COURSES IN SOCIAL WORK

Social Work Courses

SW500 Social Welfare Policy
Hours 3
Overview of the evolution of social welfare policies and services, and of how social problems affect societal groups. Includes examination of the tools and approaches that social workers might use in analysis and policy formulation.

SW501 Social Welfare Advanced Policy Analysis
Hours 3
The focus of this course is on social welfare policy analysis with particular emphasis on the influence of economic and political issues. This course emphasizes comparative research at both state and national levels.
Prerequisite(s): SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW506 Planning and Program Development
Hours 3
Application and analysis of theory applicable to the field of planning and developing social services and programs.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW510 Human Behav Social Envir I
Hours 3
Critical concepts, theories, and research related to human biopsychosocial development across the life span; human development and behavior in the environmental contexts of family, groups, organizations, and communities; and the impact of human diversity on human development and behavior. This course is part of a two course sequence and focuses on earlier stages of human development from conception through adolescence.

SW511 Human Behav Social Envir II
Hours 2
This course introduces students to an overarching conceptual framework and selected theories for understanding human behavior across the life course. This course is part of a two-course sequence and focuses on the later stages of human development from young adulthood to advanced old age.
Prerequisite(s): SW 510

SW513 Social Work Practice in Health Care
Hours 3
This course prepares students for advanced social work practice in health care settings. Using the Life Course Perspective, health and health care issues relevant to health care social work are addressed.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW514 Chem Depend Knowledge Interven
Hours 3
This survey course introduces students to major theories of substance use, information concerning the physiological and psychological consequences of this use, and information concerning the effects of this use on families and communities. Selected state, international, and federal policies regarding the control of drugs are reviewed. The course includes an overview of several models of prevention and intervention, with specific attention being paid to their application to special populations such as the homeless, clients from different cultures, and clients of different sexual orientations.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW515 Psychopathology
Hours 3
Presents diagnostic criteria used in recognition and treatment of mental disorders, and theory and research on the etiology of these disorders.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW523 Family Preservation
Hours 3
Overview of family preservation theory and practice. Students demonstrate skills with high risk children and families in their home setting.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW525 Evaluation Research
Hours 3
Students learn to design a practice or program evaluation project, demonstrating the link between designing and conducting research and the practice of social work.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced Standing) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW528 Spirituality In Social Work Practice
Hours 3
Provides an overview of major issues relevant to spiritually sensitive social work practice with emphasis on the role of spirituality in interventions.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 Hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579
SW529 Advanced Clinical Social Work Practice  
Hours 3  
The course provides advanced level information about the application of selected theoretical frameworks and models of practice, assessment strategies and techniques, the formulation of treatment plans, practice interventions, and practice evaluation.  
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 Hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579  

SW532 SW Pract w/Adults Mental Hlth  
Hours 3  
This course emphasizes evidence-based practice models and methods of intervention for effective social work practice with adults experiencing mental health problems.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 590 or (SW 570 and SW 577 and SW 578 and SW 579)  

SW533 Mod/Meth Gerontologl SW Pract  
Hours 3  
Focuses on evidence-based practice models and methods of social work intervention with older persons and their families.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 590 or (SW 570 and SW 577 and SW 578 and SW 579)  

SW534 Integrative Seminar I-A  
Hours 1  
The first of two integrative seminars designed to prepare students for generalist social work practice. This seminar provides students structured learning opportunities that emphasize the integration of knowledge acquired in foundation courses; expand knowledge beyond the scope of their practicum setting; and examine the values and ethics of social work practice. The seminar also serves as an additional opportunity to examine evidence-based models of social work practice and selected social work practice theories and to improve upon social work practice skills and relationships characterized by collaboration and respect for the client system. Students will examine how their agency serves persons who are subject to discrimination, economic deprivation, and oppression, including women, elderly persons, people of color, and gay and lesbian persons. Students will explore how their agency prepares them to work competently with diverse populations. This course will focus on the Life Course Perspective when dealing with clients.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 511 and SW 540  
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: SW 590  

