



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Revise the Bachelor of Social Work degree program, School of Social Work.

SPONSOR:

Dr. Brenda Lindsey 333-2261 blindsey@illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT:

Dr. Brenda Lindsey 333-2261 blindsey@illinois.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

The Bachelors of Social Work degree program was approved in 2009 and required 125 credit hours. This proposal reduces the number of hours required for graduation to 120 credits.

JUSTIFICATION:

The initial proposal for the Bachelors of Social Work degree included the following requirements:

1. Minimum 125 hours for graduation
2. Concurrent Internship Model: 2-3 days/week (16-24 hours/week), two semesters
3. Foreign language completed to the fourth level
4. Pre-professional course work completed prior to admission

The current proposal includes the following changes:

1. Minimum 120 hours for graduation. The following revisions created a need for this change.
 - a. **Block Internship** 16 weeks, 4 days a week (30-32 hours/week). Rationale: A BSW Internship Advisory Group, composed of representatives from social service agencies that agreed to serve as BSW internship sites, strongly recommended that the BSW program adopt a block internship model. This meant a change from the original 2-3 days/week (16-24 hours/week) for two semesters to 4 days/week (30-32 hours/week) for one semester. The group reasoned that a block internship model provides more robust learning

experiences by allowing students to become fully immersed in the day-to-day realities of social work practice.

- b. **Foreign language completed to the third level.** Rationale: We are a junior-level admit program. Students who have not already fulfilled the foreign language requirement before beginning our program find it difficult to complete it and graduate in 4 years. The block internship model requires students to be at their internship site Monday-Thursday for 30-32 hours/week. This schedule makes it difficult for students to attend additional classes. For this reason, students must complete most or all non-internship course work in the three semesters prior to their internship. By reducing the foreign language requirement to the third level, students will be able to complete upper level degree requirements within four semesters.
- c. **Pre-professional course work completed prior to admission.** The current degree requirements include 15 credits of Pre-professional course work. These should be five courses and can include three courses from different disciplines but no more than six hours at the 100-level. These courses should be completed prior to admission. Because advisement begins prior to admission, we need more leeway to allow students to meet this requirement. We propose that the Pre-professional credit hours be reduced from 15 hours to 6. The remaining necessary credits will be allocated as follows: Social Work electives (increased from 3-6 to 9 hours); Field Practicum (increased from 6 to 8 hours); Professional Practice Seminar (increased from 3 to 4 hours).

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

- a. Additional staff and dollars needed. No additional staff and dollars are needed.
- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.). No changes in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc are required.
- c. Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments. There is no effect on course enrollment in other departments.
- d. Impact on the University Library (*A letter of acknowledgement from the University Librarian must be included for all new program proposals.*) N/A
- e. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc. N/A

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2012

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG: See attached.

CLEARANCES: (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval. *These signatures must appear on a separate sheet.* If multiple departments or colleges are sponsoring the proposal, please add the appropriate signature lines below.)

Signatures:

Brenda Lindsey
Unit Representative:

10-19-11
Date:

Thyme Kou
College Representative:

10-19-11
Date:

Graduate College Representative:

Date:

Council on Teacher Education Representative:

Date:

EP. 12.16

PROGRAM OF STUDY FOR BACHELORS OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE 2.6.12

| Current Program of Study for Bachelors of Social Work Degree | Credit Hours | Proposed Program of Study for Bachelors of Social Work Degree | Credit Hours |
|---|--------------|---|--------------|
| General Education Requirements | | General Education Requirements | |
| Composition Skills and Composition | | Composition Skills and Composition | |
| Composition I and an approved speech performance course | 6-7 | Composition I and CMN 101 | 6-7 |
| Advanced Composition | 3-4 | Advanced Composition | 3-4 |
| Language Other than English | 0-12 | Language other than English | 0-9 |
| Humanities and the Arts | | Humanities and the Arts | |
| Literature and the Arts | 3 | Literature and the Arts | 3 |
| Historical and Philosophical Perspective | 3 | Historical and Philosophical Perspectives | 3 |
| Social and Behavioral Science | 9 | Social and Behavioral Sciences | 9 |
| Cultural Studies | | Cultural Studies | |
| Western Culture | 3 | Western Cultures | 3 |
| Non-Western Culture | 3 | Non-Western Culture | 3 |
| Natural Science and Technology | 6-8 | Natural Science and Technology | 6-8 |
| | | 1 Life Science 1 Physical Science | |
| Quantitative Reasoning | | Quantitative Reasoning | |
| Statistics 100 or equivalent | 3 | Statistics 100 or equivalent | 3 |
| From the approved course list | 3 | From the approved campus list | 3 |
| Pre-professional Requirements Five courses selected in conjunction with the advisor | 15 | Supportive Course work Courses selected in conjunction with the advisor | 6 |
| BSW Requirements | | BSW Requirements | |
| SOCW 200 | 3 | SOCW 200 | 3 |
| SOCW 300 | 3 | SOCW 300 | 3 |
| SOCW 401 | 4 | SOCW 401 | 4 |

