Sandra Rosenbaum
School of Social Work
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Full-Time MSW Program

Program Guide

2026-2027

School of Social Work Building
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Welcome

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

MSW Program Mission & Goals

Program Mission

Guided by the core values of the social work profession and grounded in the advanced generalist practice framework, the MSW program mission is to provide social work education that will nurture competent, ethical autonomous social work professionals committed to scientific inquiry, evidence-based practice, respect for human diversity, the promotion of human and community well-being, human rights, and social, economic, and environmental justice.

We aim to cultivate skilled social work professionals and social change leaders capable of creating and advancing knowledge and addressing complex pressing social problems via multimethod and multilevel approaches.

Program Goals

Derived from the MSW program mission and context, the program goals are to:

- Provide an MSW curriculum that builds on a liberal arts base, grounded in a person-in-environment, empowerment, and strengths perspective that promotes the values, ethics, and purposes of the profession.
- Prepare students for generalist and autonomous advanced generalist practice that is transferable across diverse contexts, locations, and problems by providing knowledge, values, and skills training regarding:
    - Populations and related social problems/issues;
    - Social, health, and/or human services systems and policies;
    - Systems of oppression, privilege, and power;
    - Multilevel and multimethod approaches based on scientific inquiry and best practices;
    - Ethical advocacy and social, economic, and environmental justice;
    - Reflective leadership;
    - Research informed practice, and practice and program evaluation methods that contribute to the profession's knowledge base.
- Develop and maintain an inclusive environment that will attract, nurture, and support diversity within the School, among students, faculty, and staff.
- Cultivate and maintain partnerships with a variety of social, health and/or human service organizations to provide meaningful field experiences and supervision while respecting and contributing to their respective mission.

Advanced Generalist Specialization Framework

The advanced generalist specialization is embedded within and builds upon the generalist practice framework. The School's commitment to the advanced generalist approach (Schatz, Jenkins, & Sheafor, 1990) is grounded in the understanding that this model is well-suited for the practice demands of the 21st Century, which require both breadth and depth of knowledge and skills, but that also employ essential elements that cut across fields of practice[1]. The advanced generalist specialization provides knowledge and skills in direct services as well as administration, management, advocacy, system reform and the effects of social policies to effectively address complex pressing individual and social problems. Preparing social workers to be leaders in an increasingly diverse and global environment, marked by diminished resources, devolution of responsibility for social welfare from the federal, state and local governments, and the growing privatization of services, requires knowledge and skills that build on and extend the generalist practice foundation in the following areas:

- **Populations and related social-problems/issues:** Committed to serving and advocating for oppressed and marginalized populations, advanced generalist social workers understand the changing demographics locally and nationally with an eye toward related social-problems and their implications for social work practice, service provision and social policy (e.g., developing or enhancing services or policies for populations identified as at risk for life adversities and attendant social problems). They are competent to engage, assess, intervene and evaluate practice with members of diverse populations and to address attendant social problems, and complex chronic needs of client systems (Schatz, Jenkins, & Sheafor, 1990).
- **Social, health, and/or human services systems and policies:** Advanced generalist social workers are familiar with the contexts and policies relevant to populations served. They are able to evaluate systems of care and changes needed in those systems over time related to populations they are intended to serve and seek to address inequalities, as well as barriers to access and exit from service delivery systems.
- **Systems of oppression, privilege, and power:** To promote human and community well-being, human rights, and social, economic and environmental justice, advanced generalist social workers must not only understand, but employ strategies designed to eliminate oppressive structural barriers at multiple levels to ensure that social goods, rights and responsibilities are distributed equitably and that civil, political, economic, social and cultural human rights are protected.
- **A multilevel, multimethod and multidimensional approach:** Advanced generalist practice requires "multiple skills, a strategy for selecting among…various alternatives, and creativity to address complex practice issues" (Lavitt, 2009, p. 466).2 Advanced generalist social workers are skilled in assessing the focus of attention and the intervention that is likely to have the greatest impact and are prepared to work in more complex environments that may require specialized skills sets for addressing challenges or needs at the individual, family, group, organization, community or policy level (Schatz et al., 1990).
- **Ethical advocacy and social, economic and environmental justice:** Aware that values and ethics are central to advanced practice, the skilled advanced generalist is "purposeful …in promoting justice-seeking interventions due to the multidimensionality of their problem-

[1] Schatz, M.S., Jenkins L. E., & Sheafor, B.W. (Fall, 1990). Milford redefined: A model of initial and advanced generalist social work practice. *Journal of Social Work Education. Vol. 26*, (3), pp. 217-231.

setting and a self-reflective stance" (Lavitt, 2009, p. 470).3 Primary commitment to promoting social justice requires an understanding of intersecting oppressions linked to myriad dimensions of diversity that shape exposure to life adversities and attendant problems, as well as access to needed services. Social action on behalf of oppressed and marginalized populations recognizes the importance of empowering disenfranchised individuals and groups, and taking a stand for principles of justice, equity, and fair play, regardless of the social context or practice setting.

