

10LL0365BSW: SOCIAL WORK, BSW

Completed Workflow

1. U Program Review (dforgacs@illinois.edu; eastuby@illinois.edu; aledward@illinois.edu)

Approval Path

1. Tue, 15 Jan 2019 21:28:56 GMT
Kathy Martensen (kmartens): Approved for U Program Review

History

1. Jan 15, 2019 by Deb Forgacs (dforgacs)

Date Submitted: Thu, 08 Oct 2020 20:18:15 GMT

Viewing: 10LL0365BSW : Social Work, BSW

Changes proposed by: Deb Forgacs

Proposal Type

Proposal Type:

Major (ex. Special Education)

This proposal is for a:

Revision

Proposal Title:

If this proposal is one piece of a multi-element change please include the other impacted programs here. *example: A BS revision with multiple concentration revisions*

To add to the existing Bachelor of Social Work a second degree-completion option.

EP Control Number

EP.21.021

Official Program Name

Social Work, BSW

Effective Catalog Term

Fall 2021

Sponsor College

Social Work, School of

Sponsor Department

Social Work

Sponsor Name

Dr. Brenda Lindsey

Sponsor Email

blindsey@illinois.edu

College Contact

Dr. Brenda Lindsey

College Contact Email

blindsey@illinois.edu

Program Description and Justification**Justification for proposal change:**

The School of Social Work proposes a Chicago-based Bachelor of Social Work program that targets Chicago metropolitan area students who complete two-year community college degrees. This two year program will allow community college graduates to complete UIUC BSW degrees while residing in Chicago, through a combination of hybrid and online courses and Chicago-area internships. The BSW Completer program will extend our impact in Chicago by preparing new urban social work practitioners who serve in state and community-based social service agencies.

The hybrid courses include face-to-face and asynchronous components, while online courses involve a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning. All BSW students are required to complete structured 450 hour internships with state and community agencies, and our extensive experience with Master of Social Work (MSW) internships in metropolitan Chicago positions us to extend our existing placements for this initiative. We will offer the same curriculum as our on-campus program, and have many hybrid and online BSW courses already developed so we can make the final two years of our program available off-campus.

The Bachelor of Social Work Program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

Corresponding Degree

BSW Bachelor of Social Work

Is this program interdisciplinary?

No

Academic Level

Undergraduate

Will you admit to the concentration directly?

No

Is a concentration required for graduation?

No

CIP Code

440701 - Social Work.

Is This a Teacher Certification Program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Admission Requirements

Desired Effective Admissions Term

Fall 2021

Is this revision a change to the admission status of the program?

No

Provide a brief narrative description of the admission requirements for this program. Where relevant, include information about licensure requirements, student background checks, GRE and TOEFL scores, and admission requirements for transfer students.

The School of Social Work uses a holistic review process which will assess the entire student, i.e., academic record, work and service experience, leadership ability, demonstrated analytical and critical thinking skills, grade point average and the quality of the personal and professional information offered in all of the included essays.

Admission Requirements for Transfer Students

Transfer applicants are expected to apply to both the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the School of Social Work by the stated University deadlines.

Transfer Students must meet the following requirements to be considered for admission into the BSW program:

Completion and documentation of a minimum of 50 (fifty) hours of volunteer or paid work experience in a social service agency prior to beginning the program. Volunteer hours can be completed through service learning projects completed for course requirements as well as through volunteer experiences with community organizations.

Cumulative minimum GPA 2.5 or higher

Evidence of strong communication and interpersonal skills

Evidence of personal attributes that are suitable for the profession of social work

Successful completion of the application process for professional program entry

Describe how critical academic functions such as admissions and student advising are managed.

Admissions

Admission policies are made by the BSW Program Faculty Committee, which consists of the BSW Program Director, the Assistant Dean, and at least three BSW Program faculty appointed by the Dean. Admissions decisions are made by the School of Social Work Director of Student Affairs, BSW Undergraduate Student Affairs Coordinator and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Student Advising

Academic advisement is the responsibility of a professional staff member, the BSW Program Advisor. All students are assigned to the BSW Program Advisor at the time of admission. A student must receive the advisor's approval to enroll or withdraw from a course to assure proper course sequencing and that degree requirements will be met.