SW535 Integrative Seminar I-B  
Hours 1  
The second of two integrative seminars designed to prepare students for generalist social work practice. This seminar provides students structured learning opportunities that emphasize the integration of knowledge acquired in foundation courses; expand knowledge beyond the scope of their practicum setting; and examine the values and ethics of social work practice. The seminar also serves as an additional opportunity to examine evidence-based models of social work practice and selected social work practice theories and to improve upon social work practice skills and relationships characterized by collaboration and respect for the client system. Students will examine how their agency serves persons who are subject to discrimination, economic deprivation, and oppression, including women, elderly persons, people of color, and gay and lesbian persons. Students will explore how their agency prepares them to work competently with diverse populations. This course will focus on the Life Course Perspective when dealing with clients.  
Prerequisite(s): (A co-requisite with SW 591)  

SW536 Social Service Program and Agency Administration  
Hours 3  
Students learn selected theoretical frameworks and apply the knowledge and skills for administration of social service programs and agencies.  
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 Hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579  

SW537 Forensic Social Work  
Hours 3  
This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and critical thinking skills necessary for specialized practice in the area of forensic social work.  
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 Hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579  

SW540 SW Practice with Indiv & Famly  
Hours 3  
Theoretic and practice of social work with individuals and families are explored.  
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: SW 510  

SW541 Social Work Practice with Groups  
Hours 3  
The course provides a framework for systematic study of components and issues involved in the practice of social work with groups.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 500, SW 510, SW 540, SW 534, SW 590  
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: SW 542 and SW 570 and SW 591 and SW 535  

SW542 Social Work Practice with Communities and Organizations  
Hours 3  
Exploration of theories of social work practice for intervention at the community level, including selected macro-models of practice, and community practice within human-service organizations.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 511 and SW 540
SW549 Crisis Intervention
Hours 3
Focuses on treatment theories and models of intervention that provide a focused approach to the client in crisis.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -Or- SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW553 Independent Study
SP
Hours 1-6
Independent learning experience, under faculty direction, with a contract for an outcome such as a publishable research document.
Prerequisite(s): SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW557 Selected Topics in Social Work Practice
SP
Hours 1-6
Intensive study of an area of or specific approach to social work practice. Topics vary from semester to semester. May be repeated.

SW559 Pediatric Pulmonary Health Care
Hours 3
Introduces social work students to pediatric pulmonary diseases and to research literature in this area of health care. Offered according to demand.

SW564 SW Prac Child Adol Ment Hlth
Hours 3
This course emphasizes evidence-based practice models and methods of intervention for effective social work practice with children, adolescents, and their families experiencing mental health problems.
Prerequisite(s): SW 590 or (SW 570 and SW 577 and SW 578 and SW 579)

SW565 SW Prac Child Welfare Fam Serv
Hours 3
This course emphasizes evidence-based practice models of intervention for effective social work practice in child welfare and family services settings.
Prerequisite(s): SW 590 or (SW 570 and SW 577 and SW 578 and SW 579)

SW570 Research-Informed Practice
Hours 3
This is the first course in a two-course sequence that is designed to enable students to engage in research-informed practice. The MSW themes of evidence-based practice and critical thinking are emphasized in this course. Graduate standing with admission to the MSW Program. With special permission of the Program Chair, graduate students outside the School of Social Work may take this course.
Prerequisite(s): SW 510 OR
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: SW 578

SW577 Human Development and Social Systems
Hours 3
Provides students with instruction in the major psychological and sociological theories of human behavior that support and enhance social work practice.

SW578 Social Welfare Policy and Delivery Systems
Hours 3
Prepares advanced standing students for second-year policy and policy-related courses.

SW579 Social Work Practice
Hours 3
Designed to provide a foundation for social work practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities, in preparation for second-year practice courses.

SW585 Geriatric Care Management
Hours 3
The primary purpose of this course is to provide social workers interested in geriatric care management with the skills and knowledge needed to help prepare and empower family members in meeting the long term care needs of older adults and people with disabilities. The instructor for this course will offer evidenced-based information about how to conduct a care giving assessment and intervention with special attention to the complexities of the current long term care industry in the U.S. and to the many resources available to help care givers at the local and national level. This course provides specialized, yet practical, information designed to help families successfully meet the challenges of filial responsibility and other forms of care giving associated with disability. The specific tasks of care giving are organized into four categories: medical; legal-insurance-financial; family-social; and spiritual-emotional. Each task reflects a real life challenge that potentially comprises an important aspect of a care recipient’s long term care plan. The model of care giving used in this course underscores the importance of timely professional consultation and the supreme value of proactive preparation that values and honors the preferences of aging parents and family members with disabilities.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 Hour) SW 500, SW 510, SW 511, SW 534, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 570 -Or- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