- **Reflective leadership:** Advanced generalist practitioners are reflective social work leaders capable of addressing unique, ambiguous, unstable and complex situations (Lavitt, 2009).2 Advanced generalist practice requires ongoing reflection regarding various theoretical models, assessment and intervention methods and the efficacy of approaches to produce desired changes. Advanced generalist social workers are prepared to practice independently, hold supervisory and administrative roles, and take leadership in designing services and programs, working with and advocating for consumer groups, writing grants, performing other administrative tasks, and leading community action initiatives (Dakin, Quijana, Bishop & Sheafor, 2015).[3]
- **Research informed practice and practice and program evaluation methods that contribute to the profession's knowledge base:** The advanced generalist social worker places value on and is competent to engage in research to improve and evaluate their own practice, programs and/or policies they are working with, and to contribute to the knowledge base of the profession (Schatz et al., 1990).

Professional School Behavior & Performance Expectations

The MSW is an advanced professional degree. Social work professionals adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics 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 our students 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. Additional information pertaining to professional and respectful behavior is found on the School's Professional Programs (MSW & BSW) Students' Rights and Responsibilities site.

Reporting Issues

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is committed to creating a safe and supportive environment for all people. The institution values a diverse community where all members are able to fully participate in the Wisconsin Experience. As Chapter 17 of the UW System code states, the university can accomplish its educational mission only if living and learning environments are safe and free from violence, harassment and intimidation.

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[2] Lavitt, M.R. (2009). What is Advanced in Generalist Practice? A conceptual discussion. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work, 29,*461-473.

[3] Dakin, E.K., Quijana, L.M., Bishop, P.S., & Sheafor, B.W. (2015). Best of both worlds: A conceptual model for integrating an aging specialization within an advanced generalist MSW program. *Journal of Social Work Education, 51,*535-549.

Incidents of bias or hate affecting a person or group negatively impact the quality of the Wisconsin Experience for community members. UW-Madison takes such incidents seriously and will respond appropriately to reported or observed incidents of bias or hate.

Report incidents of bias or hate through the Office of Student Assistance and Support (formerly Dean of Students) Report Bias or Hate website.

Students can refer to the Social Work Reporting Issues website for more information on reporting bias or hate, or other issues.

Advising

The Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work offers students both academic and professional advising. Two professional social work advisors are assigned to you and are responsible for advising all MSW students in our program. MSW students do not have individual faculty advisors. However, faculty are great resources relative to professional social work concerns in their areas of expertise.

Academic Advising

Belinda Velazquez and Anthony Lueck are the 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 either Academic Advisor at least once a semester:

- **Belinda Velazquez, MSSW**: 323 Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work, 263-3660, bvelazqu@wisc.edu
- **Anthony Lueck**: 325 Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work, 263-3660, lueck5@wisc.edu

Appointments can be made via the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work's Advising Appointments website 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
- Advanced Generalist Specialization student who wants to select a focus area
- Clarify School of Social Work and Graduate School policies and procedures
- Receive 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 Steps for New Students

Activate Your NetID

Activate your Net ID using your 10-digit student campus ID number provided in your Graduate School acceptance letter. The NetID and password, are required to access most campus applications and services, including "MyUW," Web Enrollment, and Office 365 for email. To activate your NetID, go to the UW Knowledge Base (NetID – Activating Your Account) or contact the DoIT Help Desk (608-264-4357 or help@doit.wisc.edu).

NOTE: You must activate your NetID before you activate your email account.

Enroll in Courses

Newly admitted MSW students enroll for Fall classes in June/July 2026 (dates TBA). Your Student Center (found in MyUW) will show 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 Enrollment Information website as well as Course Search & Enroll. Russ Portier and Emmy Roper (enrollment@socwork.wisc.edu) coordinate enrollment for the School of Social Work and are happy to help students with enrollment issues not related to advising.

Activate Your UW-Madison E-mail Account

All UW faculty, staff, and students receive a free @wisc.edu email account. All formal communication between university faculty and staff with students will be through your @wisc.edu email. Only new students to UW-Madison must set up this email account after enrolling in courses.

Activate your account from the My NetID link in MyUW. More information is found on the UW Knowledge Base (NetID – Modifying your account).

If you were an enrolled student or completing your degree at UW-Madison in the most recent spring term, your wisc.edu email account is active and you do not create a new account.

Social Work Information Management System (SWIMS)

Once you have confirmed your attendance, you are directed to submit critical documents to the School through SWIMS (use the links in the email, or go to https://gate.socwork.wisc.edu):

- Statistics Prerequisite Form
- NASW Code of Ethics
- School of Social Work Plagiarism Policy
- Duty to Disclose and Consent to Release of Information
- Student Rights & Responsibilities

- Course Exemption Form
- Field Preference Form
- Full-Time Confirmation Response Form

Please follow instructions and timelines for completing each item.

Obtain your Wiscard (UW-Madison Photo ID Card)

Wiscard is your official UW-Madison identification card and you obtain it at the Wiscard Office. It provides access to libraries, recreation facilities and other campus services. It is also a campus-wide debit card program, which turns your University ID into a debit card.

