

# 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

### SW502 Foundations of Social Welfare Policy

Hours 3

SW 502 is the foundation course for the advanced policy analysis class and introduces the student to social welfare policies that address poverty and services to the poor and underserved. Using a social justice framework, the course includes a critical review of the history, mission, and philosophies of U.S. social welfare policy and the social work profession's efforts to alleviate poverty and services gaps. Analytical frameworks are used to assess policies and services that affect persons who are subject to discrimination, economic deprivation, and oppression based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, immigration status, and mental or physical ability. The course emphasizes understanding and appreciation of human diversity with the goal of helping students to work competently and humbly with diverse populations.

### SW503 Human Behavior in the Social Environment

Hours 3

This course explores the relationship between human behavior and the social environment through a multidimensional lens. Drawing on interdisciplinary theories from psychology, sociology, and social work, students will examine how individuals and groups develop and interact across the lifespan in diverse social, cultural, and environmental contexts. Special emphasis will be placed on understanding the influence of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, socioeconomic status, and other intersectional identities on human behavior. Students will critically analyze the biopsychosocial, spiritual, and ecological factors that shape human experiences across the lifespan. The course provides practical frameworks for applying these concepts to social work practice, with a focus on promoting social justice, enhancing client well-being, and advocating for marginalized populations. Students will develop the ability to assess, intervene, and support individuals and communities within their social environments.

### SW504 Social Work Practice with Groups

Hours 3

Social Work Practice with Groups is one course in a series of practice courses offered in the professional foundation. It provides a framework for systematic study of components and issues involved in the practice of social work with groups. The course examines the processes involved in group formation as well as ongoing processes of assessment, intervention, and evaluation. The course provides experiential learning activities for students to demonstrate practice competencies with groups. This course stresses the use of critical and reflective thinking skills as a basis for competent, evidence-based, social work practice with diverse groups. It emphasizes valuing human diversity as an underlying social work value that leads to culturally competent practice with marginalized and poor/underserved populations in group contexts.

### SW505 Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families

Hours 3

This course provides foundation knowledge concerning the integration of social welfare history, policy, human behavior and social work practice. Students will learn how to facilitate the helping relationship, employ intervention models, and implement ethical decision-making. The client systems of focus for this course include individuals and families. Students will demonstrate knowledge of practice orientations including systems theory, person-in-environment perspective, and the advanced generalist model. Advanced generalist practice is differentiated from generalist practice in that it includes the complexity of the problem and context of service provision, has enhanced technical abilities, and more sophisticated direct and indirect skills. Advanced generalist practice integrates greater theoretical and methodological knowledge, as well as research and evaluation sophistication at all levels of practice.

### 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 (60hour) 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

### SW507 Social Work Practice with Older Adults and Families

Hours 3

This course focuses on advanced social work practice with older adults and families within a life course perspective. It examines the nature of the aging process, needs and life issues that may arise, the ways in which persons adapt to changes, and the ways in which interventions may assist with these adaptations. Students learn assessment and intervention skills that are needed to work effectively with older populations and family caregivers in a variety of community-based and institutional settings. This course will increase the student's awareness of programs and services provided through the Older Americans Act, the Social Security Act, and public and community initiatives. The course emphasizes evidence-based practices that enhance quality of life, dignity, respect for differences, and maximum independent functioning. A special focus will be on the provision of culturally and gender sensitive interventions, and addressing the special needs of low-income older adults, as well as older adults who have been subjected to prejudice, discrimination, and social injustices.

**SW508 Social Work Practice in Child Welfare**

Hours 3

Building on foundation courses, this course addresses evidence-based and trauma-informed practice in child welfare and other family services settings. Students are urged to consider practice in child welfare-related settings from a critical lens informed by social work values, including concern for social justice, anti-racism, equity, and affirmation of the strengths of marginalized populations and communities. The course challenges students to elevate social work values and ethics when practicing in child welfare and other family services settings.

**SW509 Models and Methods of Social Work Practice with Children and Adolescents in Mental Health**

Hours 3

Building on foundation practice courses, 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. Content focuses on trauma-informed practice elements and evidence-based interventions. Topics include common mental health problems of children and adolescents, such as neurodevelopmental disorder, externalizing disorders, mood disorders, substance use disorders and eating disorders.

