



Bachelor of Science Degree Completion Program
*in Social Work**

2017-2019

**Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)*



B.S. DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM IN SOCIAL WORK

Program Prerequisites: An associate’s degree from an accredited college with a minimum 2.5 G.P.A and Human Growth and Development.

Additional requirements: Economics; Introduction to Sociology; General Psychology; Philosophy; Survey of U.S. History and Government or Survey of Modern U.S. History; Theatre, Art or Music. A college-level math is strongly recommended. *42 Elms residency credits are required to receive an Elms degree.*

Description: The social work degree completion program is designed for working people who already have an associate’s degree. A bachelor’s degree can be completed in 20 months with classes held 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1-5 p.m. Saturdays in 10, eight-week sessions, beginning in August 2017. Students will join a cohort and remain in that group throughout the program. Classes are held at on the STCC main campus in Springfield, in Building 13, or online. This degree program prepares students to take the state social work licensing exam at the L.S.W. level. In addition, graduates are eligible for advanced standing in many social work graduate programs.

Job Outlook: Employment of social workers is projected to grow 12 percent from 2014 to 2024, faster than the average for all occupations. Employment growth will be driven by increased demand for healthcare and social services, but will vary by specialty, according to the Occupational Outlook Handbook. Employment of child, family, and school social workers is projected to grow at a faster-than-average 15 percent from 2012 to 2022. Child and family social workers will be needed to work with families to strengthen parenting skills, prevent child abuse, and identify alternative homes for children who are unable to live with their biological families. In schools, more social workers will be needed due to rising student enrollments.

2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR (YEAR ONE)

REVISED 09.23.16

Session 1 Fall 1 8/26/17-10/14/17	Session 2 Fall 2 10/21/17-12/16/17	Session 3 Spring 1 1/06/18-2/24/18	Session 4 Spring 2 3/04/18-4/28/18	Session 5 Summer 1 5/05/18-6/23/18
SWK 211 Professional Communication in Social Work	SWK 302 Social Work Practice with Individual and Families	SWK 301 Social Welfare and Services	SWK 315 Social Work Practice with Communities	SWK 205 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SWK 101 Introduction to Social Work	SSD 202 American Government/Public Policy <i>Online</i>	SWK 303 Mental Health & Mental Illness	MAT 109 Statistics	BIO 105 Human Biology <i>Online</i>

2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR (YEAR TWO)

Session 6 Summer 2 6/30/18-8/18/18	Session 7 Fall 1 8/25/18-10/13/18	Session 8 Fall 2 10/20/18-12/15/18	Session 9 Spring 1 1/05/19-2/23/19	Session 10 Spring 2 3/02/19-4/27/19
SWK 307 Social Group Work	SWK 402A Advanced Practice	SWK 402B Advanced Practice	SWK 404 Survey of Social Work Issues (Capstone)	SWK 404B Survey of Social Work Issues (Capstone)
REL 215 World Religions <i>Online</i>	SWK 310A Social Work Research	SWK 310B Social Work Research		SOC 316 Racial and Ethnic Groups <i>Online</i>
	SWK 401 D Field Work*	SWK 401 E Field Work*	SWK 401 F Field Work*	SWK 401 G Field Work*



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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The number in parentheses denotes the credits awarded for the course.

BIO 105 Human Biology (3)

An introductory course for non-science majors that introduces the student to biology through current issues and areas of study that are important today, especially as they relate to human health and decision-making in the future

MAT 109 Statistics (3)

General statistical techniques (e.g. descriptive statistics, probability theory, frequency distributions, hypothesis testing, and correlation theory). An introduction to the use of the computer, but not computer programming, will also be given.

REL 215 World Religions (3)

Using both theological and sociological approaches, this course will attempt to enter into the thought and experience of the traditions commonly identified as Western. Judaism, Christianity and Islam will be studied. Sacred texts will be read and analyzed as well as secondary sources and electronic media materials. This hybrid course fulfills the core Religious Studies Requirement and the core Global Awareness requirement.

SOC 316 Race and Ethnicity (3)

Students will examine the relationships between dominant and subordinate groups in the United States. Concepts of cultural and racial pluralism, immigrant experiences, and adaptation will be included. Selected groups will be studied in depth.

SWK 101 Introduction to Social Work (3)

This course introduces you to the profession of social work. You will learn about the history of social work, how the profession has grown and changed, and current issues and developments. This course presents the values and ethics of the profession and supports you in examining your own values and how they may influence your choice of social work as a profession. You will have the opportunity to participate in field activities that include visits to agencies.

SSD 202 American Government and Public Policy (3)

This course gives you an opportunity to study the history, structure, and process of American government. The course examines the constitutional basis of the U.S. government and forms of government at the federal, state and local levels. The powers, functioning, and relationship among Congress, the Presidency, and the Judiciary are presented. You will become familiar with the political parties, current elections and candidates, the role of media in reporting on government policy, and the political process.

