Bachelor of Social Work Program

RESEARCH | TEACHING | SERVICE
The School of Social Work
279 Williams Street, Athens, GA 30602
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Athens, GA 30602

Follow signs for area meeting and advising room locations
Social Work 101:
Debunking common myths and misunderstandings related to the field of social work
What is social work?

**Social work** (n.)

“a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people... Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous knowledge, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing.”

Mission of social work

“The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty.

Quoted from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics
https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/code.asp
Principles of Social Work

- Service
- Social justice
- Dignity and worth of the person
- Importance of human relationships
- Integrity
- Competence

Adapted from the International Federation of Social Workers (ISFW) “Global Definition of the Social Work Profession”
Jobs in Social Work

- Activities director
- Adoption case manager
- Advisor
- Behavior specialist
- Bereavement counselor
- Care coordinator
- Case Manager
- Child and Family Therapist
- Clinician
- Community Assistant
- Community Developer
- Community Educator
- Counselor
- Crisis Referral Specialist
- Curriculum & Consulting
- DFCS Service Specialist
- Director of Children’s Services
- Forensic Social Worker
- Foster Care Social Worker
- Fundraising Chair
- Grants Manager
- Homeless Advocate
- Hospice Social Work
- Investigator
- Juvenile Probation Officer
- Medical Social Worker
- Mental Health Practitioner
- Military Social Worker
- Non-Residential Director
- Oncology Social Worker
- Outpatient Therapist
- Outreach Coordinator
- Patient Services Manager
- Preventative Case Planner
- Program Services Coordinator
- Project Coordinator
- Research Associate
- Residential Manager
- School Social Worker
- Shelter Coordinator
- Social Justice Advocate
- Social Services Specialist
- Substance Abuse Counselor
- Therapeutic Day Treatment Specialist
- Therapist

Adapted from the UGA Career Center’s, “What Can I Do With a Major In?”
Social workers…

Feed the hungry

Shelter the homeless

Protect the children

Advocate for the infirm

Counsel the distressed

Empower the victims

Research best practices

Inform government

Protect the vulnerable

Challenge discrimination

PROMOTE POSITIVE CHANGE

Give a voice to the voiceless

...change the world!
Over **40%** of all disaster mental health volunteers trained by the American Red Cross are professional social workers.

There are **642,000** social workers in the U.S.

Social work employment is projected to grow faster than the average for all occupations.

About **54%** of social work jobs are in healthcare and social services.

31% of social workers are employed by states or the federal government.

Average salary for a social worker is **$47,980**.
Bachelor’s of Social Work

BSW Program Features & Requirements at UGA
BSW Program Highlights

- Ranked #6 BSW Program in the nation*
- Professional, accredited degree by CSWE
- Practical and theoretical training
  - Field education and experience
  - Capstone project and presentation
  - Graduate-level coursework
- “Advanced Standing” eligibility
  - Fast track to a master’s degree with just one additional year of schooling
- Ability to study abroad or pursue a dual degree, minor and/or certificate

Rankings provided by College Factual.
University Requirements

Cumulative GPA: Minimum 2.0+ GPA

Cultural Diversity: Choose ONE (3 credits) of the approved courses listed in the UGA Bulletin

Federal & Georgia Constitution: POLS 1101 (3)

US & Georgia History: HIST 2111 (3) or HIST 2112 (3)

First-Year Odyssey: FYOS (1)

Physical Education: PEDB (1)

To be admitted into the BSW Professional Program during year 3, students must have an OVERALL GPA of 2.5 or higher.
### BSW Required Core Courses

