Bachelor of Social Work Program

RESEARCH | TEACHING | SERVICE

School of Social Work
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Advocates for positive social change
“The School of Social Work at the University of Georgia prepares culturally responsive practitioners and scholars to be leaders in addressing social problems and promoting social justice, locally and globally, through teaching, research, and service.”
The School of Social Work
279 Williams Street, Athens, GA 30602
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
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 Work: the profession of helping people

Social work is one of the most versatile professions. It offers the flexibility to work with a variety of populations in a wide range of contexts and does not require a new degree every time a career-shift is desired.
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 $50,470.
Bachelor’s of Social Work

BSW Program Features & Requirements at UGA
BSW Class of 2019
BSW Program Highlights

- Ranked #6 BSW Program in the nation*
- Professional, accredited degree by CSWE
- Classroom and hands-on field training
  - Senior field practicum experience
  - Senior Capstone project
  - Graduate-level coursework
- “Advanced Standing” eligibility
  - > fast track to a master’s degree
  - BSW students need only 1 additional year of school to earn an MSW
- Ability to study abroad or pursue a dual degree, minor, certificate or Double Dawgs pathway

Rankings provided by College Factual.
## University Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Requirement Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cumulative GPA:</td>
<td>Minimum 2.0+ GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural Diversity:</td>
<td>Satisfied by <strong>SOWK 2156</strong> (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Literacy:</td>
<td>Satisfied by <em>Environmental Impact</em> requirement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal &amp; Georgia Constitution:</td>
<td><strong>POLS 1101</strong> (3) or Exemption Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>US &amp; Georgia History:</td>
<td><strong>HIST 2111</strong> (3) or <strong>HIST 2112</strong> (3) or Exemption Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>First-Year Odyssey:</td>
<td><strong>FYOS</strong> (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experiential Learning:</td>
<td>Satisfied by <strong>SOWK 2157S</strong> (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Education:</td>
<td><strong>PEDB</strong> (1)</td>
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BSW Required Core Courses

**AREA I:**
- ENGL 1101 (3)
- ENGL 1102 (3)
- MATH 1101+ (3) or STAT 2000 (4)

**AREA II:**
- One Life Science course (3-4)
- One Physical Science course (3-4)

**AREA III:**
- One Data & Digital Fluency course (3-4)

**AREA IV:**
- World Language & Culture (12)
- Humanities & Arts: Satisfied by SOWK 2156 (3)

**AREA V:**
- PSYC 1101 (3)
- SOCI 1101 (3) or SOCI 2600 (3)
- SOWK 2154 (3)
### Additional Required BSW Courses

BSW Students must choose ONE course from each of the following categories:

#### Data & Digital Fluency
Satisfies both Area III and the Area VI: Data & Digital Fluency Requirement

- ARTS 2100 – Strategic Visual Thinking
- BIOS 2010 – Elementary Biostatistics
- PHIL 2500 – Symbolic Logic
- STAT 2000 – Introductory Statistics
- CSCI 1210 – Computer Modeling & Science
- CSCI 1301/L – Introduction to Computing & Programming
- MATH 1060 – Mathematics of Decision Making

#### Advanced Social/Psychology

- PSYC 2101 – Psychology of Adjustment
- PSYC 3230 – Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 3200 – Cultural Psychology
- EPSY 4240 – Abnormal Child Psychology
- SOCI 3270 – Personality and Social Structure
- SOCI 3730 – Social Psychology
- ECHD 4380 – Human Development & Mental Health

#### Environmental Impact
Satisfies part of Area II and UGA’s Environmental Awareness Requirement.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Life Science Options:</th>
<th>Physical Science Options:</th>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 1103 / PBIO 1210 – Biology</td>
<td>GEOG 1125 – Resources, Society, and the Environment</td>
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<td>BIOL 1104 – Organismal Biology</td>
<td>GEOL 1120 – Environmental Geoscience</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECOL 1000 – Ecological Basis of Environmental Issues</td>
<td>CRSS/WASR 1020 – Intro to Water Resources</td>
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<td>FANR 1100 – Natural Resources Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>FANR/ECOL/GEOG 1200 – Natural History of GA</td>
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BSW Required Major Courses

Lower-Division Social Work Courses:

SOWK 2154 (3) - Introduction to Social Work
SOWK 2155 (3) - Communication as a Helping Professional
SOWK 2156 (3) - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
SOWK 2157S (1) - Service Learning in Social Work

Students may begin enrolling in these social work courses during their first semester at UGA. Students are eligible to apply to the major and BSW Professional Program after they have completed SOWK 2154.
**Typical Course Sequencing**

- **Years 1 & 2**
  - Begin completing University and Core requirements
  - Begin lower-division SOWK courses (2154, 2155, 2156, 2157S)
  - Apply to the BSW Professional Program

- **Year 3**
  - **FALL**
    - Finish any 2000-level SOWK courses
    - Complete SOWK 5326 (Research) or SOWK 5757 (SW Elective)
  - **SPRING**
    - Finish remaining non-major courses
    - Complete SOWK 5340 (Human Behavior) and SOWK 5524 (General Practice of SW I)
    - Complete additional 5000-level course

- **Year 4**
  - **FALL**
    - SOWK 5534 (3) – General Practice of SW II
    - SOWK 5326 (3) – Social Work Research
      or SOWK 5757 (3) – Current Issues/SW Elective
    - SOWK 5835 (5) – Field Practicum
    - SOWK 5836 (2) – Field Seminar
    - SOWK 5850 (1) – Capstone Project
  - **SPRING**
    - SOWK 5544 (3) – General Practice of SW III
    - SOWK 5701 (3) – Social Welfare Policy
      or SOWK 5767 (3) – Current Issues/SW Elective
    - SOWK 5845 (5) – Field Practicum
    - SOWK 5846 (2) – Field Seminar
    - SOWK 5851 (1) – Capstone Project

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Students *must* be admitted into the BSW Professional Program in order to begin fieldwork during 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

Offered every Maymester (6 credit hours)
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

*Offered every Maymester (6 credit hours)*
BSW Contact Information

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