As defined in the BSW Student Handbook available at <https://socialwork.illinois.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2019.2020-BSW-Handbook.pdf> and discussed during orientation, the role of the advisor is as follows:

- To develop with the advisee the degree program work sheet and sign needed forms;
- To monitor the sequencing of courses
- To advise students of University resources such as study skills groups, counseling and career development services;
- To discuss interests in possible field placements and broader career directions;
- To participate in developing a plan for addressing academic and non-academic issues relating to degree attainment.

The BSW program Advisor and the admissions and records supervisor are responsible for Quality Assurance. If an error is detected, the advisor and the student are contacted and an adjustment is made.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of faculty consultation and advisor input in all matters related to their educational program. Since all registration and course changes require consultation and signature from the advisor, students are expected to make an appointment with the advisor in a manner that allows for sufficient time to meet University deadlines. While advisors assist the student in course selection and provide needed information, students are also expected to know and understand all requirements for graduation.

Enrollment

Describe how this revision will impact enrollment and degrees awarded.

We will focus on targeting Chicago area community college students, as well as human service agency employees with community college degrees. We project a sustainable cohort of 50 BSW students per year once the program is fully operational, with start-up costs primarily associated with migrating selected BSW courses online, marketing, and Chicago area field placement development.

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded

What is the matriculation term for this program?

Fall

What is the typical time to completion of this program?

2 yr (Junior & Senior)

What are the minimum Total Credit Hours required for this program?

120

Delivery Method

Is this program available on campus and online?

Yes

This program is available:

On Campus and Online

Describe the use of this delivery method:

The BSW Completer program courses will be offered one of two ways: 1) hybrid with face-to-face and asynchronous components 2) online with combined synchronous and asynchronous delivery. This model is consistent with our iMSW course delivery. We have many hybrid and online BSW courses already developed and have offered them for several years with good results. The hybrid courses include face-to-face and asynchronous components, while online courses involve a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning. All BSW students are required to complete structured 450 hour internships with state and community agencies, and our extensive experience with Master of Social Work (MSW) internships in metropolitan Chicago positions us to extend our existing placements for this initiative. We will offer the same curriculum as our on-campus program, and have many hybrid and online BSW courses already developed so we can make the final two years of our program available off-campus.

Budget

Are there budgetary implications for this revision?

No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

Yes

Please explain/describe:

If the enrollment reaches 25 students, we plan to hire a new field faculty and a student advisor. The funding for these hires is anticipated to come from the tuition generated from the BSW completer program and other funding from the School of Social Work.

Additional Budget Information

The tuition rate for the BSW Completer Program will be \$416/credit hour. It is the same tuition rate for the only fully online Illinois undergraduate degree program: Earth, Society & Environmental Sustainability in the College of Liberal & Sciences. One of the unique features of the Bachelors of Social Work major is providing innovative programs and experiential learning opportunities. These intensive educational programs are a hallmark of social work education and distinguish our students as very well prepared for success in the professional workforce as well as graduate and professional study. The University Of Illinois Board Of Trustees approved an experiential learning of \$750 in 2010 that is assessed to all BSW majors to help cover part of the extensive faculty resources required to provide enriched social work learning opportunities. BSW Completer students will also be assessed the one-time Experiential Learning fee of \$750.

Attach File(s)

SOCW Proposal for BSW Completer Program_Final_10_6_2020.docx

Resource Implications

Facilities

Will the program require new or additional facilities or significant improvements to already existing facilities?

No

Technology

Will the program need additional technology beyond what is currently available for the unit?

No

Non-Technical Resources

Will the program require additional supplies, services or equipment (non-technical)?

No

Resources

For each of these items, be sure to include in the response if the proposed new program or change will result in replacement of another program(s). If so, which program(s), what is the anticipated impact on faculty, students, and instructional resources? Please attach any letters of support/ acknowledgement from faculty, students, and/or other impacted units as appropriate.

Faculty Resources

Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc. Describe how the unit will support student advising, including job placement and/or admission to advanced studies.

We have a number of Chicago-based faculty (tenured, tenure-track and specialized) who are eager to teach in the BSW Completer Program. Our faculty members have the option of teaching face-to-face or online courses or both. They maintain the same level of faculty status regardless of course delivery method. The School of Social Work uses enrollment caps for different kinds of courses, and of which are associated with our accreditation standards. For clinical methods (counseling or therapeutic methods), enrollment currently is capped at 25 students per section. Policy and research courses currently are capped at 30 students per section. The enrollment caps apply regardless of whether the course is offered face-to-face, hybrid or online. Only one undergraduate social work course has teaching assistants. The enrollment for that course currently is sixty students per section with one instructor and one teaching assistant (instructor to student ratio=1:30). We do not use graders.

