



MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK 2025-2026

Main Office: 358 Trafton Science Center North, (507) 389-6504

<https://ahn.mnsu.edu/academic-programs/social-work/>

This major prepares students for beginning generalist social work practice. The program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, is excellent preparation for graduate studies in social work and related fields, and meets one of the requirements for social work licensure in Minnesota (LSW). Additional information is available from your BSSW Faculty Advisor and on the Department website. Students in this major do not need a minor.

STUDENTS SHOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH THEIR BSSW FACULTY ADVISOR TO MAP THEIR ACADEMIC PROGRAM.

ADMISSION TO THE SOCIAL WORK MAJOR

Formal acceptance to the major requires completed or in-progress final coursework for general education curriculum, required Social Work General Education courses, required Social Work Foundation courses, a completed application, a 2.8 or higher cumulative and Social Work curriculum specific GPA, and at least 75 credit hours completed by the end of the semester (or summer) prior to formal admission to the BSSW Program. Applications to the BSSW Program are accepted each semester.

* *Meets MSU, M's General Education requirement(s) + Permission required before registration. (m) Social Welfare minor courses.*

SOCIAL WORK FOUNDATION COURSES

- __ **SOWK 212** Introduction to Social Work (4) *(m)*
- __ **SOWK 215/215W** Introduction to Social Welfare Services (4) *(*GE 5,9, DC-p) (m)*
- __ **SOWK 310/310W** Human Behavior in Social Environment (4) *(m) Requires upper division permission from BSSW Faculty Advisor.*
- __ **SOWK 316** Professional Skill Development (4) + *Apply for permission to register one semester prior to taking the course.*

SOCIAL WORK ADVANCED CURRICULUM

The following required courses are completed in the following 3 semester sequence after formal acceptance to the BSSW program. Minor changes to the sequencing below can be made with approval of BSSW Faculty Advisor. Significant changes to the following 3 semester sequence must have approval of the BSSW Program. See Advisor for more information.

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
__ SOWK 441 Generalist Practice (4) +	__ SOWK 443 Interview & Counseling Skills (4) +	__ SOWK 450 Integrative
__ SOWK 410 Social Welfare	__ SOWK 446 Org & Comm Practice (4) +	Seminar (4) +
Policy (4) <i>(m)</i>	__ SOWK 435 Applied Social Work Research (4)	__ SOWK 455 Practicum (8) +
__ SOWK Elective (3) <i>(m) See below.</i>		

SOCIAL WORK ELECTIVES

Social Work Major and Social Welfare Minor requires one 3-credit 400-level elective. SOWK 255 can be used for Social Welfare minor elective. Not all electives are offered every semester. Courses from 'Additional Courses' column below may be substituted for electives with permission of BSSW Faculty Advisor.

	Additional Courses
__ 415 Child-Family Welfare Services (3)	__ 255 Global Response Human Need (3) <i>(*GE 5,8,DC-p) (m-only)</i>
__ 417 Co-Morbidity of MH & SUD in Social Work (3)	__ 485 Selected Topics (1-6)
__ 419 Social Work & Aging (3)	__ 490 Workshop (1-3)
__ 422 Social Work & Chemical Dependency (3)	__ 492 Honors Reading (1-3)
__ 425 Social Work in Health Care Setting (3)	__ 495 Social Work Honors Paper (1-3)
__ 427 Social Work Response to Intimate Partner Violence (3)	__ 497 Internship: Social Work (1-10)
__ 430 Social Work in the School Setting (3)	__ 499 Individual Study (1-6)
__ 432 Social Work & Disabilities (3)	

SOCIAL WORK REQUIRED GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

- These courses must be completed prior to formal acceptance into the BSSW Program.
- Courses completed with same or highly similar content may be substituted for required Social Work General Education courses or categories. See your BSSW Faculty Advisor for more information and documentation.
- (GE # = General Education Goal Area) (DC = Diverse Cultures, p = purple or g = gold)

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Select one (1) course:

FCS 301 (3) Lifespan Development (Not GE)
KSP 235 (3) Human Development (GE 5)
PSYC 343 (4) Intro to Developmental Psychology (Not GE)

PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 101 (4) Intro to Psychological Science (GE 5)

BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

Select one (1) course:

BIOL 100-L (4) Our Natural World (GE 3, 8; lab)
BIOL 102 (3) Biology of Women (GE 3; non lab)

VALUES, ETHICS, & CRITICAL THINKING

Select one (1) course:

ENG 213W (4) Literature and Ethics (GE 6, 9)
PHIL 110 (3) Logic and Critical Thinking (GE 2, 4)
PHIL 120W (3) Introduction to Ethics (GE 6, 9)
PHIL 222W (3) Medical Ethics (GE 6, 9)
PHIL 240W (3) Law, Justice & Society (GE 6, 9)

DIVERSITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE (A)

Overview Course - Select one (1) course:

ANTH 230 (4) Peoples and Cultures of the World (GE 8, DC-p)
ANTH 240 (4) Language and Culture (GE 5, 8, DC-p)
ANTH 340 (4) Language and Power (DC-p)
ENG 211W (4) Literature and Human Diversity (GE 6, 7, DC-p)
ETHN 100 (3) American Racial Minorities (GE 5,7, DC-p)
ETHN 101 (3) Intro to Multicultural & Ethnic Studies (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
ETHN 150 (3) Multi-cultural/Ethnic Experience (GE 7, DC-g)
GEOG 103 (3) Introductory Cultural Geography (GE 5, 8, DC-p)
HUM 281W (4) Human Diversity & Humanities Traditions (GE 6, 7, DC-p)
KSP 220W (3) Human Relations in Multicultural Society (GE 7, 11, DC-g)
PHIL 115W (3) Philosophy of Race, Class & Gender (GE 6)
PHIL 205W (3) Culture, Identity & Diversity (GE 6, 8)

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, & POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES

Select two (2) courses, one (1) each from different discipline:

ECON 100 (3) Introduction to U.S. Economy (GE 5)
ECON 201 (3) Principles of Macroeconomics (GE 5)
ECON 202 (3) Principles of Microeconomics (GE 5)
POL 101 (4) Introduction to Public Life (GE 9, 11)
POL 104 (4) Understanding the U.S. Constitution (GE 5)
POL 106 (4) Politics in the World Community (GE 8)
POL 111 (4) United States Government (GE 5, 9)
SOC 101 (4) Introduction to Sociology (GE 5, 8, DC-p)
SOC 150 (4) Social Problems (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
URBS 150 (3) Sustainable Communities (GE 5, 10)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS METHODS

Select one (1) course:

ECON 207 (4) Business Statistics (GE 2, 4)
SOC 202 (4) Introductory Social Statistics (GE 4)
STAT 154 (4) Elementary Statistics (GE 2, 4)
PSYC 201 (4) Statistics for Psychology (Not GE)
HLTH 475 (3) Biostatistics (Not GE)

DIVERSITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE (B)

Content Area Specific Course- Select one (1) course:

AIS 101 (3) Intro. American Indigenous Studies (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
AIS 210W (3) Oral Traditions (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
AIS 230W (3) American Indians of MN (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
AIS 240W (3) American Indian Women (GE 5,7, DC-p)
CDIS 290 (3) Intro. to Communication Disorders (GE 7, DC-p)
ETHN 201W (3) Pers. on African Americans (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
ETHN 203W (3) Pers. on Asian Americans (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
ETHN 204W (3) Pers. on Latinos/Hispanics (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
GWS 110/110W (4) Intro. to Gender (GE 5, 7, DC-p)
GWS 220/220W (4) Sex & Gender Worldwide (GE 8, 9, DC-p)
GWS 225/225W (4) Queer America (GE 5, 7, DC-g)
REHB 110W (3) Sensitivity to Disability (GE 7, DC-g)