PROGRAM OF STUDY FOR BACHELORS OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE 2.6.12

| | | | |
|--|-----|--|------|
| SOCW 402 | 3 | SOCW 402 | 3 |
| SOCW 403 | 3 | SOCW 403 | 3 |
| SOCW 410 | 3 | SOCW 410 | 3 |
| SOCW 427 | 3 | SOCW 427 | 3 |
| SOCW 451 | 3 | SOCW 451 | 3 |
| SOCW 380 | 3-6 | See SOCW Electives | |
| SOCW 460 | 4 | ----- | |
| SOCW 461 | 3 | SOCW 461 | 4 |
| SOCW 470 | 6 | SOCW 470 | 8 |
| SOCW 471 | 3 | SOCW 471 | 4 |
| Social Work Electives: Choose from SOCW 321, 380, 397, 412, 418, 420 | 3-6 | Social Work Electives: Choose from SOCW 321, 397, 412, 415, 418, 420, 380 (380 may be repeated) | 9 |
| BSW Major Credits | 50 | BSW Major Credits | 50 |
| Open Electives | 9 | Open Electives | 9-22 |
| Minimum hours required for graduation | 125 | Minimum hours required for graduation | 120 |

Programs of Study: Undergrad

2011 - 2012

Current

School of Social Work

www.socialwork.illinois.edu
 Dean of the School: Dean Wynne Korr
 Director of BSW Program: Brenda Lindsey
 1010 W. Nevada St.
 Urbana, IL 61801
 (217) 333-2261
 E-mail: socialwork@illinois.edu

Overview of Curriculum and Requirements

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.

Graduates will be prepared for entry into three potential trajectories upon degree completion including (but not limited to): professional social work practice, advanced standing in graduate social work education, and career opportunities and graduate education in the areas such as communications, corrections, education, government, health care, human resources, law, non-profit organizations, religious studies, and public service.

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 encourages the development of well-informed and engaged citizens.

Degree title: Bachelor of Social Work

The social work major prepares practitioners for generalist social work practice with individuals, groups, families and communities. The curriculum requires a minimum of 125 hours for graduation. Minimum required course work in the major equates to 50 course hours of core professional education, including 10 hours for an agency-based field practicum (internship) where students receive additional supervision and training in a 2-3 days per week experience for the academic year (approximately 510 clock hours). All foreign language requirements must be satisfied.

Admission Requirements

Professional Program entry requires the completion of pre-requisites. The following requirements must be met for consideration for admission into the BSW Program:

- Completion of 60 (sixty) earned credit hours of undergraduate coursework
- Completion and documentation of a minimum of 50 (fifty) hours of volunteer* or paid work experience in a social service agency within the last 2 (two) years
- Cumulative minimum GPA 2.5 or higher
- Minimum GPA of 2.67 or higher in SOCW 200
- Statistics 100 or equivalent (EPSY 280, SOC 280, PSYC 235, MATH 161)
- 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

* Volunteer hours can be completed through service learning projects completed for course requirements as well as through volunteer experiences with community organizations. The office of Volunteer Programs at the University <http://union.illinois.edu/ovp/index.html> is a good source for ideas on how to get involved.

Applicants are asked to submit the on-line application form by February 1. Most decisions will be made by March 15. Competitive applicants who have not yet completed the required 60 hours of earned credit hours should discuss with their advisor about a *pre-professional social work attribute*.

General Education

| | |
|-------|---|
| Hours | Communication Skills and Composition |
| 6-7 | Composition I and an approved speech performance course; or CMN 111 and 112 |
| 3-4 | Advanced Composition |

| | |
|-------|--|
| Hours | Language other than English |
| 0-12 | Complete of the fourth level or equivalent is required for graduation. Student may also complete this requirement by completing two languages at the third level. Spanish is strongly recommended. American Sign Language is also acceptable. |

| | |
|-------|--|
| Hours | Humanities and the Arts |
| 3 | Literature and the Arts |
| 3 | Historical and Philosophical Perspective |

