SOCIAL WORK

ABOUT THE MAJOR

The School of Social Work responds to the needs and aspirations of various at-risk populations in the San Francisco Bay Area and similar urban communities. The program aims to educate undergraduate students for generalist social work practice in a variety of social-service settings, and teach students to serve as change agents with urban, oppressed populations, while enabling members of these populations to act on their own behalf. Our graduates provide direct services to people in need and, as administrators and organizers of social service agencies, make services more accessible and responsive to the communities they serve.

The mission of the SF State School of Social Work is to educate diverse learners to achieve progressive development and promote social change throughout the Bay Area and beyond. The School cultivates ethical leadership for social justice and promotes professional advocacy, versatility, activism and cultural humility.

CAREER OUTLOOK

Students who complete the undergraduate social work major are prepared for graduate study in accredited schools of social work and social welfare; graduate programs in gerontology and other helping professions, and professional or graduate training in related fields such as law, public administration, public health, mental health, nursing, health education and psychology; and for entry-level professional positions in both public and private social welfare agencies.

Examples of these agencies include local departments of social services, hospitals and community mental health facilities; child care programs, services for the aged, drug and alcohol treatment programs, family service agencies; and community, neighborhood and advocacy organizations. The major provides students with an opportunity to apply social science theories and social work knowledge and skills in a comprehensive field work placement during their senior year.
APPLICATION INFORMATION

Since social work is an impacted major, students are required to submit a supplemental application for admission into the undergraduate Social Work program. Current students must apply during a specific time frame and typically must be submitted by early to mid-December. Please refer to this link for the supplemental application and updated deadlines:

[socwork.sfsu.edu/admissions/basw](socwork.sfsu.edu/admissions/basw)

Current students are eligible to apply as long as they meet these minimum criteria:

- Upper Division Status (60 units by end of Summer after applying)
- Minimum of 2.5 overall and pre-requisite GPA, although successful applicants often have a higher GPA.
- Successful completion or in progress of all prerequisite courses (end of summer after applying)
- Submit correctly and a fully completed supplemental application by the department deadline

The supplemental application will require you to write a personal statement expounding on your experience in the field of social work as well as your professional goals related to the program. Experience in the human services field, either paid or volunteer, is also required in order to apply for the Social Work program. Although the minimum GPA required to apply is 2.5, successful applicants typically have a much higher GPA so aim for the best possible grades.

** SW ADMISSIONS PREREQUISITE COURSES **

- ECON 102 or 305 (LD-D1)
- BIO 100 (LD-B2)
- PSYC 200 (LD-D1/E)
- SOC 105 (LD-D1)
- ENG 214 (LD-A4)

** General Education Areas Potentially Met by Courses in this Major **

Successfully completing the Social Work curriculum would also mean that you have met the requirements for Area A4, Area B2, Area D1 and Area E in your lower division General Education requirements.

** ADDING, DROPPING AND WITHDRAWING FROM CLASSES AFTER START OF SEMESTER **

Please be aware of all deadlines. You may add courses via your Gateway until before the first day of instruction, provided there is space available. Once classes start, you will need permission numbers from your instructor to add classes via Gateway.

Dropping courses via your Gateway without it noted on your official records must occur within the first three weeks of each semester. After this three-week period, you are no longer allowed to drop courses via your Gateway. You must have a serious and compelling reason to withdraw from a course and submit a petition with objective supporting documentation. If approved, a “W” will appear on your transcript. All withdrawal petitions that lack serious and compelling reasons and/or viable supporting documentation will be denied within the College of Health & Social Sciences. Be conscientious about withdrawing from classes, as you are allowed a maximum of 18 units for withdrawal, and “W”s on your transcript can reflect poorly. Also, keep in mind that you are only allowed to repeat a course once for a maximum of two times.

Lastly, it is ALWAYS students’ responsibility to ensure that they are in the appropriate classes — always check your schedule!

** RESOURCES: **

- SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
  HSS 222 | socwork@sfsu.edu | (415) 338-1003
  socwork.sfsu.edu

- CHSS STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER
  HSS 254 | srcenter@sfsu.edu | (415) 405-3740
  chss.sfsu.edu/src

- ASSIST
  assist.org