

School of Social Work

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Mario De La Rosa, *Professor and Director, Latino Minority Drug Abuse Research Center*

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Victoria Gray, *Visiting Instructor and Assistant Coordinator of Field Education*

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Mark Macgowan, *Professor*

Susan Mankita, *Visiting Instructor and Title IV-E Coordinator*

Lourdes Martin, *Clinical Instructor and Neighborhood HELP™ Social Work Coordinator*

Adis Orta, *Clinical Instructor and Assistant Coordinator of Field Education*

Miriam Potocky, *Professor*

Chris Rice, *Associate Professor*

Nicole Ruggiano, *Assistant Professor*

Florence Safford, *Professor Emeritus*

Elizabeth Taquechel, *Student Services Coordinator*

Barbara Thomlison, *Professor*

Ray Thomlison, *Professor*

Nan Van Den Bergh, *Clinical Associate Professor*

Eric F. Wagner, *Professor and Director, Community Based Intervention Research Group*

Stephen Wong, *Associate Professor*

Social Work offers graduate and undergraduate studies leading to the Master of Social Work and Bachelor of Science in Social Work degrees. The School also offers a Ph.D. in Social Welfare.

The profession of Social Work requires a high degree of knowledge and dedication. The desire and ability to work effectively with people and to help solve social problems demands a scientific understanding of society and human behavior, skills in social work practice, and identification with the values of the profession.

Master of Social Work

The program and courses listed in this catalog are under review and changes may be made without advance notice.

Social Work offers an integrated program that leads to the Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. The program is designed to give the student professional education for the advanced practice of social work. The curriculum applies a bio-psychosocial model within the context of a social systems framework to understand client systems, address problems and develop interventions.

All students will be required to acquire or to possess the common base in the areas of professional study considered essential in social work education: human behavior and the social environment, social welfare policies and services, research, and social work practice.

The knowledge acquired in the professional courses will be applied in supervised field experiences in social agencies. As part of field education, social work students will also participate with students from the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and the College of Nursing and Health Sciences in Neighborhood HELP™, and inter-professional team approach in Miami-Dade communities.

The program offers a concentration in advanced clinical practice and students complete a field practicum program that supports practice in that concentration. With the help of faculty, students will develop individualized programs in the concentration to meet their educational needs and contribute to their professional objectives. The program provides a curriculum which meets the current educational requirements for clinical licensure in Florida.

For additional information regarding the graduate social work program of study and degree requirements, contact the School of Social Work at (305) 348-5880.

The Master of Social Work Program at Florida International University is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Admission Requirements

Applicants to the MSW program are required to meet the minimum standards set forth by the Florida Board of Education, the University, and the School of Social Work. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or better in all upper-level courses. Application procedures for admission to graduate study are found in the graduate admission section of this catalog. An application to the University, an application to the Social Work's MSW program, a personal narrative, and three letters of reference are required for admission. A personal interview may be requested. All applicants should have had college-level courses in biology (including coverage of Human Biology) and statistics and 12 semester hours in the social and behavioral sciences.

In addition to the College and University policies governing transfer credit the following regulations apply:

1. Courses taken in a Master of Social Work program, accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, in which the applicant was fully admitted, may be transferred up to a maximum of 6 semester hours.
2. Graduate courses taken in other than CSWE accredited Social Work programs may not be transferred.
3. Required concentration courses (6000 level) are not transferable.

Advanced Standing Status

Applicants with a B.S.W. degree from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) within five years prior to matriculation may be considered for Advanced Standing status. Advanced Standing is not automatically granted. All students admitted to the MSW Program are required to take 30 semester hours of concentration courses. Students who are admitted with Advanced Standing status will not be required to take the graduate foundation courses if they earned a 'B' or better in the corresponding course(s) at the bachelor's level. Students admitted with Advanced standing will not be awarded any transfer credit, substitutions, or exemptions.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Social Work program is a 60 semester hour program composed of a 30 semester hour foundation followed by 30 semester hours of concentration courses in the second year. The Advanced Standing Master of Social Work is composed of 30 semester hours of concentration courses.

An overall GPA of 3.0 is required for graduation. Any required course in which a student receives a grade lower than 'B' must be retaken. (A grade of 'B-' is not acceptable.) However, a grade of 'B-' in an elective does not have to be retaken. A passing grade in field practicum courses is required for continuation in the program. Field courses cannot be repeated.

A student must successfully complete all work applicable to the Master of Social Work program within 48 months from initial admission. In unusual circumstances, and if the reasons warrant it, a student may petition the School Director for an extension of the time limit.

Required Courses: (60)

Semester I	FOUNDATION COURSES	
SOW 5105	Human Behavior and the Social Environment I	3
SOW 5342	Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families	3
SOW 5404	Social Work Research Methodology	3
SOW 5235	Social Welfare Policy and Services I	3
SOW 5344	Theory and Practice with Communities and Organizations	3
Semester II	FOUNDATION COURSES	
SOW 5324	Theory and Practice with Groups	3
SOW 5532	Clinical Practicum I	6
SOW 5629	Theory and Practice with Groups	3
SOW	Social Work Elective	3
Semester III	CONCENTRATION COURSES	
SOW 6125	Human Behavior & the Social Environment II – Psychopathology	3
SOW 6425	Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning	3
SOW 6435	Evaluating Empirically Based Social Work Practice	3
SOW 6236	Social Welfare Policy and Services II	3
SOW 6533	Clinical Practicum II	3
Semester IV	CONCENTRATION COURSES	
SOW 6351	Clinical Intervention in Couple and Family Social Work Practice	3
SOW 6534	Clinical Practicum III	6
SOW	Social Work Clinical Practice Elective	3
SOW	Social Work Clinical Practice Elective	3

Students are required to complete all of the Foundation Courses and be fully admitted to the MSW Program before enrolling into any of the 6000 level Concentration courses.