**SW510 Human Behav Social Envir I**

Hours 3

Critical concepts, theories, and research related to human bio-psycho-social 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

**SW512 Advanced Generalist Practice I: Components of Social Work Practice**

Hours 3

This course approaches social work practice from an advanced generalist perspective using the planned change process with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. Utilizing an ecological and human rights perspective for social work practice, students will strengthen their knowledge and skills in the areas of engaging clients and developing relationships, collecting and assessing data, defining problems, using appropriate practice research knowledge, creating goals, planning and contracting, identifying alternative interventions, selecting and implementing appropriate courses of action, using empirical measurement to monitor and evaluate outcomes, and concluding interventions. The course helps students understand the sociocultural context surrounding practice recognizing diversity and intersectionality. The students will also explore the inclusion of social work values and ethics in practice.

**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

**SW516 Trauma-Informed Social Work Practice**

Hours 3

This course explores trauma-informed social work practice, focusing on understanding trauma's profound impact on individuals, families, and communities. Students will examine the key principles of trauma-informed care and ways to integrate the principles into social work practice across various settings. The course emphasizes the importance of assessing and intervening with clients affected by trauma, recognizing the significance of resilience, healing, and post-traumatic growth. The course will analyze the personal and systemic repercussions of trauma, including its effects across the lifespan. In addition, the course explores the psychological impact of working with trauma survivors on social workers themselves, including the risk of vicarious trauma and burnout. The course examines practical strategies for self-care and maintaining professional well-being.

**SW517 Social Work Practice in Health Care**

Hours 3

This course is designed to explore aspects of social work practice in healthcare settings with a biopsychosocial and family-centered perspective. The foundation of the course is social work values and ethical decision-making process as illuminated in the NASW Code of Ethics. This course introduces students to psychosocial issues related to health care provision, understanding the determinants of health behavior, theories of health behavior, working on interdisciplinary teams, and recognizing cultural biases in medicine and how they affect social work practice. Additional practice issues to be explored include: the subjective experience and reactions to living with illness, change and adaptation, grief and loss, trauma and its connection to pain and chronic conditions, values and ethical dilemmas, economic justice and access issues in health care, disenfranchised populations and cultural humility and awareness.

**SW518 Public Health Social Work**

Hours 3

Healthy, vibrant communities provide a multitude of social and economic advantages for individuals and families to live, work, and play. Healthy communities support community members in holistic ways that ensure the success of current and future generations. Social workers play an important role in supporting the health and well-being of communities by examining public health practices through a social work lens and in collaboration with community members. Social workers are uniquely prepared to address the social, racial, economic, and environmental justice concerns of a community related to public health and well-being.

**SW519 Community-Based Policy Advocacy**

Hours 3

This course is designed to help students understand the empowering process that strengthens intra-group and inter-group solidarity as it challenges and attempts to change oppressive structures, systems, and institutions. It will emphasize grassroots efforts to build capacity to engage in the change process. This course will examine nontraditional ways that groups can advocate for themselves while building and strengthening communities.

**SW520 Legislative and Policy Advocacy**

Hours 3

This course is designed to equip students with the comprehensive macro knowledge and skills needed to engage in effective legislative and policy advocacy within the field of social work. Students will explore the legislative and policy-making processes in the context of government and non-government organizations, learn to analyze and influence social policies, and engage in advocacy activities that address the needs and rights of marginalized populations. Students will also learn how to develop macro interventions for systems-level change. Students will develop the tools necessary to advocate for social change and support the development of equitable and just policies.

**SW521 Juvenile & Criminal Justice Policy: Implications for Social Work Practice**

Hours 3

This course will deepen student understanding and expertise regarding U.S.' juvenile legal system policies and the application of social work practice. The curriculum will cover the historical origins and evolution of the U.S.' juvenile legal system and key initiatives. It will examine current stated rehabilitation approaches, comparing and contrasting articulated ideals with enacted correctional approaches. This course will examine community-based versus incarceration approaches within the overarching philosophical context of restorative justice. Students will be equipped with a detailed understanding of juvenile-focused criminogenic theories, along with the development of evidence-based and generalist social work skills and practices tailored specifically for juvenile legal system populations. Emphasis will be placed on the diverse roles held by social workers in juvenile justice settings, diversion, and reentry programs, and the domain of juvenile victim-offender mediation programs. Students will also examine the special needs of key justice-involved populations in the juvenile legal system (i.e., those with mental health, substance abuse, and developmental needs, and youth who crossover between dependency and delinquency systems). Finally, this course will also examine the overrepresentation of Black, Indigenous, and Youth of Color (BIYOC) in the U.S.' juvenile legal system and interrogate the disproportionate impact across ecological levels (micro to macro) of racialized systemic policies on minority youth and their families. Particular attention will also be paid to LGBTQ2+ populations involvement in the U.S.' juvenile legal system and the need for queer-centric juvenile legal system and social work intervention approaches. The examination of social work's practice response to both disproportionately impacted populations will include a study of macro-level socio-economic contributors such as poverty and underperforming educational systems.