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<th>AREA I:</th>
<th>ENGL 1101 (3)</th>
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<td>ENGL 1102 (3) or ENGL 1103 (3)</td>
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<td>MATH 1101+ (3)</td>
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<td>AREA II:</td>
<td>BIOL 1103 (3) + BIOL 1103L (1)</td>
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<td>Physical Science (3)</td>
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<td>AREA III:</td>
<td>STAT 2000 (4)</td>
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<td>AREA IV:</td>
<td>World Language &amp; Culture* (12)</td>
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<td>Humanities &amp; Arts (3)</td>
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<td>AREA V:</td>
<td>PSYC 1101 (3)</td>
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<td>SOCI 1101 (3) or SOCI 2600 (3)</td>
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<td>MAJOR:</td>
<td>PSYC 2101 (3) or PSYC 3230 (3)</td>
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*Students must complete a FOREIGN LANGUAGE* through the 3rd level

*American Sign Language satisfies our BSW foreign language requirement, but NOT Area IV of Core.
BSW Required Major Courses

Lower-Division Social Work Courses*:

- **SOWK 2154** (3) - The Profession of Social Work
- **SOWK 2154S** (1) - Service Learning in Social Work
- **SOWK 2155** (3) - Communication in the Helping Process
- **SOWK 2156** (3) - Social Work with Diverse Populations

These courses are open to all UGA students.

STUDENTS APPLY TO THE BSW PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM DURING THE SEMESTER THAT THEY ARE FINISHING THEIR 2000-LEVEL SOWK COURSES.*
Typical BSW Course Sequencing

**Years 1, 2, and 3:**
Complete ALL University and Core requirements
Complete ALL lower-division SOWK courses (2154, 2154S, 2155, 2156)

**Junior Year:**
After completing ALL lower-division (2000-level) SOWK courses, applying, and being accepted into the BSW Professional Program

- **SOWK 5340 (3) -** Human Behavior in the Social Environment
- **SOWK 5524 (3) -** General Practice of Social Work I

**Senior Year:**

*Fall Semester*
- **SOWK 5326 (3) -** Foundations of Social Work Research
- **SOWK 5534 (3) -** General Practice of Social Work II
- **SOWK 5757 (3) -** Current Issues in Social Work I (Elective)
- **SOWK 5835 (5) -** Practicum in Social Work I
- **SOWK 5836 (2) -** Seminar in Generalist Social Work Practice I
- **SOWK 5850 (1) -** Capstone Project

*Spring Semester*
- **SOWK 5544 (3) -** General Practice of Social Work III
- **SOWK 5701 (3) -** Social Welfare Policy and Services
- **SOWK 5767 (3) -** Current Issues in Social Work II (Elective)
- **SOWK 5845 (5) -** Practicum in Social Work II
- **SOWK 5846 (2) -** Seminar in Generalist Social Work Practice II
- **SOWK 5851 (1) -** Capstone Project

*Students can complete our required SOWK course sequence in as little as 4 semesters.*

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**STUDENTS MAY ONLY ENROLL IN SOCIAL WORK COURSES DURING THEIR SENIOR YEAR.**
REMEMBER: Key BSW Information

- **BSW is a professional, accredited degree program**

- **Practical and theoretical training**
  - Required year-long field education (internship) experience during senior year
  - Graduate-level coursework
  - Capstone project and presentation

- **“Advanced Standing” eligibility**
  - Fast-track to a Master’s in Social Work
  - BSW students only need 1 additional year to earn MSW

- **Flexible program sequencing**
  - Ability to pursue a dual degree, minor, and/or certificate
  - Study abroad and service learning opportunities
  - Transfer students and change-of-majors welcome!
Study Abroad

Ghana and Northern Ireland
Social Issues in Northern Ireland

- First-hand exposure to the transgenerational impact of the violence from the four-decade long conflict in known as “The Troubles”
- Learn and apply new models of conflict resolution & crisis intervention
- Understand the impact of economic injustice, oppression & discrimination in Northern Ireland
- Develop self-awareness through community participation
Interdisciplinary Study Abroad in Ghana

- Community service projects
- Travel to different regions and cultures
- Culturally-immersive activities and historical tours
- Time with Ghanaian University students
- Enhance students' knowledge, enrich their appreciation of diversity and prepare them as global citizens and future leaders

(6 credits)
BSW Contact Information

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