SWK 211 Professional Communication in Social Work (3)

This course focuses on communication skills that are essential for professional social workers: clear exposition, persuasive argument, effective synthesis, mastery of mechanics, and confident delivery. Students will write most weeks, in class or in take-home assignments. Peer editing and group work is a part of this course, and there will be oral presentations as well. The use of APA style will be emphasized.

SWK 301 Social Welfare Policy and Services (3)

In this course you will learn about the history and current structure of social welfare services, and the role of government, the legislative process and policy in social service delivery, social work practice, and attainment of individual and social

SWK 302 Social Work Practice With Individual and Families (3)

This course introduces you to the generalist skills and values of culturally competent social work practice with individuals and families. Through lectures, role-plays, and video recordings, you learn how to interview clients and assess functioning and mental status, and how to engage clients in effective social work practice. This course also teaches specific practice skills with populations at risk, such as survivors of trauma, children, and elderly.

SWK 303 Mental Health and Mental Illness (3)

In this class, you are introduced to the history and study of mental illness. By using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual IVR, you learn to understand and make descriptive assessments and diagnosis of mental illness, such as mood and psychotic disorders. You also focus on how race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, and other social variables can impact mental health.

SWK 307 Social Group Work (3)

In this course you are introduced to the theory and practice of contemporary social work practice with groups. During this class you participate in lectures as well as a semester-long experiential group. This class prepares you to provide services to different groups, such as adolescents, elderly, and ethnically diverse racial groups in a variety of settings.

SWK 310 A/B Social Work Research (3)

This course introduces you to research theory and methods that will inform your practice of social work. In addition to learning about the basic research process, you will also develop skills in applying research methods. The course will include both quantitative and qualitative methods and will emphasize ethics in research.

SWK 315 Social Work Practice With Communities (3)

The goal of this course is to give students an understanding and appreciation of the role of the social worker in the community. The course is concerned with understanding and analyzing communities. Important components of the community are discussed, including: the political power structure and representation, population groups, educational and health systems, housing, the economic base, and the social service network. Social work roles in dealing with injustice and oppression are presented. Students learn skills of empowerment, advocacy, citizen participation, and community organization. These include the ability to communicate with community groups through public speaking, writing clearly, and the utilization of technology to make community presentations.

SWK 401 D Field Work Practicum (3)

This course will promote an understanding of the relationship between psychology and the law by showing how psychological research and theory inform the legal system. Topics include psychologists in the court, ethics in practice, criminal profiles, and assessment and rehabilitation approaches for criminal offenders.

SWK 401 E Field Work Practicum (3)

This course continues a supervised practicum experience in a social work setting. The field practicum provides you with an opportunity to put into practice the knowledge, values, skills, and research that you have learned in your social work classes. You are required to be in practicum for 100 hours. You will work with a range of diverse populations, and will make community connections. A major piece of the practicum is the start of a research project that contributes to the practicum setting.

SWK 401 F Field Work Practicum (3)

This course continues a supervised practicum experience in a social work setting. The field practicum provides you with an opportunity to put into practice the knowledge, values, skills, and research that you have learned in your social work classes. You are required to be in practicum for 100 hours. You will work with a range of diverse populations, and will make community connections. During the practicum, you will intervene with individuals and families, but will also develop an understanding of sociopolitical issues, oppression, discrimination, injustice, and their impact on clients. A major piece of the practicum is the continuation of a research project that contributes to the practicum setting.

SWK 401 G Field Work Practicum (3)

This course continues a supervised practicum experience in a social work setting. The field practicum provides you with an opportunity to put into practice the knowledge, values, skills, and research that you have learned in your social work classes. You are required to be in practicum for 100 hours. You will work with a range of diverse populations, and will make community connections. During the practicum, you will intervene with individuals and families, but will also develop an understanding of sociopolitical issues, oppression, discrimination, injustice, and their impact on clients. A major piece of the practicum is the completion of a research project that contributes to the practicum setting.

SWK 402 A/B Advanced Practice (3)

This course is taken during the same semester as the field practicum. Students leave their agencies to attend one three-hour class that is held in seminar fashion. This is an advanced generalist practice course that integrates all of the learning from previous practice classes. You will apply this learning to experiences in your practice settings. The class also functions as a supervision group, where you discuss problematic cases and learn from one another.

SWK 404 A/B Survey of Social Work Issues (3)

This is the capstone course for social work majors. You will examine the CORE competencies required of social workers and develop reflection papers on each area. The students complete the development of the portfolio in this class. This is a seminar course, with students taking major initiative to research and present materials for discussion.

For more information, contact:

Wally Soufane
Off -Campus Programs Coordinator (STCC)
STCC: 413-265-1718
Elms: 413-265-2387
soufanew@elms.edu