Statistics and Course Exemptions

Decisions about exemptions are made by faculty based on information provided on the Course Exemption Form (in SWIMS) or through passage of 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. The information below provides specific details.

Statistics Prerequisite Requirement

Incoming MSWs are required to have completed an approved statistics course before starting the program in the fall. **A hold will be placed on fall enrollment for students who have not completed the statistics prerequisite.** Students from UW-Madison must demonstrate that they have completed an appropriate equivalent course that meet the criteria outlined on the MSW Application Prerequisites page.

Those required to demonstrate they have met the statistics requirement must complete the Statistics Prerequisite Form available via SWIMS. For more information about eligibility criteria, please visit the Exemption Process page. If you have not yet completed the stats prerequisite, we offer Soc Work 705 Basic Statistics for Social Work in the Summer Bridge term[4].

Exemption by Course Review and Exemption Exam

Please review the Exemption Process page on our website for detailed information about available exemption options and criteria.

Students should note that a maximum of 7 credits can be granted for exemptions by course review. Exemptions by exam may exceed that maximum. Not all courses are available for exemption by course review, and not all courses are available for exemption exam.

[4] If it is not possible to take Statistics through the School, you may take any college statistics class that covers all the topics listed in the Statistics Prerequisite Requirement.

Curriculum

The MSW Program curriculum is outlined below. Most required courses are taken sequentially and 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 Year (1st Year)

Fall Semester		Cred	**Spring Semester**		Cred
SW708	Field of Social Work	2	SW709	Social Policy	2
SW711	Human Behavior & the Environment	2	SW710	Diversity, Oppression and Social Justice in Social Work	2
SW441	Generalist Practice with Indiv, Families, and Groups	3	SW650	Social Work Research Methods	3
SW442	Generalist Practice with Communities and Orgs	2	SW612	Psychopathology in Generalist Practice	2
SW400	Field & Integrative Seminar I	4	SW401	Field & Integrative Seminar II	4
		13			13

Generalist Practice Year courses are only available in the semesters listed.

Advanced Generalist Specialization

To support the development of competence for advanced generalist practice with an increasingly diverse population, complex chronic needs of client systems and myriad social problems, the curriculum introduces students to advanced generalist competencies that are taught within social problem areas and fields of practice referred to as focus areas of the specialization. This is consistent with the Advanced Generalist Practice Framework that emphasizes knowledge, values and skills to address the needs of diverse populations, social problems, service delivery systems and policies. This also allows students some level of choice in the breadth and depth of skills they cultivate within the advanced generalist curriculum.

The social work knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive and affective processes embedded in the specialization competencies and demonstrated advanced generalist behaviors are acquired through the following **required** courses:

- Advanced practice (area focused)
- Policies and services (area focused)
- Advanced Macro Practice
- Advanced Generalist Specialization Field Placement & Integrative Seminars III & IV (area focused)

In addition, students choose three free elective courses to complete their MSW program. These courses can be from within any focus area(s). Below is a model of how courses are taken in sequence:

Advanced Generalist Specialization Year (2nd Year)

Fall Semester		Cred	**Spring Semester**		Cred
SW840	Advanced Macro Practice or Free Elective *	2-3	SW840	Advanced Macro Practice or Free Elective *	2-3
	Advanced Practice Course **	2		Free Elective *	2-3
	Policies and Services Course or Free Elective **	2		Policies and Services Course or Free Elective **	2
SW800	Field & Integrative Seminar III	5	SW801	Field & Integrative Seminar IV	6
		11-12			12-14

* Free electives and macro practice may be taken in either semester. Electives may be taken in the School or in another department with advisor consent. Advanced Macro is 2 credits, electives may be 2 or 3 credits depending on the course.
** Mental Health Policy and Services (SW836) is only offered in spring in 2026-2027. Remaining policy courses offered in fall. Advanced practice courses are only available in fall.

Reminder: Students may carry up to 15 credits per semester.

Specialization Focus Area and Sub-focus Area

Students have an opportunity to elect from the following focus areas offered in the Full-Time MSW Program, or may choose no focus and complete the Advanced Generalist focus:

(1) Aging
(2) Child, Youth, and Family Welfare
(3) Health
(4) Mental Health

Optional Sub-focus Areas

Students can elect to pursue a more specialized area (sub-focus) if they choose an area of focus in the advanced generalist specialization. At minimum, a sub-focus area consists of one substantive course (content or practice) and a field placement in the sub-focus area. Current sub-focus areas are provided in a chart on page 21.

Student-designed sub-focus 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 sub-focus.

Details about sub-focus recommended coursework at Full-Time Master of Social Work (MSW) > Sub-Focuses.

Field Education

The Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work offers over a dozen field units with placements in over 100 agencies throughout Dane County and surrounding 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.

Generalist Year (512 hours)
Generalist year field placements are 256 hours per semester, including a 2.5-hour weekly seminar. Time in field placement averages 15-16 hours per week.
Specialization Year (640 hours)
Specialization year field placements are 320 hours per semester, including a 2.5-hour weekly seminar. Time in field placement averages 20-21 hours per week.

