MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Offered by the School of Social Work & Criminal Justice
THE MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW) program prepares learners for advanced and specialized practice as providers of social services and includes a combination of field experience and classroom learning. The MSW is considered the terminal degree in the social work profession. Content and coursework in the MSW program will prepare graduates to function in professional social work positions in a wide variety of settings, including healthcare agencies, child and family services, public social service organizations, the criminal justice system and the public schools.

The MSW program at UW Tacoma is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education as a program option under the auspices of the University of Washington School of Social Work in Seattle.

WHAT MAKES THE MSW RELEVANT?

- Provides a broad perspective of the field of social welfare.
- Provides a foundation of social work knowledge and skills.
- Provides an ethics and values base.
- Provides advanced and specialized knowledge of social work interventions.
ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The curriculum provides an in-depth education through the classroom and practicum to prepare graduates for advanced, specialized practice. Topics include integrative social work practice models and methods, social policy, human diversity, and applied research. Graduates are prepared to address the social welfare needs of a complex society. This graduate program prepares learners to collaborate with other human service professionals and with the community when addressing those needs. The Integrative Practice concentration prepares students to work at all levels of practice in leadership roles.

PROGRAM MISSION & GOALS

As members of the University of Washington School of Social Work, we commit ourselves to promoting social and economic justice for poor and oppressed populations and enhancing the quality of life for all. We strive to maximize human welfare through:

- Education of effective social work leaders, practitioners and educators who will challenge injustice and promote a more humane society, and whose actions will be guided by vision, compassion, knowledge and disciplined discovery, and deep respect for cultural diversity and human strengths;

- Research that engenders understanding of complex social problems, illuminates human capacities for problem-solving, and promotes effective and timely social intervention; and

- Public service that enhances the health, well-being, and empowerment of disadvantaged communities and populations at local, national, and international levels.

The MSW curriculum has been developed to enhance both breadth and depth in professional education and to respond to changing social work practice needs. The curriculum reflects the faculty’s commitment to a set of core MSW curriculum values and principles.

The School’s curriculum is framed by a set of core values, which flow directly from its mission. Primary among these is the School’s commitment to social justice. Corollary values include commitments to multiculturalism, to social change, and to collaboration and empowerment. Further, the School is dedicated to bringing these commitments to life in its curriculum through pedagogical strategies that recognize the essential synergy between knowledge and action, and that provide opportunities for generative learning.

The program has two overarching goals:

- To prepare students for generalist practice including basic knowledge and skills for understanding and solving complex social problems within the values of professional social work.

- To prepare students for specialized professional practice in an area of concentration in a way that fosters social work leadership, effective social interventions, a commitment to a just and humane, diverse society, and a commitment to public service.

In addition, the UW Tacoma MSW Program is dedicated to providing access to social work education to residents of the south Puget Sound region.
The primary goal of the curriculum is to provide social work students with the critical skills, value base and knowledge to advance social justice, multiculturalism, social change, collaboration and empowerment in their professional roles. This goal is operationalized through nine core competencies:

1. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior.
2. Engage diversity and difference in practice.
3. Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice.
4. Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice.
5. Engage in policy practice.
6. Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
7. Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
8. Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
9. Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

The mission of the Integrative Practice concentration is to prepare MSW-level practitioners to assume leadership roles in the design, delivery, and evaluation of interventions at all levels of practice, from work with an individual client to community advocacy or policy analysis. These interventions, informed by research, focus on specific practice fields and methods of service delivery within the context of emerging societal conditions and needs. In the tradition of the social work profession, the prime motivator and ultimate goal of this specialized concentration is the realization of social and economic justice for those marginalized by society.

Students focus their specialized course of study in an area of particular interest to them. These areas might include, but are not limited to: children and youth; clinical mental health; chemical dependency; military families and veterans; older adults; criminal justice; health care systems; school social work; domestic violence; and public child welfare.

Students develop knowledge and skills to address their topic in depth, while actively integrating the relevant practice concerns, policies, issues of diversity and social justice, research evidence, and the community contexts impacting their chosen topic.

Classes in both MSW options are typically scheduled one or two evenings a week.

Students must be prepared to adjust their employment and personal schedules to accommodate program requirements, particularly around practicum.

See “program of study” schedules on the following pages for more details.
THREE-YEAR MSW / The UW Tacoma MSW Program currently offers a three-year, part-time evening program, designed for graduates of baccalaureate programs from any major.