The School of Social Work hiring plan for the BSW Completer Program includes additional Chicago-based staff who will manage student advising, job placement, and/or admission to advanced studies. We want to create educational program options that make the final two years of our undergraduate program available in Chicago and facilitate a seamless transition to our iMSW-Chicago program.

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

Students in the BSW Completer Program will use library resources the same way campus-based students do. We provide a library orientation for all undergraduate and graduate students, so they are familiar with how to locate library resources and search online databases. This information is part of new student orientation programs provided by the School of Social Work. Student advising and support is provided by School of Social Work professional academic advisors and student affairs staff.

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects impacted by the creation/revision of this program?

No

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

The School of Social Work received Investment for Growth funding last year to develop a Chicago-based Bachelor of Social Work program that targets Chicago metropolitan area students who complete two-year community college degrees.

The tuition rate for the BSW Completer Program will be \$416/credit hour. It is the same tuition rate for the only fully online Illinois undergraduate degree program: Earth, Society & Environmental Sustainability in the College of Liberal & Sciences. One of the unique features of the Bachelors of Social Work major is providing innovative programs and experiential learning opportunities. These intensive educational programs are a hallmark of social work education and distinguish our students as very well prepared for success in the professional workforce as well as graduate and professional study. The University Of Illinois Board Of Trustees approved an experiential learning of \$750 in 2010 that is assessed to all BSW majors to help cover part of the extensive faculty resources required to provide enriched social work learning opportunities. BSW Completer students will also be assessed the one-time Experiential Learning fee of \$750.

We intend to provide the BSW Completer Program over time, so any online development costs would quickly be made up as compared to the costs of having faculty travel to Chicago to teach courses remotely. The School of Social Work has the capabilities to handle the online aspects effectively and in a cost efficient manner. Dr. Justin York, Online Education Coordinator, provides leadership for faculty support in online teaching and learning as well as the use of innovative technology. Dr. Brenda Coble Lindsey is a Teaching Full Professor and BSW Completer Program Co-Coordinator. She provides additional guidance to instructors about the BSW Program curriculum. Dr. Lissette Piedra is an Associate Professor and BSW Completer Program Development Co-Coordinator. Both Drs. Lindsey and Piedra have extensive experience in putting face-to-face courses to blended or online formats. Christine Escobar-Sawicki, Clinical Associate Professor, is based in Chicago and charged with developing internship opportunities in the metropolitan area.

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Are you seeking a change in the tuition rate or differential for this program?

Yes

If yes, please enter your college budget office contact information and have them contact provostbudget@illinois.edu for next steps.

Our College Budget Officer is working closely with Budget & Resource Planning in the Office of the Provost regarding the proposed tuition rate for the proposed BSW Completer Program.

The tuition rate for the BSW Completer Program will be \$416/credit hour. It is the same tuition rate for the only fully online Illinois undergraduate degree program: Earth, Society & Environmental Sustainability in the College of Liberal & Sciences. One of the unique features of the Bachelors of Social Work major is providing innovative programs and experiential learning opportunities. These intensive educational programs are a hallmark of social work education and distinguish our students as very well prepared for success in the professional workforce as well as graduate and professional study. The University Of Illinois Board Of Trustees approved an experiential learning of \$750 in 2010 that is assessed to all BSW majors to help cover part of the extensive faculty resources required to provide enriched social work learning opportunities. BSW Completer students will also be assessed the one-time Experiential Learning fee of \$750.

Program Regulation and Assessment

Briefly describe the plan to assess and improve student learning, including the program's learning objectives; when, how, and where these learning objectives will be assessed; what metrics will be used to signify student's achievement of the stated learning objectives; and the process to ensure assessment results are used to improve student learning. (Describe how the program is aligned with or meets licensure, certification, and/or entitlement requirements, if applicable).

We have a competency-based and holistic approach to assess student learning outcomes for both BSW & MSW students, and we will apply the same or slightly modified assessment to the BSW Completer Program. The School of Social Work has a long-standing and robust partnership with the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) for developing online courses. We encourage our instructors to work closely with CITL staff and use their recommended resources on best practices to develop and transform face-to-face courses to blended (face-to-face and asynchronous) or online (synchronous and asynchronous) formats. Dr. Justin York, Online Education Coordinator for the School of Social Work, is an in-house expert and will consult with faculty members on different ways to integrate best practices for online learning, including assessment, into their courses.