Generally, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are reserved for field placement hours and field seminar. This means that most (but not all) classroom courses are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Field does not take precedence over attending classes.

For complete details about the field program and how it operates, please refer to the Full-Time MSW Field Handbook (found on the Social Work Student Resources site).

How Courses are Offered

Most courses meet once a week on Tuesday or Thursday. Generally, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday are reserved for field placement hours and seminar. Courses like 650, 708, 709, and 711 are larger lecture-type courses. Some courses, such as 650, provide discussion or lab sections of approximately 20 students per section. Discussion Sections/Labs are scheduled on Mondays, Wednesdays, and occasionally Fridays. Most elective courses are seminar style with 20-50 students. Courses are usually offered only once a year (see Planned Required and Elective Course Offerings At-A-Glance below).

Attending Part-Time in the Full-Time MSW Program

On rare occasions, it becomes necessary for a student in the Full-Time Program to need an accommodation to attend part-time. 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 (ie SW 400, 441, and 442 must be taken simultaneously).
- A minimum of two courses each semester (4 credits) is required.
- Consult with an Advisor before enrolling in courses each semester.
- See Appendix A for course sequencing.

Putting It All Together

To help you organize your specialization year, the following pages provide you with a list of all the required and elective courses that are planned offerings for 2026-27. Next, each of the generalist year and focus areas are presented mapping out the required courses and more relevant electives for the area of focus, but other electives may be taken that are tailored to your interests and career aspirations.

Planned Required and Elective Course Offerings At-A-Glance

Fall 2026	Spring 2027
441 Generalist Practice with Individuals, Families and Groups **442 Generalist Practice with Organizations and Communities** 623 Interpersonal Violence[4] 646 Child Abuse and Neglect 675 Topics on Contemporary Social Welfare **708 Field of Social Work** **711 Human Behavior and the Environment** 712 Psychopathology for SW Practice in Mental Health 721 (Urb R Pl) Methods of Planning Analysis[2] 741 Interventions in Children, Youth and Family Welfare 742 Assessing and Treating Children and Adolescents 821 SW Practice in Aging and Mental Health 822 (Law) Family Law: Marriage and Divorce[2] 835 Advanced Mental Health Practice 840 Advanced Macro Practice[1] 873 Social Work Practice in Health Care 875 Health, Aging and Disabilities Policies and Services 880 (Ed Psych) Prevention Science[2] 920 Child, Youth and Family Policies and Services 921 Child Welfare Policies and Services	467 Interprofessional Collaborative Practice in HIV Care[2,5] **612 Psychopathology for Generalist SW Practice** 617 Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health 627 Sex Trafficking and Sex Trading 636 Social Work in American Indian Communities: The Indian Child Welfare Act 639 Social Work Practice with LGBTQIA2S+ Individuals and Communities 644 Issues in Developmental Disabilities 646 Child Abuse and Neglect 648 Social Work Practice in Palliative Care **650 Methods of Social Work Research** 656 Child Welfare Practice in Foster and Kinship Care, Permanency, and Adoption 675 Topics in Contemporary Social Welfare **709 Social Policy** **710 Social Work with Ethnic and Racial Groups** 712 Psychopathology for SW Practice in Mental Health 746 (Nursing) Interdisciplinary, Coordinated Care of the Child with Chronic Illness[2] 817 Social Work Practice in Schools II[3] 823 (Law) Family Law: Parent and Child[2] 836 Mental Health Policies and Services 840 Advanced Macro Practice[1] 842 Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services Organizations 854 Crisis Intervention 863 Recent Developments in Social Work 870 Cognitive and Behavioral Mental Health Treatments for Adults 929 Social Work and Substance Misuse
Note: Course offerings, particularly electives, are subject to change at any time based on instructor availability, enrollment, and other factors. This list is planned offerings as of 1/15/2026. *Students should refer to Course Search & Enroll (https://enroll.wisc.edu) for the most up-to-date information on course offerings.*	

Required Generalist Year courses are highlighted in bold.

[1] 840 must be taken in either fall or spring of Specialization Year.

[2] Social Work has no control over if/when these cross-listed courses are offered.

[3] SW 817 is restricted to only students in the Educational Settings field unit as an optional elective for students seeking School licensure.

[5] SW467 is a 1-credit course and is only eligible as an elective when paired with a 1-credit independent study with the instructor.

Generalist Year

Required Courses *Complete all*		
Generalist Practice	*Fall* *Fall*	**Soc Work 441** Generalist Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups **Soc Work 442** Generalist Practice with Communities and Organizations
Policies and Services	*Fall* *Spring*	**Soc Work 708** Field of Social Work **Soc Work 709** Social Policy
Human Behavior & Environment	*Fall* *Spring* *Spring*	**Soc Work 711** Human Behavior and the Environment **Soc Work 710** Diversity, Oppression, and Social Justice in Social Work **Soc Work 612** Psychopathology for Generalist SW Practice
Research	*Spring*	**Soc Work 650** Methods of Social Work Research
Field Unit	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 400 (fall) & 401 (spring)** • Practice in Community Agencies; • Practice in Public and Private Child Welfare; • Practice in Intellectual and Other Disabilities; or, • Practice with Health and Aging