During the first year and part of the second, the generalist curriculum provides instruction in the basic knowledge, skills and values required for beginning social work practice, as well as an opportunity for socialization to the profession, its value orientation, ethics and history. The foundation curriculum also includes a field practicum where students are given the opportunity to put into practice the knowledge gained in classroom courses.

In the remaining second and third year, the specialized curriculum is designed to provide knowledge and skills in the concentration area of Integrative Practice. This also includes the specialization practicum, which is an integral part of the concentration curricula. Specialization practicum may not begin until all generalist requirements are completed.

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<tr>
<th>THREE-YEAR MSW — Program of study</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIRST YEAR</strong> / Generalist Curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUTUMN</strong> (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T SOCW 501 Social Policy and Economic Security (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T SOCW 502 Human Behavior and Social Environment I (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WINTER</strong> (6 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 503 Human Behavior and Social Environment II (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T SOCW 504 Cultural Diversity and Societal Justice (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SPRING</strong> (7 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 510 Practice I: Introduction to Social Work Practice (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 514 Practice V: Foundation Practice Skills (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 524 Generalist Practicum (1)</td>
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<td><strong>SUMMER</strong> (6 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 511 Practice II: Intermediate Direct Service Practice (3)</td>
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<td>T SOCW 524 Generalist Practicum (3)</td>
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**ADVANCED STANDING MSW** / Designed for eligible graduates of baccalaureate programs in social work or social welfare, Advanced Standing allows students to enter the advanced level of the MSW curriculum. During the six quarters of the advanced curriculum, students will gain knowledge and skills in the concentration area of Integrative Practice and complete the specialization practicum.

To be eligible for Advanced Standing, applicants must have a BSW or BASW from a U.S. program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST YEAR</th>
<th>SECOND YEAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUTUMN</strong> (10 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 525</td>
<td>T SOCW 525 Specialization Practicum (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 531</td>
<td>T SOCW 531 Integrative Policy Analysis (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 532</td>
<td>T SOCW 532 Integrative Practice I (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WINTER</strong> (7 credits)</td>
<td><strong>WINTER</strong> (8 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 597</td>
<td>T SOCW 525 Specialization Practicum (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 598</td>
<td>T SOCW 533 Integrative Practice II (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Welfare Research (2)</td>
<td>Integrative Seminar (5)</td>
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<td>Integrative Seminar (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SPRING</strong> (6 credits)</td>
<td><strong>SPRING</strong> (8 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 535</td>
<td>T SOCW 525 Specialization Practicum (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 540-560</td>
<td>T SOCW 540-560 Integrative Practice Selective (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research for Integrative Practice (3)</td>
<td>Integrative Practice Selective (3)</td>
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<td>Integrative Practice Selective (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUMMER</strong> (6 credits)</td>
<td><strong>TOTAL 45 CREDITS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>T SOCW 525</td>
<td>Specialization Practicum 680 hours (17 credits)</td>
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<td>T SOCW 540-560</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialization Practicum (3)</td>
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<td>Integrative Practice Selective (3)</td>
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ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The UW Tacoma MSW program seeks to enroll well-qualified students with diverse backgrounds. Admission to the program is based on academic performance and potential, clarity and appropriateness of career objectives, understanding of social issues, knowledge of diverse populations and relevant experiences. Academic credit toward the MSW is not given for previous employment or life experience.

Selection is based on academic background and potential, match of student interests with faculty expertise, special programs, program resources or priorities, social/human service experience, appropriateness of professional goals and objectives and experience with diverse populations. In addition to the completed application and application fee, the following are required:

- A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
- **Advanced Standing Applicants only:** Must have a BSW or BASW from a U.S. program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).
- 3.0 grade-point average calculated from the applicant’s final 90 graded quarter credits or 60 graded semester credits.
- Undergraduate preparation must include at least five credits in each of the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, and 60 credits of liberal arts.
- Admissions essay.
- One unofficial transcript from each college and university attended.*
- Current résumé.
- Social service experience form documenting relevant work experience in social or health services.
- Three professional or academic references.

Admission to the UW Tacoma MSW program is competitive, and typically there is not enough space available to accommodate all applicants who meet the basic qualifications for admission.