SW586 International Social Work
Hours 3
This course is designed for students who have interest in international social work. The purpose of this class is to expose the students to the wide range of international social work issues, the contemporary debates on those issues, and the people involved in those debates. In this class the students will gain a deeper understanding of social work challenges and opportunities in other countries, as well as cross-national issues affecting the United States. The areas of concentration will include governmental and non-governmental development agencies, the role of social work in international development, human rights, refugees and immigrants, child protection and rights, global health and mental health, issues affecting women, human trafficking, and environmental justice.
Prerequisite(s): MSW concentration-year standing (completion of SW 590 or SW 576, SW 570, SW 577, SW 579, SW 500, SW 510, SW 540, SW 541, SW 542, SW 511, and SW 534) or permission of MSW program chair and instructor.
SW589 Social Work Practice in End-of-Life and Palliative Care
Hours 3
This course provides students with an understanding of the practical and emotional aspects of providing social work services to people who are dying and their families.
Prerequisite(s): Admission in the MSW Program or permission from the MSW Program Director and instructor.

SW590 Field Education I-A
Hours 1-9
The first of two foundational practica designed to prepare students for generalist social work practice. Building on a liberal arts background, Field Education IA offers students supervised opportunities to apply knowledge, skills, and values learned in foundation social work practice, social welfare policy, human behavior in the social environment, and social work research classes. Students will have an opportunity to work in agencies that provide services to diverse populations using individual, family, group, and community interventions.
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: SW 511 and SW 540

SW591 Field Education I-B
Hours 1-9
The second of two foundational practica designed to prepare students for generalist social work practice. Building on a liberal arts background, Field Education IB offers students supervised opportunities to apply knowledge, skills, and values learned in foundation social work practice, social welfare policy, human behavior in the social environment, and social work research classes. Students will have an opportunity to work in agencies that provide services to diverse populations using individual, family, group, and community interventions.
Prerequisite(s): SW 534, SW 590 (co-requisite with SW 535)

SW595 Field Education II-A
Hours 1-9
The first of two concentration practica designed to prepare students for advanced practice. This specialization course provides the student the opportunity to integrate through direct experience in an educationally supervised environment the knowledge, values, and skills that are necessary for social work practice.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (60 hour) SW 500, and SW 511, and SW 510, and SW 534, and SW 535, and SW 570, and SW 540, and SW 541, and SW 542 and SW 590, and SW 591 -OR- Set 2 (Advanced) SW 570, and SW 577, and SW 578, and SW 579
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: SW 532 and SW 533, or SW 564 and SW 565

SW596 Field Education II-B
Hours 1-9
The second of two concentration practica designed to prepare students for advanced practice. This specialization course provides the student the opportunity to integrate through direct experience in an educationally supervised environment the knowledge, values, and skills that are necessary for social work practice.
Prerequisite(s): Set 1 (SW 532 AND SW 533) OR (SW 564 AND SW 565) and SW 500 and SW 510 and SW 540 and SW 541 and SW 570 and SW 542 and SW 511 and SW 534 and SW 535 and SW 590 and SW 591 OR Set 2 (Advanced) (SW 532 and SW 533) OR (SW 564 and SW 565) and SW 570 and SW 577 and SW 578 and SW 579
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: SW 501 and SW 525

SW600 Social Welfare Policy
Hours 3
The purpose of this course is to address the relevance of social welfare policy to social work research. The seminar will examine the history of U.S. social welfare policy as well as current research on social welfare policy and its implementation. The social work profession's role in social welfare policy will be examined. The course will encourage students to consider U.S. social welfare policy in a global context and from a critical lens that examines the role of social welfare policy in maintaining forms of oppression.
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Ph.D. program or consent of the instructor.

SW601 Seminar in PhD Social Work Education
Hours 1
The purpose of this seminar is to provide students with an introduction to the PhD program, the School of Social Work, and the University of Alabama. It supports the process of student acculturation to PhD education in the School of Social Work and familiarizes students with members of the faculty and expectations for PhD level study.
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the social work PhD Program.