**SW522 Nonprofit Planning, Program Development, and Grant Writing**

Hours 3

This course helps students develop essential knowledge and skills for effective nonprofit planning, program development, and grant writing. Students will explore methods for designing, implementing, and evaluating programs that align with the mission, vision, and strategic plans of nonprofit organizations. The course also emphasizes assessing community and organizational needs, creating organizational plans, developing sustainable programs, and defining measurable outcomes. The course also assesses the historical and current social, political, and economic factors that influence nonprofit planning and program development. Key components of grant writing are covered, including identifying funding sources, crafting compelling proposals, and overseeing grant-funded projects.

**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 (Advanced Standing) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

**SW524 Community Organizing and Planning**

Hours 3

This course will provide an overview and introduction to the fundamentals of various community organizing and planning strategies that focus on achieving sustainable change. This will include a review of the role of social movements (criminal justice, affordable housing, environmental justice, and the rights of BIPOC, women, immigrants, LGBTQ+, youth, and other marginalized groups) in advancing community level change. Special attention will be given to systemic barriers for marginalized populations and the intricate nature of building rapport with disenfranchised groups. The course explores interdisciplinary theories relating to processes of social change, representation, and power. Additionally, it reviews the histories of social work and community-based organizations that influenced policies at national, state, and local levels.

**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) SW 570, SW 577, SW 578, SW 579

**SW527 Advanced Clinical Social Work Practice**

Hours 3

This course provides students with opportunities to increase clinical competency by demonstrating knowledge and application of social work clinical skills with children, youth, adults, and their families. Course content connects the application of selected theoretical frameworks and models of practice, assessment strategies and techniques, the formulation of treatment plans, practice interventions, and practice evaluation methods. The course emphasizes clinical practice with marginalized populations, providing students with opportunities to identify how advocacy can help alleviate client conditions, and/or improve practice outcomes.

**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

**SW530 Advanced Generalist Practice II: Psychopathology and Differential Diagnosis**

Hours 3

This course presents information concerning DSM criteria used in assessing mental disorders from infancy through older adulthood. It also provides information about the prevalence and etiology of psychiatric disorders. The course uses a case-based approach to cover facets of the assessment and diagnostic process, clinical interview, mental status exam, and differential diagnosis. The impact of mental disorders on clients, their families and communities is discussed. The course also provides students tools by which they learn to recognize the risk of error within the assessment process and learn to recognize the potential for bias that can result when assessment tools are inaccurately applied across cultural, ethnic, racial, and other groups.

Prerequisite(s): (SW 576, SW 503, SW 504, SW 505, SW 592, SW 538, SW 502, SW 543, SW 571, SW 593, and SW 539) or (SW 571, SW 576, SW 502, and SW 512)

**SW531 Advanced Generalist Practice III: Mental Health Intervention Across the Lifespan**

Hours 3

Building on the foundation practice courses, this case-based course emphasizes evidence supported practice models and methods of intervention for effective social work practice with individuals across the lifespan experiencing mental health problems. There is an emphasis on cognitive behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing, crisis intervention /psychological first aid, and behavioral therapies. Content focuses on promoting positive mental health; preventing mental illness; identifying appropriate mental health interventions; and rehabilitation services. Emphasis is on helping people who are experiencing mental health concerns function optimally in the least restrictive environment. A major focus is on tailoring the treatment plan to fit the client by considering factors such as culture, gender, income, trauma, support networks, experiences of social and economic injustice, sexual orientation, spirituality, and client preference. Treatment plans are developed based on presenting problems. The primary focus of the course is on treating mental health disorders.

Prerequisite(s): (SW 576, SW 503, SW 504, SW 505, SW 592, SW 538, SW 502, SW 543, SW 571, SW 593, and SW 539) or (SW 571, SW 576, SW 502, and SW 512)

**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 Gerontologi 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

**SW538 Integrative Seminar I**

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.