For the most current MSW admission requirements, please reference [tacoma.uw.edu/msw/admission](http://tacoma.uw.edu/msw/admission)

*Transcripts will be scanned and uploaded as part of the UW Graduate School online application submission. Applicants who are offered admission will be required to supply the University of Washington Graduate Admission Office with an official transcript from the institution that granted their bachelor’s degree.
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

BACKGROUND CHECK / Washington state law requires that individuals who have access to children under 16 years of age, persons with developmental disabilities and vulnerable adults such as older people, obtain a comprehensive background check concerning past offenses. During your education in the MSW program, you will come into contact with members of the above-mentioned populations.

If you are admitted you will be required to use a contracted vendor to obtain a comprehensive background check. Please be aware that there is a fee for this service.

IMMUNIZATIONS / The University of Washington School of Social Work falls under the umbrella of UW Health Sciences, therefore, all MSW students must comply with the Health Sciences Immunization Policy. Students will need to meet certain immunization standards and submit a health history.

STATISTICS REQUIREMENT / As practitioners and consumers of research, familiarity with the basic techniques of social work research is important for entering students.

Therefore, those admitted to the MSW program are required to have successfully completed an introductory course in statistics within the last five years prior to beginning the MSW program, with a grade of C or 2.0 or higher.

For more information, please visit: tacoma.uw.edu/msw/admission

CHILD WELFARE TRAINING AND ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM (CWTAP) / Under a contract with the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) – Children’s Administration (CA), financial support may be available to you as you pursue your MSW degree, providing you meet specific qualifications. In exchange, you agree to be employed within Washington State DSHS-CA after receiving your MSW degree.

The CWTAP provides federal Title IV-E financial assistance and special training to MSW students desiring to work in public child welfare. Availability of funding for CWTAP varies. Please contact the CWTAP staff at 253-692-4530 or visit the website for more information: tacoma.uw.edu/CWTAP
HOW TO APPLY

It is required that you complete your UW Graduate School application and submit your application fee online: grad.uw.edu/admissions

Please note that MSW application materials are available online only. Check online for the most current application procedures. tacoma.uw.edu/msw/apply

The online information contains important policies and detailed information regarding all required application forms and documents. Please pay careful attention to the instructions. Only complete applications will be considered for admission.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

THREE-YEAR MSW

Autumn Quarter
Priority: March 1

The MSW program currently admits three-year MSW students for autumn quarter only.

Complete applications received by the priority application date will be assured of a review; complete applications received after the priority application date will be reviewed on a space-available basis for a limited period of time.

ADVANCED STANDING MSW

Winter Quarter
Deadline: June 30

The MSW program currently admits Advanced Standing MSW students for winter quarter only.

Complete applications received by the deadline will be assured of a review. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

Remember, several items are required to complete your application. Your application will not be reviewed for admission until all materials have been received online.

“My UWT professors demonstrated their commitment to my learning and growth, and prepared me for success in the field of social work.”

– Kathyrn Kemp Chociej, MSW, ’13
CHRISTOPHER BARRANS  
Assistant Teaching Professor;  
HIV/AIDS, LGBTQ Issues, Medical Case Management;  
M.S.W., University of Washington, 2011

ANINDITA BHATTACHARYA  
Assistant Professor;  
Global Mental Health, Cross-Cultural Qualitative Research, Gender-Based Violence, Trauma, Gender Disparities and Health Equity among Women, Community Mental Health Interventions;  
Ph.D., Columbia University, 2019

RICK BUTT  
Director, Child Welfare Training and Advancement Program and Teaching Associate;  
Child Welfare, Adolescence and Transitioning Youth;  
M.S.W., San Diego State University, 1999

ERIN A. CASEY  
Professor;  
Gender-Based Violence and Prevention;  
Ph.D., University of Washington, 2006

JEFFREY COHEN  
Associate Professor and Acting Associate Dean of Finance and Operations;  
Executive Director, Office of Global Affairs;  
Criminalization of School Bullying, Gender, Masculinities, Comparative Criminal Justice;  
Ph.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2009

KENNETH A. CRUZ  
Assistant Professor;  
Criminology, Law and Society;  
Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, 2018

THOMAS M. DIEHM  
Director of Field Education and Teaching Professor;  
Field Education, Community Mental Health, HIV/AIDS, LGBT Issues;  
Ph.D., Portland State University, 2004