Relevant Free Electives *Generalist students may take one elective towards their Specialization requirement in consultation with an advisor*		
Fall or Spring	Soc Work 646	Child Abuse & Neglect
	Soc Work 675	Topics in Contemporary Social Welfare
Fall only	Soc Work 623	Interpersonal Violence
Spring only	Soc Work 617	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
	Soc Work 627	Sex Trafficking and Sex Trading
	Soc Work 636	Social Work in American Indian Communities: The Indian Child Welfare Act
	Soc Work 639	Social Work Practice with LGBTQIA2S+ Individuals and Communities
	Soc Work 644	Issues in Developmental Disabilities
	Soc Work 648	Social Work Practice in Palliative Care
	Soc Work 656	Child Welfare Practice in Foster and Kinship Care, Permanency, and Adoption
	Soc Work 854	Crisis Intervention
	Soc Work 929	Social Work and Substance Misuse

Students should refer to Course Search & Enroll for the most up-to-date information on course offerings.

Advanced Generalist Year (no focus area)

Required Courses		
Advanced Practice (choose one)	*Fall*	**Soc Work 741** Interventions with Children, Youth, and Families
	Fall	**Soc Work 821** Social Work Practice in Aging and Mental Health
	Fall	**Soc Work 835** Advanced Practice in Mental Health
	Fall	**Soc Work 873** Social Work Practice in Health Care
Policies and Services (choose one)	*Fall*	**Soc Work 875** Health, Aging, and Disability Policy and Services
	Fall	**Soc Work 920** Child, Youth, and Family Policies and Services
	Fall	**Soc Work 921** Child Welfare Policies and Services
	Spring	**Soc Work 836** Mental Health Policies and Services
Macro Practice	*Fall or Spring*	**Soc Work 840** Advanced Macro Practice
Field Unit	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** • Relevant field unit selected by Director of Field Education

Free Electives *Choose at least three electives*		
Fall or Spring	Soc Work 646	Child Abuse & Neglect
	Soc Work 675	Topics in Contemporary Social Welfare
	Soc Work 712	Psychopathology for Social Work Practice in Mental Health
Fall only	Soc Work 623	Interpersonal Violence
	Soc Work 742	Assessing and Treating Children and Adolescents
Spring only	Soc Work 617	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
	Soc Work 627	Sex Trafficking and Sex Trading
	Soc Work 636	Social Work in American Indian Communities: The Indian Child Welfare Act
	Soc Work 639	Social Work Practice with LGBTQIA2S+ Individuals and Communities
	Soc Work 644	Issues in Developmental Disabilities
	Soc Work 648	Social Work Practice in Palliative Care
	Soc Work 656	Child Welfare Practice in Foster and Kinship Care, Permanency, and Adoption
	Soc Work 817	Social Work Practice in Schools II (restricted to students in the Educational Settings field unit)
	Soc Work 842	Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services Organizations
	Soc Work 854	Crisis Intervention
	Soc Work 863	Recent Developments in Social Work
	Soc Work 870	Cognitive and Behavioral Mental Health Treatments for Adults
	Soc Work 929	Social Work and Substance Misuse
Summer only	Soc Work 825	Grief, Death, Loss, and Life

Students should refer to Course Search & Enroll for the most up-to-date information on course offerings.

Advanced Generalist Year (Focus in Aging)

Required Courses		
Advanced Practice	*Fall*	**Soc Work 821** Social Work Practice in Aging and Mental Health
Policies and Services	*Fall*	**Soc Work 875** Health, Aging, and Disability Policy and Services
Macro Practice	*Fall or Spring*	**Soc Work 840** Advanced Macro Practice
Field Unit (choose one)	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** • Practice in Health and Aging • Practice in Intellectual and Other Disabilities • Practice in Policy and Administration

Relevant Free Electives *Choose at least three electives*		
Fall or Spring	Soc Work 675	Topics in Contemporary Social Welfare
Fall only	Soc Work 623	Interpersonal Violence
	Soc Work 873	Social Work Practice in Health Care
Spring only	Soc Work 644	Issues in Developmental Disabilities
	Soc Work 648	Social Work Practice in Palliative Care
	Soc Work 842	Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services Organizations
	Soc Work 854	Crisis Intervention
	Soc Work 863	Recent Developments in Social Work
	Soc Work 929	Social Work and Substance Misuse
Summer only	Soc Work 825	Grief, Death, Loss, and Life

Students should refer to Course Search & Enroll for the most up-to-date information on course offerings.