Juris Doctor/Master of Social Work Joint Degree Program

1. Candidates for the program must meet the entrance requirements for and be accepted by both the College of Law and the School of Social Work. Both schools must be informed by the student at the time of

- application to the second school that the student intends to pursue the joint degree.
2. The joint degree program is not open to students who have already earned one degree.
3. For law students, enrollment in the M.S.W. program is required no later than the completion of 63 credit hours in the J.D. program. For M.S.W. students, enrollment in the J.D. program is required no later than the completion of 30 credit hours in MSW Program.
4. A student must satisfy the curriculum requirements for each degree before either degree is awarded. The School of Social Work will allow 9 credit hours of approved law courses to be credited toward both the M.S.W. and J.D. degrees. These 9 credit hours of law classes will be in lieu of Social Work electives and must be selected from an approved list of law classes. Reciprocally, law students may receive 9 hours of credit toward the satisfaction of the J.D. degree for courses taken in the M.S.W. curriculum upon completion of the M.S.W. degree curriculum with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
5. A full-time law student enrolled in the joint degree program may spend the first year in either the College of Law or the School of Social Work. A part-time law student enrolled in the joint degree program may begin the student's studies in either the College of Law or the School of Social Work, but must take the first three semesters of law study consecutively. Students admitted to one school but electing to begin study in the other school under the joint degree program may enter the second school thereafter without once again qualifying for admission so long as they have notified the second school before the end of the first week of the first semester in the second school and are in good academic standing when studies commence in the second school.
6. A student enrolled in the joint degree program will not receive either degree until the student has satisfied all of the requirements for both degrees, or until the student has satisfied the requirements of one of the degrees as if the student had not been a joint degree candidate.
7. Students in the joint degree program will be eligible for the graduate teaching assistantships and research assistantships in the School of Social Work on the same basis as other M.S.W. students, subject to the guidelines and restrictions set by the School of Social Work.

Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare

The Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare aims to prepare students for careers in research, university teaching, and leadership in social work and social welfare.

The overarching emphasis in the Ph.D. program is on research to develop effective and culturally competent interventions (from direct practice to social policy) to meet the human needs of individuals, families, groups, and communities in urban settings.

In courses, seminars, and supervised study and research, students are assisted to develop and strengthen their skills in methods of scientific inquiry, to deepen their understanding and analysis of social problems and public issues, and to contribute to the knowledge base of social welfare. Students pursue a course of study focused on

social problems, levels of intervention, and research methodologies related to an area of specialization of particular interest to them. While in the program, students are expected to disseminate the results of their study and research in appropriate forums. Students are also offered opportunities to teach.

Admission Requirements

Applicants are required to meet the following requirements:

1. A Master's degree in Social Work from an accredited school of social work, or in a closely related field.
2. Evidence of superior academic achievement in undergraduate and graduate education, including a 3.0 (upper division) undergraduate GPA and a 3.5 graduate GPA.
3. A composite quantitative and verbal score of least 1120 on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
4. Documentation of completion of courses in statistical methods and research methodology with grades of 'B' or better.
5. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or overall 6.5 on the IELTS is required;
6. Three letters of recommendation (two academic and one professional);
7. Two examples of written scholarly work;
8. A personal statement describing the applicant's research interests and career goals.
9. All applicants must be approved by the Doctoral Committee. Applications for Fall semester admission are due by March 1 of the year of application.

Degree Requirements

1. Completion of a minimum of 60 credits: (at least 36 credit hours of required coursework taken over the first three consecutive semesters following admission, obtaining at least a "B" grade for each course, and at least 24 dissertation credit hours following advancement to candidacy); continuous registration for at least 3 credit hours of dissertation courses during each semester following advancement to candidacy; maintenance of an overall cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0;
2. Filing, before the end of the fourth semester of study, three major papers, each having obtained a grade of at least "B+" from a three-member Doctoral Candidacy committee (this constitutes the Doctoral Candidacy Examination);
3. Successful defense of a Dissertation Proposal from a duly constituted Dissertation Committee;
4. Completion of a dissertation under the guidance of the Dissertation Committee;
5. Successful defense of the dissertation before the Dissertation Committee and the University community;
6. Obtaining the Ph.D. degree within nine years of admission into the Ph.D. program.

Program of Study

The Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare is a 60 semester hour program comprised of 12 required courses and 24 semester hours of dissertation study.

Course Offerings

Semester I

SOW 7492	Theory Development and Research Methods in Social Welfare	3
SOW 7406	History & Systems of Social Work Research	3
PHC 6709	Quantitative Research Methods	3
AAA xxxx	Graduate Elective or	3
SOW 7916	Supervised Research	3

Semester II

SOW 7237	Micro-Practice Theory and Research	3
SOW 7xxx	Applied Statistics II	3
ANG 6497	Qualitative Research Methods or	3
EDF 6475	Qualitative Foundations of Educational Research	3
AAA xxxx	Graduate Elective or	3
SOW 7916	Supervised Research	3

Semester III

SOW 7238	Macro-Practice Theory and Research	3
SOW 7216	Social Welfare Policy	3
AAA xxxx	Graduate Elective or	3
SOW 7916	Supervised Research	3
SOW 6914	Independent Research	1

Semester IV

SOW 7936	Dissertation Seminar in Social Welfare	3
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