SW605 Social Work Education
Hours 3
This course focuses on the history of social work education, the current structure of social work education, pedagogical theories appropriate for social work, and other contemporary issues that are important to social work educators. Students will develop and refine skills essential as social work educators, including designing curricula, developing syllabi, facilitating classroom and field learning, and evaluating the outcomes of educational programs. The course will also examine social justice, anti-racism, and anti-oppressive values in social work education.
Prerequisite(s): SW 601
SW620 Social Work Research: Scientific Process and Methods
Hours 3
The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the social science research processes, methods and the language/terminology commonly used in social work research. This course will familiarize students with the nature and processes of developing feasible, researchable research questions, theoretical and conceptual frameworks that support the questions, and how properly conducted research contributes to knowledge building in social work.
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the PhD program or consent of the instructor.

SW622 Observation & Measurement
Hours 3
This course focuses on the theoretical foundations of observation and measurement in social research and on practical skills required for measuring social phenomena. Students will develop knowledge and skills for measuring social, psychological, environmental, and other factors related to social work research questions. The course will also enhance students’ ability to assess the psychometric properties of standardized measures used in research and design reliable and valid instruments when standardized measures are not available.
Prerequisite(s): Completion of SW 620 and SW 625 or permission of the instructor.

SW623 Qualitative Research
Hours 3
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the logic, design, and techniques of qualitative methods. The course provides an overview of commonly used qualitative approaches/traditions/methods. The course also engages students in the study of key concepts in qualitative research, focusing on applications for social work practice research and evaluation. Students will learn about types of qualitative data and data collection; with introduction to the basics of qualitative data analysis.
Prerequisite(s): SW 620 and SW 640 or permission of instructor.

SW624 Qualitative Data Analysis
Hours 3
This course provides an opportunity for students to focus on developing skills and practicing techniques related to qualitative data analysis. Methods of coding, processes of data analysis, including simple and more in-depth description, will be covered. The course will emphasize analytic strategies useful in various types of qualitative research approaches and various methods of qualitative data collection. Data management, data display, and writing of qualitative data analysis results, along with dissemination strategies will be included.
Prerequisite(s): Completion of SW 620, SW 625, SW 623, SW 626 or permission of the instructor.

SW625 Quantitative Research
Hours 3
This course continues the introduction to quantitative research methods begun in SW 620. Its purpose is to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to design and carry out quantitative research appropriate and adequate for answering social work research questions. The course focuses on considering components of quantitative research designs, developing a design, drawing a sample, developing data collection and analysis procedures, writing the results, and selecting and implementing procedures for disseminating results and conclusions. This course builds on knowledge gained in SW 640 Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Social Work Research, SW 641 Application of Theory in the Development of Social Work Knowledge, and SW 620 Social Work Research: Scientific Process and Methods.
Prerequisite(s): SW 620

SW626 Mixed Methods Research
Hours 3
The purpose of this course is to provide in-depth study of mixed methods research to graduate students who are already familiar with quantitative and qualitative research. An introductory phase of the course consists of defining mixed methods research and describing the history and foundations of this form of research. The course then examines different types of mixed methods designs and the research process as it relates to each of these designs.
Prerequisite(s): Completion of SW 620, SW 625 and SW 623, or permission of the instructor.

SW627 Systematic Review
Hours 3
This course introduces students to the history, purpose and process of systematic review of research. The course provides an overview of commonly used types of systematic review. Students will develop skills for the identification of research questions, analysis and synthesis of published research. Essential skills students will master include the use of electronic databases and other strategies for locating relevant research, the ability to appraise the quality of evidence, and strategies for summarizing and synthesizing existing research in order to support assertions about the state of research on specific topics of concern for social work practitioners, researchers and policy-makers.
Prerequisite(s): SW 620, SW 625, SW 623, SW 640, SW 641 or permission of the instructor.

SW628 Research Practicum: Adding to the Research Knowledge Base
Hours 3
The course builds on previous theory, research methods, and data analysis courses by focusing on the end of the research process: translating research findings into meaningful implications for social work practice, policy and education. Students will gain knowledge and skills in the avenues through which research findings can be disseminated with the professional/academic and lay community.
Prerequisite(s): SW 620, SW 625, SW 623, SW 626 and completion of statistics requirement, or consent of instructor.
Courses in Social Work

SW629 Sp Top SW Research

SP

Hours 3

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to an advanced quantitative or qualitative method, or mixed-methods approach, or technique. The course focuses on knowledge-building applications of the method, approach, or technique. Examples of possible topics include survey research, ethnography, program evaluation, research interviewing.