Advanced Generalist Year (Focus in Child, Youth, and Family Welfare)

Required Courses		
Advanced Practice	*Fall*	**Soc Work 741** Interventions with Children, Youth, and Families
Policies and Services (choose one)	*Fall*	**Soc Work 920** Child, Youth, and Family Policies and Services
	Fall	**Soc Work 921** Child Welfare Policies and Services
Macro Practice	*Fall or Spring*	**Soc Work 840** Advanced Macro Practice
Field Unit (choose one)	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** • Practice in Community Agencies • Practice in Public and Private Child Welfare • Practice in Public Child Welfare • Practice in Educational Settings • Practice in Intellectual and Other Disabilities • Practice in Policy and Administration

Relevant Free Electives *Choose at least three electives*		
Fall or Spring	Soc Work 646	Child Abuse & Neglect
	Soc Work 675	Topics in Contemporary Social Welfare
Fall only	Soc Work 623	Interpersonal Violence
	Soc Work 742	Assessing and Treating Children and Adolescents
Spring only	Soc Work 617	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
	Soc Work 627	Sex Trafficking and Sex Trading
	Soc Work 636	Social Work in American Indian Communities: The Indian Child Welfare Act
	Soc Work 639	Social Work Practice with LGBTQIA2S+ Individuals and Communities
	Soc Work 644	Issues in Developmental Disabilities
	Soc Work 656	Child Welfare Practice in Foster and Kinship Care, Permanency, and Adoption
	Soc Work 817	Social Work Practice in Schools II (restricted to students in the Educational Settings field unit)
	Soc Work 842	Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services Organizations
	Soc Work 854	Crisis Intervention
	Soc Work 863	Recent Developments in Social Work
	Soc Work 929	Social Work and Substance Misuse
Summer only	Soc Work 825	Grief, Death, Loss, and Life

Students should refer to Course Search & Enroll for the most up-to-date information on course offerings.

Advanced Generalist Year (Focus in Health)

Required Courses		
Advanced Practice	*Fall*	**Soc Work 873** Social Work Practice in Health Care
Policies and Services	*Fall*	**Soc Work 875** Health, Aging, and Disability Policies and Services
Macro Practice	*Fall or Spring*	**Soc Work 840** Advanced Macro Practice
Field Unit (choose one)	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** • Practice in Health and Aging • Practice in Intellectual and Other Disabilities • Practice in Policy and Administration

Relevant Free Electives *Choose at least three electives*		
Fall or Spring	Soc Work 675	Topics in Contemporary Social Welfare
Spring only	Soc Work 467	Interprofessional Collaborative Practice in HIV Care (1 credit course, paired with 1-credit independent study)
	Soc Work 627	Sex Trafficking and Sex Trading
	Soc Work 644	Issues in Developmental Disabilities
	Soc Work 648	Social Work Practice in Palliative Care
	Soc Work 842	Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services Organizations
	Soc Work 854	Crisis Intervention
	Soc Work 863	Recent Developments in Social Work
	Soc Work 929	Social Work and Substance Misuse
Summer only	Soc Work 825	Grief, Death, Loss, and Life

Students should refer to Course Search & Enroll for the most up-to-date information on course offerings.

Advanced Generalist Year (Focus in Mental Health)

Required Courses		
Advanced Practice	*Fall*	**Soc Work 835** Advanced Practice in Mental Health
Policies and Services	*Spring*	**Soc Work 836** Mental Health Policies and Services
Macro Practice	*Fall or Spring*	**Soc Work 840** Advanced Macro Practice
Field Unit (choose one)	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** • Practice in Mental Health • Practice in Policy and Administration

Relevant Free Electives *Choose at least three electives*		
Fall & Spring	Soc Work 675	Topics in Contemporary Social Welfare
	Soc Work 712	Psychopathology for Social Work Practice in Mental Health
Fall only	Soc Work 623	Interpersonal Violence
	Soc Work 742	Assessing and Treating Children and Adolescents
Spring only	Soc Work 617	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
	Soc Work 627	Sex Trafficking and Sex Trading
	Soc Work 639	Social Work Practice with LGBTQIA2S+ Individuals and Communities
	Soc Work 644	Issues in Developmental Disabilities
	Soc Work 648	Social Work Practice in Palliative Care
	Soc Work 842	Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services Organizations
	Soc Work 854	Crisis Intervention
	Soc Work 863	Recent Developments in Social Work
	Soc Work 870	Cognitive and Behavioral Mental Health Treatments for Adults
	Soc Work 929	Social Work and Substance Misuse
Summer only	Soc Work 825	Grief, Death, Loss, and Life

Students should refer to Course Search & Enroll for the most up-to-date information on course offerings.

Advanced Generalist Year (Sub-Focus Options)

Child Welfare (CYFW)		
Policies and Services	*Fall*	**Soc Work 921** Child Welfare Policies and Services
Field Unit (choose one)	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** • Practice in Community Agencies • Practice in Public Child Welfare • Practice in Public & Private Child Welfare • Practice in Policy and Administration
Electives	*Fall or Spring*	**Soc Work 646** Child Abuse and Neglect
	Spring	**Soc Work 656** Foster & Kinship Care
	Spring	**Soc Work 842** Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services organizations

Policy and Administration (All Focus Areas)		
Field Unit	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** Practice in Policy and Administration
Electives	*Spring*	**Soc Work 842** Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services organizations

Substance Use Disorders (Mental Health)		
Field Unit	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** Practice in Mental Health (*substance abuse/misuse placement*)
Electives	*Spring*	**Soc Work 929** Social Work And Substance Misuse