**SW539 Integrative Seminar I**

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): SW 538

**SW540 SW Practice with Individ & Famly**

Hours 3

Theory 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

**SW543 Social Work Practice with Communities & Organizations**

Hours 3

This course is designed to introduce students to macro social work practice change agents in the legislative, community, and organizational arenas. This course is one of three required social work practice courses offered in the professional foundation year. The course uses social and behavioral knowledge and social work intervention models and applies analytical framework for assessing project, program, organizational, and policy effectiveness. The course emphasizes understanding and appreciation of human diversity as underlying social work values in policy formulation and principles of social and economic justice; therefore, leading to best practices with the poor and underserved, marginalized populations in community settings. Students will develop their skills in engaging diverse population groups, identification of need, and designing strategies for change.

**SW544 Substance Use and Social Work Practice**

Hours 3

This course provides a comprehensive examination of social work practice with individuals, families, and communities affected by substance use. Using a biopsychosocial framework, students will explore the multifaceted relationships between substance use, systemic inequities, and trauma. Through this lens, the course will address critical social issues, such as the impact of systemic racism, gender disparities, and socioeconomic challenges on substance use and its treatment. Students will develop competencies in evidence-based interventions, including Motivational Interviewing and relapse prevention strategies, while analyzing the ethical responsibilities of social workers in advocating for marginalized populations. The course also explores policy analysis, harm reduction, and the design of integrated substance use treatment programs that balance abstinence and harm reduction goals and treat co-occurring mental health disorders. Practical skills for clinical supervision, assessment, and intervention will be emphasized.

**SW545 Nonprofit Program and Agency Administration**

Hours 3

This course examines the fundamental principles and practices of nonprofit program and agency administration within social work practice. This course identifies the foundational knowledge and skills essential to managing and leading nonprofit organizations, with a focus on organizational structure, leadership, human resources, and financial management. The course emphasizes strategic and operational planning, budgeting, ethical accountability, cultivating an inclusive organizational culture, and addressing systemic inequities. Students will explore methods for managing organizations and navigating evolving social, economic, and political contexts. Through this course, students will develop the competencies needed to effectively lead nonprofit programs and agencies with integrity, cultural humility, and a commitment to social justice.

**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

Special Topics Course

**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.

Special Topics Course

**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

**SW571 Social Work Research**

Hours 3

This course is designed to develop applied research skills for social work practice and evaluation. Students will learn how to integrate research and evaluation concepts in practical, social work settings to address the needs of individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations. This course teaches students how to apply research and evaluation concepts in their social work practice (or across behavioral health and community-based settings). Students will engage in research activities through hands-on, experiential learning opportunities.

**SW574 Integrative Seminar II (Two-Year, Traditional)**

Hours 1

The first of two integrative seminars designed to prepare students for the second year of their Advanced Generalist social work practice. This seminar provides students structured learning opportunities that emphasize the integration of knowledge acquired in their second-year 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 576, SW 503, SW 504, SW 505, SW 592, SW 538, SW 502, SW 543, SW 571, SW 593, and SW 539)

**SW575 Integrative Seminar II (Two-Year, Traditional)**

Hours 1

The second of two integrative seminars designed to prepare students for the second year of their Advanced Generalist social work practice. This seminar provides students structured learning opportunities that emphasize the integration of knowledge acquired in their second-year 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 576, SW 503, SW 504, SW 505, SW 592, SW 538, SW 502, SW 543, SW 571, SW 593, SW 597, SW 574, and SW 539)

**SW576 Diversity, Oppression & Anti-Racism**

Hours 3

This course examines issues related to the lived experiences of people based on age, culture, race, ethnicity, gender/gender identity/gender expression, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status/class, ability, religion/spirituality, and national origin. Students will examine, discuss, and critique social, environmental, and economic justice content pertinent to the social work profession.

**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.

**SW580 Advanced Policy Analysis**

Hours 3

The focus of this course is on social welfare policy analysis, with emphasis on the influences of economic and political issues. The course emphasizes comparative research at both the state and national levels. Students are provided an opportunity to complete a critical review of a contemporary social welfare policy, or a policy proposal that includes a comparative dimension using one of the analytic frameworks employed in the SW500 Social Policy course. Students are taught how to use the best available evidence to assess policies and their impact on persons who are subject to discrimination, economic deprivation, and oppression based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, immigration status, and mental or physical ability. The course emphasizes an understanding and appreciation of human diversity will assist students in learning to practice competently with diverse populations.