The School of Social Work expects all courses, regardless of course delivery method, to fulfill the designated course learning objectives. Online courses go through an additional level of faculty committee review to ensure they reflect best practices for online course design, teaching, accessibility, and copyright rules. We deliver the same curriculum in our face-to-face courses as we do in online courses.

Is the career/profession for graduates of this program regulated by the State of Illinois?

Yes

If yes, please describe.

Social Work is a license-able profession in all 50 states and the territories of the USA. In Illinois, social work licensure is regulated by the Illinois Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

Program of Study

"Baccalaureate degree requires at least 120 semester credit hours or 180 quarter credit hours and at least 40 semester credit hours (60 quarter credit hours) in upper division courses" (source: <https://www.ibhe.org/assets/files/PrivateAdminRules2017.pdf>). For proposals for new bachelor's degrees, if this minimum is not explicitly met by specifically-required 300- and/or 400-level courses, please provide information on how the upper-division hours requirement will be satisfied.

All proposals must attach the new or revised version of the Academic Catalog program of study entry. Contact your college office if you have questions.

Revised programs

BSW Program Side by Side Comparison.docx

Attach a side-by-side comparison with the existing program AND, if the revision references or adds "chose-from" lists of courses students can select from to fulfill requirements, a listing of these courses, including the course rubric, number, title, and number of credit hours.

Catalog Page Text

Catalog Page Text: Description of program for the catalog page. This is not official content, it is used to help build the catalog pages for the program. Can be edited in the catalog by the college or department.

The purpose of undergraduate social work education at the School of Social Work is to provide a comprehensive educational experience for students that is grounded in a liberal arts tradition and prepares graduates for excellence in the areas of social work practice, policy, social engagement and leadership.

Upon degree completion, graduates will be prepared for entry into generalist social work practice, advanced standing in graduate social work education, and a multitude of career opportunities. These can include careers in communications, corrections, education, government, healthcare, human resources, law, non-profit organizations, religious studies, and public service. Obtaining an undergraduate degree in Social Work gives students the opportunity to pursue a License of Social Work (LSW). A BSW degree also makes students eligible to pursue Advanced Standing status in many masters of Social Work (MSW) programs. The advanced standing status enables BSW graduates to receive an MSW in only one year.

The focus of undergraduate curriculum delivery is through a student-centered strengths-based educational model that fosters student understanding by providing a challenging, yet supportive environment of high expectations that encourage the development of well-informed and engaged citizens.

The social work major prepares practitioners for generalist social work practice with individuals, groups, families and communities. The curriculum requires a minimum of 120 hours for graduation.

Statement for Programs of Study Catalog

Minimum required major and supporting course work:A minimum of 53 course hours of social work coursework, which includes 15 credit hours of combined agency-based field practicum (internship) and field seminar.

Code	Title	Hours
Communication Skills and Composition		
CMN 101 & RHET 105 or CMN 111 & CMN 112	Public Speaking and Writing and Research Oral & Written Comm I and Oral & Written Comm II	6-7
Advanced Composition -SOCW 300will meet the Advanced Composition Requirement		3-4
Language other than English		
Complete of the third level or equivalent is required for graduation. American Sign Language is also acceptable.		0-9
Humanities and the Arts		
Literature and the Arts		3
Historical and Philosophical Perspective		3
Social and Behavioral Science		
Any course that has been approved as a Social and Behavioral Science course from the General Education course list.		9
Cultural Studies		
U.S. Minority cultures		3
Western cultures		3
Non-Western cultures		3
Natural Sciences and Technology		
Life Science		3
Physical Science		3
Quantitative Reasoning		
SOCW 225	Social Work Statistics	
STAT 100	Statistics	
ECON 202	Economic Statistics I	
EPSY 280	Elements of Statistics	
SOC 280	Intro to Social Statistics	
PSYC 235	Intro to Statistics	
From the approved campus list		3

BSW Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
SOCW 200	Introduction to Social Work	3
SOCW 300	Diversity: Identities & Issues	3
SOCW 401	Practice I	4
SOCW 402	Practice II	3
SOCW 403	Practice III	3