School Social Work (CYFW)		
Field Unit	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** Practice in Educational Settings
Electives	*Fall or Spring*	**Soc Work 646** Child Abuse and Neglect
	Spring	**Soc Work 644** Issues in Developmental Disabilities
	Fall/Spring	**Choose one from Soc Work 742, Soc Work 817, or Soc Work 842**

Aging and Health (Aging or Health)		
Advanced Practice (take both, one counts as elective)	*Fall*	**Soc Work 821** Practice in Aging and Mental Health
	Fall	**Soc Work 873** Practice in Health Care
Field Unit	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** Practice in Health & Aging

Intellectual Disabilities (Aging, CYFW, or Health)		
Field Unit	*Fall & Spring*	**Soc Work 800 (fall) & 801 (spring)** Practice in Intellectual and Other Disabilities
Electives	*Spring*	**Soc Work 644** Issues in Developmental Disabilities

Competencies and Outcomes

The curriculum is designed to prepare MSW students 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. Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice
3. Engage in Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) in Practice
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

These professional competencies are demonstrated through the following program learning outcomes that are met through the core program curriculum:

1. Demonstrate autonomous ethical and professional practice with appropriate use of consultation and supervision.
2. Analyze US systems of oppression and their impact on the social welfare system; apply across micro, mezzo, and macro practice.
3. Engage in advanced practices to continually further human rights and social, racial, economic, and environmental justice.
4. Demonstrate advanced knowledge, critical reflection, and analytic skills that inform anti-oppressive and anti-racist practice.
5. Evaluate and apply research to inform practice and use practice experiences to inform research in a variety of practice areas.
6. Demonstrate policy practice skills across micro, mezzo, and macro levels.
7. Demonstrate advanced knowledge and skills in engaging, assessing, intervening, and evaluating practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

Student Involvement & Student Organizations

Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work students are invited to join social work or UW-Madison student organizations, organize their own student organizations (visit the Center for Leadership and Involvement for more information), and to join standing committees of the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work. More information about active social work student organizations can be found on the School's Student Involvement page, along with information about School of Social Work committees and how to get involved.

Grades & Grade Policies

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

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

Other grades that students may receive but are excluded from the GPA calculation are:

- 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 (Withdrew) 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

Graduate students are required to maintain and graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.00.

Grades of "C" are accepted only if offset by an equal number of credits of grades 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.

Students 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. Refer to the Field Education Handbook (found on the Social Work Student Resources site) for more details about grades in Field.

Probation Policy

In any give 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 suspension 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 Withdraw from UW-Madison, or Cancel Your Enrollment on the Office of the Registrar's website.

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 Sandra Rosenbaum 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.

Crisis Grants

If you are facing financial difficulties, you can apply for crisis grants or loans. These funds are provided by the Shimota Student Emergency Fund to help MSW students in crisis.

How to Apply:

1. Contact the Office of Student Assistance and Support (OSAS, formerly Dean of Students).
2. You can also talk to your MSW academic advisor for help in working with OSAS.

If you need financial support, please reach out to OSAS or your advisor. Make sure to indicate you are an MSW student when filling out paperwork for OSAS.

Career Development Series

The Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work often provides 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 social work practice or how to take constructive feedback. Instruction may be delivered via lecture, seminar, workshop, mentoring, and book/journal article discussion.

Students are encouraged to meet individually with an advisor or faculty in their areas of expertise to discuss career related issues. The College of L&S SuccessWorks office provides Career Advising for undergraduate and graduate students. In addition, the Writing Center is available to assist graduate students with cover letters and resumes in individual sessions and workshops. The Graduate School also sponsors professional development events. In addition, the Morgridge Center for Public Service offers a Public Service Fair twice a year, which provides students the opportunity to connect with local, state and national nonprofit agencies.

Professional Social Work Credentials & Continuing Education

Social Workers are not credentialed in the same way in every state and/or the same way in specific areas of practice such as School Social Work. In Wisconsin “certification” is a legal status required to use the title "Social Worker," and “licensure” is necessary to practice clinical or school social work. To learn more about the requirements for these processes as well as requirements for continuing education post-degree, please review information on our Certification & Licensure website.

Those interested in licensure as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker will also want to review the information found in *Appendix B*. Those interested in licensure as a School Social Worker in Wisconsin will want to review the information in *Appendix C*.

For information about license requirements in *other states* visit the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) website. Look for the topic "Moving to another state or province" link to links for every state's requirements. For school social work requirements you will want to consult with the individual state's department of education website.

School Communication Mechanisms

Email distribution list

At acceptance students are placed on the Social Work information Google Group 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.

Social Media

Connect with the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work on

- Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/UWMadisonSchoolOfSocialWork)
- Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/uwmadisonsocialwork/)
- YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/UWMadisonSocialWork)
- LinkedIn (https://www.linkedin.com/school/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 Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work.

Watch lectures, workshops, and clips about social work on the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work's YouTube channel. A YouTube account is not necessary to view content. The account is moderated by the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work.