| | |
|-------|--|
| Hours | Social and Behavioral Science |
| 9 | Strongly suggested: Psychology 100 – Introduction to Psychology, Sociology 100 Introduction to Sociology, Economics 102 <i>Microeconomics</i> or 103 <i>Macroeconomics</i> , Political Science 100 <i>Introduction to Political Science</i> or 101 <i>Introduction to US Government and Politic</i> , Anthropology 102 <i>Human Origins & Culture</i> or 103 <i>Anthropology in a Changing World</i> , Community Health 100 <i>Contemporary Health</i> or 101 <i>Introduction to Public Health</i> , Speech & Hearing Science 120 <i>Child, Communication & Language Ability</i> or 170 <i>Introduction to Human Communication System & Disorders</i> , Human Development & Family Studies 105 <i>Introduction to Human Development</i> |

| | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| Hours | Cultural Studies |
| 3 | Western cultures |
| 3 | Non-Western/ U.S. minority |

| | |
|-------|---|
| Hours | Natural Sciences and Technology |
| 6-8 | Choose a course with a human biology component. Suggested courses: Anthropology 143: <i>Biology of Human Behavior</i> Integrative Biology 100: <i>Biological Sciences</i> MCB 103: <i>Human Physiology</i> or equivalent |

| | |
|-------|--|
| Hours | Quantitative Reasoning |
| 3 | Statistics 100 or equivalent (EPSY 280, SOC 280, PSYC 235, MATH 161) |
| 3 | From the approved campus list |

| | |
|-------|---|
| Hours | Pre-professional Requirements |
| 15 | Five courses selected in conjunction with the advisor and can include 3 courses from different disciplines. No more than 6 hours at the 100-level. A minor is possible. |

BSW Requirements

| | |
|-------|--|
| Hours | Core Requirements |
| 3 | SOCW 200 – Introduction to Social Work |
| 3 | SOCW 300 – Diversity: Identities and Issues |
| 4 | SOCW 401 – Practice I: Generalist Social Work Practice Methods |
| 3 | SOCW 402 – Practice II: Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families and Groups |
| 3 | SOCW 403 – Practice III: Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities |
| 3 | SOCW 410 – Social Welfare Policies and Services |
| 3 | SOCW 427 – Social Work Research Methods |

| | |
|-----|--|
| 3 | SOCW 451 – Human Behavior in the Social Environment |
| 3-6 | SOCW 380 – Current topics in Social Work (may be repeated up to 6 credits) |
| 4 | SOCW 460 – Field Practicum I |
| 3 | SOCW 461 – Field Seminar |
| 6 | SOCW 470 – Field Practicum II |
| 3 | SOCW 471 – Professional Practice Seminar |
| 3-6 | Social Work electives: Choose from SOCW 321, 380, 397, 412, 418, 420 and may be repeated up to 6 credits |
| 9 | Open Electives |
| 50 | Total |
| 125 | Minimum hours required for graduation |

Honors at Graduation

Eligibility for graduation with honors is established after all grades are recorded following a student's final semester. A student who achieves the required scholastic average in all work presented for graduation (excluding credit for courses not included in the computation of the grade point average) may be recommended for honors as follows: honors, minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.75; high honors, minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.85; highest honors, minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.90.

Departmental distinction: To graduate with distinction, a student must have a University grade point average of at least 3.5, a social work grade point average of at least 3.5, and complete the Senior Honors Seminar (SOCW 471) or Advanced Independent Study (SOCW 418). See Social Work Advisor for details.

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THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK | UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

BSW Program

Proposed

Professional program entry requires the completion of pre-requisites. The following requirements must be met for consideration for admission into the BSW Program:

- Completion of 55 (fifty-five) earned credit hours of undergraduate coursework
- Completion and documentation of a minimum of 50 (fifty) hours of volunteer* or paid work experience in a social service agency prior to the beginning of the program.
- 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

* Volunteer hours can be completed through service learning projects completed for course requirements as well as through volunteer experiences with community organizations. The office of Volunteer Programs at the University <http://union.illinois.edu/ovp/index.html> (<http://union.illinois.edu/ovp/index.html>) is a good source for ideas on how to get involved.

| Hours | Communication Skills and Composition Requirements |
|-------|---|
| 6-7 | Composition I and Introduction to Speech |
| 3-4 | Advanced Composition |

| Hours | Language other than English Requirement |
|-------|--|
| 0-9 | Completion of the third level or equivalent is required for graduation. Spanish is strongly recommended. American Sign Language is also acceptable. |

| Hours | Humanities and the Arts |
|-------|---|
| 3 | Literature and the Arts |
| 3 | Historical and Philosophical Perspectives |

| Hours | Social and Behavioral Science |
|-------|--|
| 9 | Any course that has been approved as a Social and Behavioral Science course from the General Education course list |

| Hours | Cultural Studies |
|-------|-------------------------|
| 3 | Western cultures |
| 3 | Non-Western/US minority |

| Hours | Natural Sciences and Technology |
|-------|--|
| 6 | 1 life science, 1 physical science |
| Hours | Quantitative Reasoning |
| 3 | Statistics 100 or equivalent (ESPY 280, SOC 280, PSYC 235, MATH 161) |
| 3 | From the approved campus list |
| Hours | Professional Requirements |
| 6 | Courses selected in conjunction with the advisor. No more than 3 hours at the 100-level. |