Prerequisite(s): Completion of SW 620, SW 625, SW 623, or permission of the instructor.

Special Topics Course

SW631 Community-Engaged Research

Hours 3

This course provides an overview of community-engaged research methodologies, including the key historical underpinnings and principles. Students will be exposed to the methodological considerations in building community partnerships; community assessment; issue analysis; research planning; data gathering; and data sharing. The course will also focus on essential strategies in building community relationships with attention to cultural competence and humility, work with diverse populations, promoting ethical values in community-engaged research.

Prerequisite(s): Completion of SW 620, SW 625, SW 623, or permission of the instructor.

SW640 Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Social Work Research

Hours 3

The course exposes students to various philosophical systems of thought underpinning social work research. An additional purpose of this course is to help students move through the process of articulating their own values and philosophical beliefs in support of the development of their future as researchers. The course examines the historical forces affecting research within the discipline of social work.

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the PhD Program or consent of the instructor.

SW641 Application of Theory in the Development of Social Work Knowledge

Hours 3

This course provides the basic knowledge and skills to prepare students to understand the relative place and contribution of theory and theoretical conceptualization to the development of knowledge for social work and social welfare. Students will evaluate the compatibility of theories used in social work with social work values and ethics, including anti-racism, social justice, and anti-oppression. Students will also gain understanding of how to develop a theoretical/conceptual model that will form the foundation of research design.

Prerequisite(s): SW 620 and SW 640 or instructor permission.

SW648 Sp Top Sel Prof Issues

SP

Hours 3

This course provides an opportunity for in-depth analysis of the state of knowledge as it applies to a special topic of importance to social work. The specific substantive topics will vary from semester to semester.

Prerequisite(s): SW 620, SW 625 or permission of the instructor.

Special Topics Course

SW660 Independent Study

SP

Hours 1-9

This independent study course is designed to allow students to pursue independent exploration of a particular field or topical area, under the guidance of a faculty member. Material covered will be of an advanced nature aimed at providing students with an understanding of current developments within the field. Discussion and advisor guidance will be focused on readings and methodologies that allow students to develop their research capacity, independent thought, and the ability to interpret professional and/or research materials in their field.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of Instructor and Approval of PhD Program Director

Special Topics Course

SW697 Post-MSW Practice Experience

Hours 1-9

This course provides students in the social work Ph.D. program who hold an MSW the opportunity to obtain practice experience in an educationally and MSW-supervised environment. Students will work up to 20 hours per week in agencies with UA SSW field-office-approved social work supervision. (If students are seeking licensure in addition to post-MSW practice experience, students should be sure to attain appropriate supervision.)

Prerequisite(s): Holding an MSW degree. Completion of at least the first year of doctoral program coursework (22 PhD program credits).

SW698 Non-Dissertn Research

Hours 1-9

This independent study course is designed to allow students to pursue independent exploration of a particular field or topical area, under the guidance of a faculty member. Material covered will be of an advanced nature aimed at providing students with an understanding of current developments within the field. Discussion and advisor guidance will be focused on readings and methodologies that allow students to develop their research capacity, independent thought, and the ability to interpret professional and/or research materials in their field.

Prerequisite(s): Enrollment in the PhD Program and permission of instructor.
This independent research course partially fulfills required doctoral level research dissertation hours toward the Ph.D. in social work. The course is conducted under the guidance of the dissertation advisor. After completing requirements for admission to candidacy, the student registers for this course each semester until all dissertation requirements have been approved. Students will work with their advisors to form individualized goals and plans for each semester. The ultimate aim is to produce an original research contribution that represents a novel development in the field, or a novel perspective on a pre-existing topic in the field.

Prerequisite(s): PhD Candidacy

**SW700 Advanced Theories on Oppression and Disparities**

*Hours 3*

This course will provide an in-depth exploration of ideological, institutional, interpersonal and internal contexts of oppression, discrimination, and disparities at the macro, mezzo, and micro levels. Students will learn a number of theoretical frameworks related to privilege and oppression, including critical race theory, feminist theory, Marxism, queer theory, and health behavior theories. Students will also learn approaches to assessing institutions and policies using these theories as an analytical lens and will also learn techniques for developing new policies, programs, and interventions using these theories to promote social justice in health and human service delivery for populations that are diverse in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and other characteristics.