Appendix A: Sample attending part-time in the Full-Time MSW Program course sequencing

Part-Time Curriculum Sequence	
Fall Semester, Year 1 SW 708 SW711	**Spring Semester, Year 1** SW709 SW710
Fall Semester, Year 2 SW400 SW441 SW442	**Spring Semester, Year 2** SW401 SW612 SW650
Fall Semester, Year 3 Policy & Services/Elective Elective	**Spring Semester, Year 3** Policy & Services/Elective Elective
Fall Semester, Year 4 SW800 Advanced Practice Course	**Spring Semester, Year 4** SW801 SW840

Practice courses (441, 442, Adv Prac Course, and 840) must be taken concurrently with field.

Appendix B: Wisconsin Requirements for Clinical Social Work Licensure

Please see the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work Certification & Licensure website for additional information.

Those who wish to be licensed as clinical social workers (LCSW) in the State of Wisconsin must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete a master's level "Clinical Social Work Concentration."

   The Mental Health Focus Area meets this requirement.

2. According to state statutes, a clinical social work course of study "shall include one course in psychopathology in social work and, two (2) theory and practice courses from among the following: (a) Case Management (b) Clinical assessment and treatment of specific populations and problems, such as children, adolescent, elderly, alcohol and drug abuse, family or couples relationships (c) Psychopharmacology (d) Psychotherapeutic Interventions (e) Electives such as family therapy, social work with groups, sex- or gender-related issues, and topics." Effective April, 2005 this means students must complete:

   A. At least one course must be in Psychopathology (SW 612 or SW 712 meet this requirement); AND

   B. A minimum of two courses from list below (*not all courses are offered each semester or academic year*)

SW467	Interprofessional Collaborative Prac in HIV Care	SW817	Social Work Prac in Schools II
SW617	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health	SW821	SW Practice in Aging and Mental Health
SW623	Interpersonal Violence	SW 825	Grief, Death, Loss, and Life
SW627	Sex Trafficking and Sex Trading	**SW835**	**Advanced Practice in Mental Health (required for Mental Health focus area)**
SW639	Social Work Practice with LGBTQIA2S+ Individuals and Communities	SW836	Mental Health Policies and Services
SW644	Issues in Developmental Disabilities	SW838	Principles of Psychedelic Healing
SW646	Child Abuse and Neglect	SW 842	Supervision and Leadership in Social Work and Human Services Organizations
SW648	Social Work Practice in Palliative Care	SW854	Crisis Intervention
SW656	Child Welfare Practice in Foster and Kinship Care, Permanency, and Adoption	SW870	Cognitive and Behavioral Mental Health Treatments for Adults
SW741	Interventions with Children, Youth, and Families	SW873	SW Prac in Health Care
SW742	Assessing & Treating Children & Adolescents	SW929	Social Work and Substance Misuse

   If two psychopathology courses are taken (such as SW612 and SW712), one may be counted toward 2.B. requirement.

3. Statues require that "…field training must be in a primary clinical setting and must include at least two semesters of field placement where more than 50% of the practice is to assess and treat interpersonal and intrapsychic issues in direct contact with individuals, families or small groups."

   The Mental Health Field Units generally meet this requirement.

4. After graduation, become certified as an Advanced Practice Social Worker (CAPSW).

5. After graduation and certification, engage in 3000 hours "clinical" practice including at least 1,000 hours face-to-face client contact under the supervision of an LCSW or LCSW who has engaged in the equivalent of 5 years full-time clinical social work, psychologist, or psychiatrist.

6. Pass the LCSW Exam

Appendix C: State of Wisconsin Requirements for School Social Work License

Applicants for licensure as a School Social Worker in the State of Wisconsin must meet the following requirements:

1. **Curriculum & Course Requirements**

Generalist Courses or Equivalent (from other accredited schools of social work)

Required Course Sequences	**UW-Madison Courses for School SW Licensure**
Social Welfare Policies & Services	SW708 and SW709
Human Behavior & Social Environment	SW711, SW710, and SW612
Social Work Practice	SW441 and SW442
Social Work Research	SW650
	Field & Integrative Seminars I & II 400/401
	Human Services; Child & Family Welfare; Intellectual and Other Disabilities; Community Agencies; or, other placements with children and youth.

Child, Youth, and Family Welfare Focus Area with School Social Work Subfocus

MSW Requirements	**Required Courses for School SW Licensure**
Specialization Advanced Practice Course	SW741
Specialization Policies & Services Course	SW920 or SW921
Specialization Field & Int. Seminars III & IV	SW800/801 SW in Educational Settings
Specialization Macro Practice	SW840
Elective	SW644
Elective	SW646
Elective	SW815 Social Work Practice in Schools I (Part-Time Program Students) **OR**
	SW624, SW742, SW842, SW817 or any elective relevant for School SW Practice (Full-Time Program Students)

2. **Portfolio**

Applicants for certification must demonstrate "proficient performance in the knowledge, skills, and dispositions" of following three areas by means of a portfolio they keep.

8 School Social Worker Standards

7 Pupil Services Standards

10 Teacher Standards

Examples of evidence are: course syllabi, major course assignments (papers or other graded written work); written field evaluations from faculty and supervisors. May also include any documented outcomes from workshops and conferences relevant to the three areas.

3. **MSW Degree**

Effective November, 2014