SOCW 410	Social Welfare Pol and Svcs	3
SOCW 427	Social Work Research Methods	3
SOCW 451	HBSE I: Human Development	3
SOCW 461	Professional Practice Seminar I	4
SOCW 470	Field Practicum & Professional Seminar II	15
Social Work electives:		9
SOCW 310	UG Research Assistance	
SOCW 321	Social Entre & Social Change	
SOCW 325	International Development with Grassroots Organizations	
SOCW 330	International Perspectives	
SOCW 360	Social Work and the Military	
SOCW 370	Social Work and Disability Studies	
SOCW 380	Current Topics in Social Work (may be repeated)	
SOCW 404	Social Work Case Management Practice	
SOCW 412	Hispanics in the U.S.	
SOCW 416	Child Welfare Issues & Trends	
SOCW 417	Dementia Care for Older Adults	
SOCW 418	Independent Study	
SOCW 420	Subst Use in Social Context	
SOCW 436	Intl SW & Development	
SOCW 455	Social Work with Women	
SOCW 475	Undergraduate Research Abroad	
SOCW 480	UG Research Project	
Total SOCW hours		53
Minimum hours required for graduation		120

EP Documentation

DMI Documentation

Banner/Codebook Name

BSW: Social Work - UIUC

Program Code:

10LL0365BSW

Degree Code

BSW

Major Code

0365

Program Reviewer Comments

Kathy Martensen (kmartens) (Fri, 16 Oct 2020 15:12:53 GMT):Rollback: Rollback at request of Min Zhan.

Key: 294

Current BSW Program	Proposed BSW Completer Program
General Education Requirements	General Education Requirements
Communication Skills & Composition (6-7 credits) CMN 101 Public Speaking & RHET 105 Writing & Research Or CMN 111 Comm 1 & CMN 112 Oral & Written Communication II	Communication Skills & Composition (6-7 credits) CMN 101 Public Speaking & RHET 105 Writing & Research Or CMN 111 Comm 1 & CMN 112 Oral & Written Communication II
Advanced Composition (3 credits) SOCW 300	Advanced Composition (3 credits) SOCW 300
Language other than English (0-9 credits) Complete of the third level or equivalent is required for graduation. American Sign Language is acceptable.	Language other than English (0-9 credits) Complete of the third level or equivalent is required for graduation. American Sign Language is acceptable.
Humanities & the Arts Literature & the Arts (3 credits) Historical & Philosophical Perspectives (3 credits)	Humanities & the Arts Literature & the Arts (3 credits) Historical & Philosophical Perspectives (3 credits)
Social & Behavioral Sciences (9 credits) Any course that has been approved as a Social & Behavioral Science course from the General Education course list.	Social & Behavioral Sciences (9 credits) Any course that has been approved as a Social & Behavioral Science course from the General Education course list.
Cultural Studies US Minority Cultures (3 credits) Western Cultures (3 credits) Non-Western Cultures (3 credits)	Cultural Studies US Minority Cultures (3 credits) Western Cultures (3 credits) Non-Western Cultures (3 credits)
Natural Sciences & Technology Life Science (3 credits) Physical Science (3 credits)	Natural Sciences & Technology Life Science (3 credits) Physical Science (3 credits)
Quantitative Reasoning SOCW 225 Social Work Statistics STAT 100 Statistics ECON 202 Economic Statistics I EPSY 280 Elements of Statistics SOC 280 Social Statistics PSYC 235 Intro to Statistics From Approved List	Quantitative Reasoning SOCW 225 Social Work Statistics STAT 100 Statistics ECON 202 Economic Statistics I EPSY 280 Elements of Statistics SOC 280 Social Statistics PSYC 235 Intro to Statistics From Approved List
BSW Major Requirements	BSW Major Requirements
SOCW 200 Intro to SW (3 credits)	SOCW 200 Intro to SW (3 credits)
SOCW 300 Diversity: Identities & Issues	SOCW 300 Diversity: Identities & Issues
SOCW 401 Practice I (4 credits)	SOCW 401 Practice I (4 credits)
SOCW 402 Practice II (3 credits)	SOCW 402 Practice II (3 credits)
SOCW 403 Practice III (3 credits)	SOCW 403 Practice III (3 credits)
SOCW 410 Social Welfare Policies & Services (3 credits)	SOCW 410 Social Welfare Policies & Services (3 credits)
SOCW 427 Social Work Research Methods	SOCW 427 Social Work Research Methods
SOCW 451 Human Behavior & Social Environment I (3 credits)	SOCW 451 Human Behavior & Social Environment I (3 credits)
SOCW 461 Prof Practice Seminar I (4 credits)	SOCW 461 Prof Practice Seminar I (4 credits)
SOCW 470 Field Practicum & Field Seminar II (15 credits)	SOCW 470 Field Practicum & Field Seminar II (15 credits)
BSW Major Electives (9 credits) SOCW 310 UG Research Assistant (3 credits)	BSW Major Electives (9 credits) SOCW 310 UG Research Assistant (3 credits)