BSW Requirements

| Hours | Core Requirements |
|-------|---|
| 3 | SOCW 200 – Introduction to Social Work |
| 3 | SOCW 300 – Diversity: Identities and Issues |
| 4 | SOCW 401 – Practice I: Generalist Social Work Practice Methods |
| 3 | SOCW 402 – Practice II: Social Work Practice with Individuals, Families and Groups |
| 3 | SOCW 403 – Practice III: Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities |
| 3 | SOCW 410 – Social Welfare Policies and Services |
| 3 | SOCW 427 – Social Work Research Methods |
| 3 | SOCW 451 – Human Behavior in the Social Environment |
| 4 | SOCW 461 – Professional Practice Seminar I |
| 8 | SOCW 470 – Field Practicum |
| 4 | SOCW 471 – Professional Practice Seminar II |
| 9 | Social Work electives: Choose from SOCW 321, 380, (may be repeated up to 6 credits) 397, 412, 418, 420. |
| 50 | Total |

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**Senate Educational Policy Committee
Proposal Check Sheet**

PROPOSAL TITLE (Same as on proposal): Bachelors of Social Work

PROPOSAL TYPE (Please select all that apply below):

A. **Program and degree proposals**

1. This proposal is for a graduate program or degree

Yes No

2. **Degree** proposal (e.g. B.S., M.A. or Ph.D.)

New degree — please name the new degree: _____

Revision of an existing degree — please name the existing degree to be revised:
Bachelors of Social Work

3. **Major** proposal (disciplinary focus, e.g., Mathematics)

New major — please name the new major: _____

Revision of an existing major — please name the existing major to be revised:

4. **Concentration** proposal (e.g. Financial Planning)

New concentration — please name the new concentration: _____

Revision of an existing concentration — please name the existing concentration to be revised: _____

5. **Minor** proposal (e.g. Cinema Studies)

New minor — please name the new minor: _____

Revision of an existing minor — please name the existing minor to be revised: _____

6. Proposal for renaming an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

degree major concentration minor

Please provide the current name: _____

Please provide the proposed new name: _____

7. Proposal for terminating an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

Please name the existing degree, major, concentration, or minor: _____

8. Proposal for a multi-institutional degree between Illinois (UIUC) and a foreign institution

Please name the existing Illinois degree or program: _____

Please name the partnering institution: _____

B. **Proposal for renaming existing academic units** (college, school, department, or program)

Please provide the unit's current name: _____

Please provide the unit's proposed new name: _____

C. **Proposal for reorganizing existing units** (colleges, schools, departments, or programs)

Change in status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department) — please indicate current unit name including status: _____

Transfer an existing unit

Please provide the current unit's name and home: _____

Please provide the new home for the unit: _____

Merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B)

Please provide the name and college of unit one to be merged: _____

Please provide the name and college of unit two to be merged: _____

Terminate an existing unit — please provide the current unit's name and status: _____

D. **Other educational policy proposals** (e.g., academic calendar, grading policies, etc.)

Please indicate the nature of the proposal: _____

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



November 15, 2011

Gay Miller, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the School of Social Work to revise the Bachelor of Social Work degree.

This proposal has been approved by the BSW Program Committee and the School of Social Work Curriculum Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kristi A. Kuntz'.

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: W. Korr

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

School of Social Work

Office of the Dean
1010 West Nevada
Urbana, IL 61801



Dean Wynne S. Korr
Telephone 217-333-2260
Fax 217-244-4499
email: wkorr@illinois.edu

October 20, 2011

Kristi Kuntz
Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Education
Swanlund Administration Building
601 E. John MC 304
Champaign, IL 61820

Dear Ms. Kuntz:

Please find the enclosed Proposal for Revision of an Existing Degree for the Bachelors of Social Work Program. We propose to reduce the number of credits for graduation from 125 hours to 120 hours. The changes described in the proposal have been approved by the BSW Program Committee, the School of Social Work Curriculum Committee, and the faculty of the School of Social Work.

We appreciate your assistance and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wynne S. Korr'.

Wynne S. Korr
Dean and Professor