Prerequisite(s): (SW 576, SW 503, SW 504, SW 505, SW 592, SW 538, SW 502, SW 543, SW 571, SW 593, and SW 539) or (SW 571, SW 576, SW 502, and SW 512)

**SW582 Integrative Seminar II (Advanced Standing)**

Hours 1

The Advanced Standing integrative seminar designed to prepare students for Advanced Generalist social work practice. This seminar provides students structured learning opportunities that emphasize the integration of knowledge acquired in their Advanced Standing 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 571, SW 576, SW 502, and SW 512)

**SW583 Field Education IIA – 8 hours (Advanced Standing)**

Hours 8

This specialization-year 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 at an advanced generalist level.

Prerequisite(s): (SW 571, SW 576, SW 502, and SW 512)

**SW584 Social Work Leadership and Management**

Hours 3

This course introduces students to leadership and management theories, along with evidence-based models, to strengthen social work practice in health and human service organizations, as well as non-traditional social work settings. This course will help students to foster self-awareness and enhance leadership and management skills with a focus on effective social change. Students will analyze the impact of systemic inequities on service delivery, workforce development, and community engagement, and the responsibilities of management. Students will explore strategies to foster inclusive environments, promote cultural humility, and advocate for social justice in leadership roles. Students will also assess their own leadership strengths and explore evidence-based management strategies to effectively address organizational challenges and opportunities. Students will also develop their own personal philosophy and approach to management and leadership.

Prerequisite(s): (SW 576, SW 503, SW 504, SW 505, SW 592, SW 538, SW 502, SW 543, SW 571, SW 593, and SW 539) or (SW 571, SW 576, SW 502, and SW 512)

**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.

**SW587 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 varying abilities. Students will be introduced to evidenced-based practice models on how to conduct a comprehensive geriatric assessment and intervention. Special attention will be given to the complexities of the current long-term care industry in the US and the resources available to help caregivers at the local, state, and national levels. Finally, this course provides specialized, yet practical information, designed to help individuals successfully navigate systems impacting older adults and to meet the challenges of caregiving.

**SW588 Social Work Practice in End-of-Life Care**

Hours 3

This course provides students with an understanding of the practical, psychological, social and spiritual aspects of the experiences of individuals who are seriously ill and those of their families and social work practice in the field of palliative social work. Students will obtain foundation knowledge of the field of palliative end-of-life care including policies, and medical, ethical, and legal aspects of providing care to individuals near the end of life and their families. Additionally, students will gain advanced social work practice knowledge of the field and skills in assessment and evidence-based intervention techniques that can be utilized with individuals, families, friends, and health care professionals as they grieve losses due to death. A special focus will be offered on the provision of culturally and gender-sensitive interventions and addressing the unique needs of those who have been subjected to prejudice, discrimination, and social injustices. Students will also be introduced to ethical debates regarding treatment decisions, autonomy, social justice, and other issues that affect quality of life at the end of life; including equitable access to adequate palliative care for all who need it. Students will also gain an understanding of the global scope of issues in the field.

**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)

**SW592 Field Education IA (Two-Year, Traditional)**

Hours 2

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.

**SW593 Field Education IB (Two-Year, Traditional)**

Hours 5

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 592

**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

**SW597 Field Education IIA – (Two-Year, Traditional)**

Hours 2

The first of two practica designed to prepare students for advanced practice. This specialization-year 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 at an advanced generalist level.

Prerequisite(s): (SW 576, SW 503, SW 504, SW 505, SW 592, SW 538, SW 502, SW 543, SW 571, SW 593, and SW 539)

**SW598 Field Education IIA – (Two-Year, Traditional)**

Hours 5

The second of two practica designed to prepare students for advanced practice. This specialization-year 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 at an advanced generalist level.

Prerequisite(s): (SW 576, SW 503, SW 504, SW 505, SW 592, SW 538, SW 502, SW 543, SW 571, SW 593, SW 597, SW 574, and SW 539)

**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 4

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.

**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 623 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.

**SW699 Dissertation Research**

Hours 1-15

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): Formal acceptance into the DSW program.

**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

**SW760 Independent Study in Organizational Leadership or Advanced Clinical Practice**

Hours 1-3

This independent study offers DSW students the opportunity to engage in a focused exploration of a specialized topic within [Organizational Leadership or Advanced Clinical Practice]. The selected topic should align with the student's research interests, academic goals, and career path. It is intended for students seeking to deepen their area of expertise to make a meaningful contribution to their professional practice field of study. The independent study provides students the flexibility to explore innovative ideas and develop professional competencies essential for leadership in the practice arena of their choice, e.g., academia, community-based organizations, private practice or policy development.

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the DSW Program and approval of Independent Study Request Form by course instructor

**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 product an original project that contributes to evidence-based social work practice.

Prerequisite(s): SW 751