SOCW 321 Social Entrepreneurship & Social Change (3 credits)	SOCW 321 Social Entrepreneurship & Social Change (3 credits)
SOCW 325 International Development with Grassroots Organizations (3 credits)	SOCW 325 International Development with Grassroots Organizations (3 credits)
SOCW 330 International Perspectives (3 credits)	SOCW 330 International Perspectives (3 credits)
SOCW 360 SW & the Military (3 credits)	SOCW 360 SW & the Military (3 credits)
SOCW 370 SW & Disability Studies (3 credits)	SOCW 370 SW & Disability Studies (3 credits)
SOCW 380 Current Topics in SW (3 credits, may be repeated)	SOCW 380 Current Topics in SW (3 credits, may be repeated)
SOCW 404 SW Case Management (3 credits)	SOCW 404 SW Case Management (3 credits)
SOCW 412 Hispanics in the US (3 credits)	SOCW 412 Hispanics in the US (3 credits)
SOCW 416 Child Welfare (4 credits)	SOCW 416 Child Welfare (4 credits)
SOCW 417 Dementia Care for Older Adults (3 credits)	SOCW 417 Dementia Care for Older Adults (3 credits)
SOCW 418 Independent Study (3 credits)	SOCW 418 Independent Study (3 credits)
SOCW 420 Substance Use in Social Context (3 credits)	SOCW 420 Substance Use in Social Context (3 credits)
SOCW 436 International SW & Development (3 credits)	SOCW 436 International SW & Development (3 credits)
SOCW 455 SW with Women (3 credits)	SOCW 455 SW with Women (3 credits)
SOCW 450 UG Research Abroad (3 credits)	SOCW 450 UG Research Abroad (3 credits)
SOCW 480 UG Research Project (3 credits)	SOCW 480 UG Research Project (3 credits)
SOCW Hours 53	SOCW Hours 53
Minimum Hours Required for Graduation 120	Minimum Hours Required for Graduation 120

RECEIVED BY SENATE
11/12/2018

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
(Final; Information)

EP.19.15 Report of Administrative Approvals at the October 8, 2018 meeting of the EPC.

Undergraduate Programs

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) – To the list of Social Work electives from which students are to select 9 hours, add SOCW 370, Social Work and Disability Studies (3 hours) and SOCW 404, Social Work Case Management Practice (3 hours). The addition of these two courses broadens the range of choices for the requirement for BSW students. There is no change to the number of hours required for the degree.



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

1010 W. Nevada Drive, MC-082
Urbana, IL 61801-3813

To: Kathy Martensen, Assistant Provost for Educational Programs

From: Brenda Coble Lindsey, Teaching Full Professor-School of Social Work

cc: Steve Anderson, Dean and Professor -School of Social Work
Min Zhan, Associate Dean and Professor-School of Social Work
Lissette Piedra, Associate Professor-School of Social Work

Date: October 6, 2020

RE: Request for Approval of BSW Completer Program

The School of Social Work received Investment for Growth funding last year to develop a Chicago-based Bachelor of Social Work program that targets Chicago metropolitan area students who complete two-year community college degrees. This two year program will allow community college graduates to complete UIUC BSW degrees while residing in Chicago, through a **combination of hybrid and online courses and Chicago-area internships**. The BSW Completer program will extend our impact in Chicago by preparing new urban social work practitioners who serve in state and community-based social service agencies.

The hybrid courses include face-to-face and asynchronous components, while online courses involve a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning. All BSW students are required to complete structured 450 hour internships with state and community agencies, and our extensive experience with Master of Social Work (MSW) internships in metropolitan Chicago positions us to extend our existing placements for this initiative. **We will offer the same curriculum as our on-campus program, and have many hybrid and online BSW courses already developed so we can make the final two years of our program available off-campus.**

The BSW Completer Program seeks to extend our social impact in Chicago by preparing new urban social work practitioners who will serve in state and community-based social service agencies. **It fills an identified need for access to a top ranked School of Social Work.** There are nine accredited BSW programs in the Chicago area and only two are at public institutions – Governors State University and Northeastern University. The remaining BSW programs are located at small private four-year colleges. **The University of Illinois-Chicago does not offer a BSW degree nor does the University of Chicago or Northwestern University.**

We will focus on targeting Chicago area community college students, as well as human service agency employees with community college degrees. **We project a sustainable cohort of 50 BSW students per year once the program is fully operational,** with start-up costs primarily

associated with migrating selected BSW courses online, marketing, and Chicago area field placement development.