Prerequisite(s): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.

**SW701 Research for Clinical and Community Practice I**

*Hours 3*

This doctoral-level course introduces students to the principles, methods, and analytical techniques associated with qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods social work research. The course allows for the development of critical thinking skills by gaining an understanding of scientific, analytical, and ethical approaches utilized when conducting research for clinical and community social work practice. Students' mastery of course content prepares them to develop, use, and effectively communicate empirically-based social work research knowledge.

**SW702 Research for Clinical and Community Practice II**

*Hours 3*

This course builds upon the basic principles and methodologies of social work research learned in the introductory research course and prepares students to: (1) systematically evaluate a body of research related to a specific social work topic; and (2) to conceptualize how existing research findings should be used to inform social work practice in clinical and organizational settings. Students will learn how to critique methodologies used in qualitative and quantitative social work research, with an emphasis on assessing how methodological approaches may affect the quality of research findings and how methodologies promote or constrain ethical principles in research. Students will also learn how to interpret findings from existing studies. The goal of this course is not to prepare students for future careers in research, but to provide them with advanced knowledge and skills needed to appropriately incorporate evidence into practice and to evaluate interventions in practice-based settings.

Prerequisite(s): SW 701

**SW703 Neuroscience in Clinical Practice**

*Hours 3*

This course provides students with a basic understanding of the dynamic and inextricable interaction of the brain, mind, and body with the environment. Students will also learn about the implications of this interaction on health, development, and learning. To advance clinical practice, the course will also focus on the role that neuropsychology in the treatment of clinical disorders across the lifespan.

Prerequisite(s): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.

**SW704 Organizational Leadership Theory and Practice**

*Hours 3*

This doctoral seminar explores fundamental aspects of organizations and organization theory, as they pertain to the non-profit and public sectors. Students will gain an in-depth knowledge on leadership and organizational theories while also developing a skillset for applying innovative leadership techniques within real-world settings. The course will also provide a foundation for students to gain several competencies in human service management, including: Executive Leadership, Resource Management, Strategic Management, and Community Collaboration. Students will learn how perspectives of organizations and leadership have evolved throughout history as well as the current social, political, cultural, and economic contexts within which non-profit and public sector organizations operate. Ethical, practical, and legal considerations of providing health and human services will be examined. Throughout the semester, students will explore their own approaches and application of leadership theory and skills at the personal, group, organizational, and community levels.

Prerequisite(s): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.

**SW705 Advanced Advocacy and Policy Practice**

*Hours 3*

Globalization, social media, and changes in social and political landscapes have all shaped how people approach advocacy strategies. This course will present historical theoretical foundations and current critical issues related to client, community, and policy advocacy, as well as the importance of thorough evaluations of policy in order to develop effective advocacy strategies. In addition to exploring advanced approaches to policy advocacy with public policymakers, the course will also present strategies used of developing social movements and methods for developing advocacy leadership within organizational settings. The course will examine and evaluate historical and current practices in advocacy for social justice, as well as contemporary social movements. The course will also examine and apply theoretical frameworks for communicating about policy advocacy with a variety of stakeholders.

Prerequisite(s): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.
**SW706 Teaching Social Work Practice**  
Hours 3  
This course is designed to prepare students for the role of social work educator in social work education programs. Students will develop essential concepts and strategies related to curriculum design, course delivery and evaluation. This course provides a theoretical background to enable the student to better understand the teaching task in social work education and issues in the broader context of higher education including issues of equality, sustainability and students’ rights, as well as laws, policies and regulations governing universities and professional social work education.  
Prerequisite(s): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.