KELI DRAKE  
Teaching Associate;  
Child Welfare;  
M.S.W., University of Washington Tacoma, 2005

CHARLES A. EMLET  
Professor;  
Gerontological Social Work, Medical Social Work, Public and Mental Health, HIV/AIDS;  
Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University, 1998

DIANA FALCO  
Assistant Teaching Professor;  
Drugs and Crime, Capital Punishment, Quantitative Methods;  
Ph.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2008

RICH FURMAN  
Professor;  
Men at Risk, Transnational Social Work Practice, Qualitative Research, The Arts and Humanities in Social Work Practice, Research and Education;  
Ph.D., Yeshiva University, 2001

MICHELLE D. GARNER  
Associate Professor;  
Mental Health, Wellness, & Resiliency, Natural Environment & Animal-Assisted Therapy, Learning Disabilities, Translational Science;  
Ph.D., University of Washington, 2007

MARIAN S. HARRIS  
Professor;  
Child Welfare, Racial Disproportionality and Disparity, Children of Incarcerated Parents, Trauma and Attachment Issues, Kinship Care, Pregnancy/Parenting for Foster Youth;  
Ph.D., Smith College School for Social Work, 1997

JANELLE HAWES  
Assistant Professor;  
Work, Inequality, Social Movements;  
Ph.D., Northeastern University, 2016

ANDREA HILL  
Associate Teaching Professor;  
Criminology, Education, Marginalized Populations and Mental Health;  
Ph.D., Bowling Green State University, 2016

TERESA A. HOLT-SCHAAD  
Senior Lecturer Emeritus;  
Children, Youth and Families, Diversity Issues, Field Education;  
M.S.W., University of Washington Tacoma, 2001

HERMENIA JACKSON  
Teaching Associate;  
Child Welfare;  
M.S.W., University of Washington, 1998

MAHEALANI K. KALILIKANE  
Teaching Associate;  
Child Welfare;  
M.S.W., University of Washington, 2005

JAERAN KIM  
Assistant Professor;  
Child Welfare, Foster Care, Adoption and Disability, Policy;  
Ph.D., University of Minnesota, 2015
JANICE H. LAAKSO
Associate Professor Emeritus;
Welfare Reform and Child Support Policy,
Women’s Issues, Cultural Diversity,
Social-Justice Issues;
Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, 1999

MARCELINE M. LAZZARI
Professor Emeritus and Acting Dean;
Feminist Social Work Practice,
Education and Administration,
Human Diversities, Qualitative Research;
Ph.D., University of Denver Graduate School
of Social Work, 1990

ERIC MADFIS
Associate Professor;
Criminological Theory, School Violence, Homicide,
Sociology of Deviance and Social Control;
Ph.D., Northeastern University, 2012

GILLIAN MARSHALL
Assistant Professor;
Gerontological Social Work, Public Health,
Mental Health Disparities;
Ph.D., University of Washington, 2011

RANDY MYERS
Associate Professor;
Youth Justice, Crime and Public Policy, Criminological Theory, Punishment and Inequality;
University of California, Irvine, 2012

RONALD J. SAN NICOLAS
Assistant Teaching Professor;
Behavioral Health and Recovery,
Neurodiversity, Social Policy;
Ph.D., University of Hawaii at Manoa, 1998

CLAUDIA SELLMAIER
Assistant Professor;
Work-Life Fit, Economic Security, and Disability;
Ph.D., Portland State University, 2015

MONIQUETRA SLATER
Teaching Associate;
Child Welfare, Children’s Mental Health,
Trauma Informed Care, Social Justice Issues;
M.S.W., University of Washington Tacoma, 2008

BARBARA TOEWS
Associate Professor;
Restorative Justice, Corrections
and Environmental Design;
Ph.D., Bryn Mawr College, 2014

DIANE S. YOUNG
Professor;
Social Work and Criminal Justice,
Social Work Research, Mental Health;
Ph.D., University of Washington, 1997
THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA is accredited as a part of the University of Washington by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. Individual academic programs may have additional accreditations. The University of Washington reaffirms its policy of equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran in accordance with university policy and applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The University of Washington is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation in the application process, including American Sign Language interpretation, contact the Disability Resources for Students office at 253-692-4508, drsuwt@uw.edu or submit a request at tacoma.uw.edu/UWTDRS/eventaccess preferably at least 10 days in advance.