We have an existing online Master of Social Work (iMSW) degree program that offers a combination of hybrid (face to face and asynchronous learning) and online (synchronous and asynchronous) courses in Chicago. The hybrid iMSW courses are taught at the Illini Center. **Many of our BSW graduates go on to attend our graduate program. We want to create educational program options that make the final two years of our undergraduate program available in Chicago and facilitate a seamless transition to our iMSW program.** We plan to build on our tradition of teaching hybrid iMSW classes at the Illini Center and will offer BSW hybrid courses there too. Eventually, we hope to connect our students to Discovery Partnership (DPI) programming and initiatives.

The School of Social Work requests approval of the BSW Completer Program and a new program code so the students can be tracked over time. This is not a proposal for a new online academic program, but rather represents a new delivery option for our existing accredited curriculum (no accreditation revision is required). Nonetheless, we have provided below written responses to questions required when such proposals are reviewed by the Educational Policy Committee.

- 1) What steps are being taken and what commitments are being made to ensure that online delivery supplements rather than replaces face-to-face delivery?

There is strong demand for the campus face-to-face Bachelor of Social Work program, and there are no plans to replace it with an online program. Our BSW Completer program in Chicago will meet an access need for high quality undergraduate social work education in the metropolitan area. We already have many community college graduates coming to Champaign-Urbana for our on-campus program. However, many others want to remain in the Chicago area, and creation of a completer program there appeals to such students and has important cost advantages associated with the ability to live at home. The BSW Completer program in Chicago fills an important gap in the availability of high quality undergraduate social work education programs in the metropolitan area. **There are nineteen accredited BSW program in Illinois. Of the nineteen programs, nine are in Chicago and seven are at private colleges. However, none of our peer institutions in the Chicago area offer a BSW degree program; including the University of Illinois at Chicago, Northwestern, or University of Chicago.**

BSW Completer program courses will be offered one of two ways: 1) hybrid with face-to-face and asynchronous components 2) online with combined synchronous and asynchronous delivery. This model is consistent with our iMSW course delivery. We have many hybrid and online BSW courses already developed and have offered them for several years with good results.

- 2) Assessment can be one of the most challenging points of designing a course. How will assessment change from what is employed in face-to-face delivery? How will online

courses measurably fulfill the designated learning objectives of the same face-to-face courses?

We have a competency-based and holistic approach to assess student learning outcomes for both BSW & MSW students, and we will apply the same or slightly modified assessment to the BSW Completer Program. The School of Social Work has a long-standing and robust partnership with the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) for developing online courses. We encourage our instructors to work closely with CITL staff and use their recommended resources on best practices to develop and transform face-to-face courses to blended (face-to-face and asynchronous) or online (synchronous and asynchronous) formats. Dr. Justin York, Online Education Coordinator for the School of Social Work, is an in-house expert and will consult with faculty members on different ways to integrate best practices for online learning, including assessment, into their courses.

The School of Social Work expects all courses, regardless of course delivery method, to fulfill the designated course learning objectives. Online courses go through an additional level of faculty committee review to ensure they reflect best practices for online course design, teaching, accessibility, and copyright rules. We deliver the same curriculum in our face-to-face courses as we do in online courses.

- 3) Will online courses contain synchronous activities, asynchronous activities, or a combination? How might this differ from face-to-face courses? What are the pedagogical aims in making any activity changes? Do technological considerations limit the pedagogical choices?

All courses in the BSW Completer Program will be delivered one of two ways: 1) hybrid with face to face and asynchronous learning or 2) online with synchronous and asynchronous components. We have many online BSW courses already developed and have offered them to our campus students for several years. Of the remaining courses that need to be transformed from face-to-face to hybrid, the content will be the same. With hybrid courses, instructors are encouraged to “flip the classroom” and put lecture content online. This allows face-to-face class time to be used for experiential learning activities. The approach maximizes the use of existing technology without sacrificing critical pedagogical choices.