**SW720 Clinical Supervision and Ethics**  
Hours 3  
This course will present models of effective clinical social work supervision that are reflective of the policies of multiple professional and accrediting bodies, including: the Association of Social Work Boards, the National Association of Social Workers, and the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners. Further, this course will provide detailed analysis of the NASW Code of Ethics (2017 revision), including case examples. Students will examine specific ethical issues related to clinical supervision and will consider myriad solutions to ethical dilemmas from the perspectives of different ethical theories (in particular, deontological ethics, utilitarianism, and virtue ethics). Students will consider ethical issues in light of the current political climate and with respect to disparate personal ethical and moral positions that may be held by supervisors, supervisees, and clients.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 700 and SW 701

**SW721 Cognitive Behavioral Therapy**  
Hours 3  
This course focuses on the empirically validated treatment approach, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and related therapeutic techniques, such as motivational interviewing (MI) and Dialectic Behavioral Therapy (DBT). It covers the theory, concepts, and advanced techniques of therapy with a particular emphasis on intervention methods that may be used by social workers to assist clients with specific problems or conditions. Students will also learn therapeutic techniques that may be used in specific social work settings (domestic violence, parenting, medical social work, etc.) as well as with clients across the lifespan. The course content reflects advanced material of current relevance for effective clinical social work practice.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 700 and SW 701

**SW722 Assessment and Diagnosis in Evidence-Based Clinical Practice**  
Hours 3  
This course will provide students with the practical contexts of mental health disorders, the development of mental health classification systems, and advanced assessment/diagnostic techniques. Students will learn about evidence-based practice (EBP) as applied to: (a) complex clinical diagnoses; (b) utility and consequences of diagnoses, especially in regards to diverse and oppressed populations; and (c) differential diagnosis. The course will emphasize ecobiopsychosocial and person-in-environment perspectives in identifying and evaluating diagnostic and assessment tools. The course will provide historical and critical overviews of mental disorders and the development of classification systems, such as the DSM-5 and ICD-10. Students will learn how to apply and tailor multiple assessment and diagnostic methods across diverse populations and client systems. Students will learn to evaluate and apply research to support diagnostic and assessment practices.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 703

**SW723 Complementary & Alternative Therapies**  
Hours 3  
This course is designed to introduce students to the philosophies, practitioners, techniques, uses, current paradigm and evidence of efficacy in the complementary and alternative therapies currently being used in the United States. Evidence to guide practice will derive from a variety of sources including case studies, clinical trials, observational studies and meta-analyses. The use of different types of evidence to demonstrate efficacy versus effectiveness will be distinguished and examined. A comparison of the relative strengths and weaknesses of the various forms of data will also be incorporated. A large growing percentage of Americans use complementary and alternative therapies for prevention purposes, as a supplement to conventional care or as the primary source of mental health wellness. How complementary & alternative therapies can be integrated into conventional care plans requires an ability to understand and communicate their efficacy and effectiveness with other health care providers and consumers. New and emerging approaches to generate evidence that these therapies may enhance consumers’ health, functioning, safety and optimize a health care plan will be explored in depth.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 703

**SW724 Social Work and Emotional Trauma**  
Hours 3  
This course builds upon prior course content provided through the core curriculum and prepares advanced-practiced social workers to work with clients who have experienced emotional trauma. Beginning with the necessity for self-care for those working with people who have experienced trauma, it covers the physiological underpinnings of how trauma affects people, and provides basic information about working with clients across the life-span. The course addresses the various contexts of practice, including micro-, mezzo-, and macro practice contexts, with a sensitivity to ethical issues and issues of diversity and difference.  
Prerequisite(s): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.
SW730 Leadership and Organizational Change
Hours 3
In order to deliver relevant social services efficiently and effectively, social work administrators need knowledge about leadership and management of non-profit organizations. Leaders create a vision for their organization, establish a constructive climate, and overcome obstacles. Grounded in leadership theory, this course will provide opportunity for personal reflection, organizational examination, and opportunity for suggested change. Ways to deliver services mindful of ethical dilemmas, diversity, and inclusion will be highlighted.
Prerequisite(s): SW 700 and SW 701

SW731 Leadership in Human Service Development
Hours 3
This course will build on content from the core coursework in the DSW curriculum to present more advanced concepts and skills in designing, implementing, and evaluating new human service programs. Students will learn: (a) executive management skills related to environmental and organizational assessments needed in the design and development stage of human services; (b) resource management skills for developing and managing human services; (c) strategic management skills for successful implementation of services; and (d) community collaboration skills needed to transform and advance human service delivery. Students will hone their written and interpersonal communication skills for human service management. Students will also build upon their foundational knowledge about research methodologies to develop human service evaluations that are relevant to the management process and rigorous.
Prerequisite(s): SW 700 and SW 701

