moderated by the School of Social Work.

YouTube

Watch lectures, workshops, and clips about social work on the School of Social Work’s YouTube channel (http://www.youtube.com/UWMadisonSocialWork). A YouTube account is not necessary to view content. The account is moderated by the School of Social Work.
Student Organizations

Below is a list and description of the student organizations within the School of Social Work. To become involved, visit our Student Organizations website (http://socwork.wisc.edu/mcstudorgs) and find out more about each organization.

Social Work Student Union

The Social Work Student Union (SWSU) is your organization. All enrolled students are automatically members of the Student Union. It is your opportunity to participate in department planning and decision-making as well as in student-centered activities. The Student Union has many student subcommittees that you can become involved in: e.g., Diversity Issues, Political, Social, and Community Service. You are eligible to participate in other faculty committees such as Curriculum, Field, Recruitment and Retention of Students of Color, etc. The Student Union has a vote at faculty meetings. Watch for an announcement of their first meeting in the Fall semester.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Student Group

The Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Student Group (LGBT) offers a forum open to all social work students, faculty and staff interested in exploring LGBT issues. Through both social events and advocacy work, the group seeks to facilitate an awareness of, and cooperation between, persons of various sexual/affectional orientations. The mission of the group is to promote inclusive, non-biased social work education and services to people along the entire sexual/affectional orientation spectrum. Watch for announcements of their first meeting in the Fall semester.

Social Work Students for International Outreach

This is a group of students interested in pursuing topics of international interest and serving as a resource to others interested in information on social work opportunities abroad.

Social Work Christian Fellowship

We are a group of Christian Social Work students who enjoy gathering regularly to encourage, support, and share our lives with one another. We are interested in exploring how our faith and Social Work connect by studying God’s Word and sharing the unique joys and challenges we experience as Christians within the field of Social Work. Our weekly meetings typically consist of prayer, bible study, discussion, enjoying fellowship together and hearing from guest speakers who are Christian social workers in the community and/or work as staff and faculty here at the School of Social Work. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here! We will meet once a week over the noon hour, day of the week TBD. Watch for an announcement of our meeting time for the Fall semester.
Multicultural Student Alliance

The Multicultural Student Alliance (MCSA) is in the School of Social Work and serves as a source of peer support for students working toward a degree in the social work field. This organization also serves to advocate for diversity in the curriculum as well as within school activities. Members of the MCSA who are in their second year of training toward their Master of Social Work Degree (MSW) often serve as mentors for students in their first year of study. The MCSA is an independent student organization; however it works in conjunction with the Committee on Diversity (CoD) housed within the School of Social Work. The MCSA conduct various social events throughout the academic year and assist in both educational and social events hosted by the School of Social Work. These include a Fall Semester Potluck, designed to welcome incoming students, and a Spring Semester event designed to celebrate graduating students and welcome recently accepted students for the following year.