- 4) Which faculty (tenure-stream, specialized, visiting, adjunct, emeriti, graduate assistants, etc) will be involved in course design and ongoing instruction? If teaching assistants and other graders are employed, will sufficient numbers be available and will they be required to hold the degree for which they grade? Will instructors of record for online versions of courses have generally the same level of faculty status as do instructor in face-to-face versions of the courses? Similarly, online courses often are appealing because they are easier to scale up. Will the same level of access to faculty members per student be available in each online version of a course as is available in each face-to-face version?

We have a number of Chicago-based faculty (tenured, tenure-track and specialized) who are eager to teach in the BSW Completer Program. **Our faculty members have the option of teaching face-to-face or online courses or both. They maintain the same level of faculty status regardless of course delivery method.** The School of Social Work uses enrollment caps for different kinds of courses, and of which are associated with our accreditation standards. For clinical methods (counseling or therapeutic methods), **enrollment currently is capped at 25 students per section. Policy and research courses currently are capped at 30 students per section. The enrollment caps apply regardless of whether the course is offered face-to-face, hybrid or online.** Only one undergraduate social work course has teaching assistants. The enrollment for that course currently is sixty students per section with one instructor and one teaching assistant (instructor to student ratio=1:30). We do not use graders.

- 5) When relevant, how will problem-solving in teams and experiential learning be replicated or replaced in online version of courses, and will faculty continue to play the same role in supervising online work of this nature as they do in face-to-face courses?

Role-plays and simulations are frequently used in social work education courses, especially those that focus on clinical methods (counseling, etc). Because they are integral learning activities in BSW Completer courses, we will use a hybrid course delivery model for all clinical courses to provide structured face-to-face contact. As in our MSW delivery model, the intent will be to use the in-person time to focus on those experiential aspects that can best be conducted in-person.

- 6) Many services that support student and instructor success – copyright clearance, assistance for students with disabilities, laboratory facilities, exam proctoring, physical library resources, referrals for academic support, other student support services, etc. – are readily available through campus resources for face-to-face courses but are not easily available for online courses. How will these be addressed in online courses?

The School of Social Work has a strong partnership with CITL to ensure copyright clearance and universal design principles are applied in our hybrid and online courses. For students with disabilities, we strongly encourage students to contact the Division of Rehabilitation Education Services (DRES) to develop accommodation plans based on their unique learning needs. All of our course syllabi are required to include a statement about how students can obtain disability-related academic accommodations and/or auxiliary aids, including DRES contact information. Students in the BSW Completer Program are entitled to use library resources the same way campus-based students do. We provide a library orientation for all undergraduate and graduate students, so they are familiar with how to locate library resources and search online databases. This information is part of new student orientation programs provided by the School of Social Work. Student advising and support is provided by School of Social Work professional academic advisors and student affairs staff.

- 7) Development of a single online course can require far more time and university resources than remote delivery of face-to-face courses. How will this challenge be met? What tradeoffs might occur?

The tuition rate for the BSW Completer Program will be \$416/credit hour. It is the same tuition rate for the only fully online Illinois undergraduate degree program: Earth, Society & Environmental Sustainability in the College of Liberal & Sciences. One of the unique features of the Bachelors of Social Work major is providing innovative programs and experiential learning opportunities. These intensive educational programs are a hallmark of social work education and distinguish our students as very well prepared for success in the professional workforce as well as graduate and professional study. The University Of Illinois Board Of Trustees approved an experiential learning of \$750 in 2010 that is assessed to all BSW majors to help cover part of the extensive faculty resources required to provide enriched social work learning opportunities. BSW Completer students will also be assessed the one-time Experiential Learning fee of \$750.

We intend to provide the BSW Completer Program over time, so any online development costs would quickly be made up as compared to the costs of having faculty travel to Chicago to teach courses remotely. The School of Social Work has the capabilities to handle the online aspects effectively and in a cost efficient manner. Dr. Justin York, Online Education Coordinator, provides leadership for faculty support in online teaching and learning as well as the use of innovative technology. Dr. Brenda Coble Lindsey is a Teaching Full Professor and BSW Completer Program Co-Coordinator. She provides additional guidance to instructors about the BSW Program curriculum. Dr. Lissette Piedra is an Associate Professor and BSW Completer Program Development Co-Coordinator. Both Drs. Lindsey and Piedra have extensive experience in putting face-to-face courses to blended or online formats. Christine Escobar-Sawicki, Clinical Associate Professor, is based in Chicago and charged with developing internship opportunities in the metropolitan area.