SW732 Ethics in Community and Organizational Leadership
Hours 3
This course will provide an in-depth exploration of ethical codes and principles established by the NASW, International Federation of Social Work (IFSW), and other theoretical frameworks as they relate to ethical concerns of social workers in the role of community and organizational leaders. Students will develop an advanced understanding on how current social, political, cultural, and other contexts influence ethical issues in health and human services, as well as how understandings of ethics have changed over time. There will be specific emphasis on The NASW Code of Ethics sets forth values, principles and standards to which social workers and social work students should aspire and their actions judged. Students will learn how ethics guides the decision-making and conduct of social workers in leadership roles regardless of the workplace, employees, clientele, or communities where their organizations operate. Throughout the semester, students will discuss ethical case dilemmas related to social, economic, political, cultural and professional issues faced by community and organizational leaders.
Prerequisite(s): SW 704

SW733 Human Service Finance and Budgeting
Hours 3
This is a course that provide theoretical concepts and techniques in the financial management and budgeting of public and non-profit organizations. The content will emphasize budget and finance considerations in making decisions about health and human services, as well as the common problems associated with finances in the public and nonprofit sectors. The course will include online lecture, problem-based learning exercise, and synchronous and asynchronous discussions. The goal of the course is to help practitioners become better managers and decision makers about public and nonprofit service delivery, rather than budget officers or accountants.
Prerequisite(s): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.

SW734 Human Resource Management in the Healthcare, Public, and Nonprofit Sectors
Hours 3
This course will present current best practices of effective human resource (HR) management in the healthcare, public (government), and nonprofit social sector settings, with emphasis on those models that are endorsed by the Society of Human Resource Management, Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care, and the National Council of Nonprofits; further, this course will provide frameworks for ethical HR policy development and implementation within healthcare, public, and nonprofit settings that are in accordance with applicable federal employment laws and guidelines. Students will learn the major legal requirements of HR in the designated settings. Topics include employee selection, employee training and development, employee performance evaluation and management, compensation models, diversity, employee well-being, and collective bargaining.
Prerequisite(s): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.

SW750 Introduction to Capstone Project
Hours 1
This course represents the first of two courses that will prepare you for completing the Doctor of Social Work Capstone Project. In this course, you will gain knowledge and skills in developing a practice change project and evaluation proposal. Specifically, you will learn: (a) the common content and organization of grant and research proposals; (b) how to identify peer-review scholarship, grey literature, and human service data needed to develop a strong project or research proposal; skills in proposal writing; and skills in program and project planning. By the end of this course, you will have developed a roadmap, plan, and timeline for developing the proposal for the Capstone Project, which will be completed in the second course, SW751: Capstone Prep Independent Study Proposal.
Prerequisite(s): SW 701
SW751 Capstone Preparation Independent Study Proposal  
SP  
Hours 2-3  
This independent practice doctorate course provides students with guided instruction and mentoring from their faculty advisor as they complete their Comprehensive Paper and receive approval to move forward with their Capstone Project. Material covered will be of an advanced nature aimed at providing doctoral students with an understanding of the latest developments in the field, as well as the most recent research related to their Capstone Project topic. Discussion and advisor guidance will be focused on the following, as appropriate for the student's project: (a) readings of research articles, (b) additional skill development and knowledge related to social work practice, and (c) development of research/evaluation methodology. Students who are not prepared to move forward with their Capstone Project at the end of the semester will have to repeat this course until their Comprehensive Paper is approved.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 750 and SW 702  

Special Topics Course  
SW799 Capstone Project  
Hours 1-9  
This independent practice doctorate project course partially fulfills the required doctoral-level Capstone Project hours toward the Doctor of Social Work (DSW) degree. A minimum of 9 hours are required. The course is conducted under the guidance of the DSW faculty advisor. After completing requirements for admission to candidacy, the student registers for a minimum of 3 hours per semester in this course, each semester, until all Capstone Project requirements have been approved. Material covered will be of an advanced nature aimed at providing doctoral students with an understanding of the latest developments in the field, as well as the most recent research related to their Capstone Project topic. Discussion and advisor guidance will be focused on the following, as appropriate for the student's project: (a) readings of research articles, (b) additional skill development and knowledge related to social work practice, and (c) development of research/evaluation methodology. The aim of this course is to produce an original project that contributes to evidence-based social work practice.  
Prerequisite(s): SW 751