Welcome to the University of Connecticut School of Social Work

Advanced Standing Orientation

April 27, 2019
Purpose of Orientation

- To familiarize students with
  - NASW Code of Ethics
  - Expectations of the School
  - MSW Curriculum & Requirements
  - Available resources
NASW Code of Ethics

Preamble

The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. A historic and defining feature of social work is the profession’s focus on individual well-being in a social context and the well-being of society. Fundamental to social work is attention to the environmental forces that create, contribute to, and address problems in living.

The mission of the social work profession is rooted in a set of core values. These core values, embraced by social workers throughout the profession’s history, are the foundation of social work’s unique purpose and perspective. Core values, and the ethical principles that flow from them, must be balanced within the context and complexity of the human experience.

Core Values and Ethical Principles

Value: Service
Ethical Principle: Social workers’ primary goal is to help people in need and to address social problems.

Value: Social Justice
Ethical Principle: Social workers challenge social injustice

Value: Dignity and Worth of the Person
Ethical Principle: Social workers respect the inherent dignity and worth of the person.

Value: Importance of Human Relationships
Ethical Principle: Social workers recognize the central importance of human relationships.

Value: Integrity
Ethical Principle: Social workers behave in a trustworthy manner.

Value: Competence
Ethical Principle: Social workers practice within their area of competence and develop and enhance their professional expertise.

The above is an extract of the NASW code of Ethics approved by the 1996 Delegate Assembly. The complete text, including ethical standards, is available from the National Association of Social Workers, 750 First Street, NE, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20002-4921.

National Association of Social Workers
Expectations of a Graduate Student

- **Engagement** – The School provides many amazing opportunities to enhance your educational experience. Take advantage and engage with faculty, staff and your fellow students. Lead, join, experience …

- **Communication** – Check your UConn email account frequently. Please address and respond to emails in a professional manner. Return phone calls in a timely manner and allow for messages to be left on your phone. As part of your graduate education and professional development, how you communicate is **IMPORTANT**.

- **Academics** - You must maintain a B (correction made from B-) or better in every course and maintain an overall cum GPA of 3.0 in every semester otherwise it will jeopardize your academic status and conferral of your degree.

- **Advocacy** – Be proactive and seek out the necessary information and resources to help you succeed in the program, i.e. advisor, staff, website resources.
MSW Program Curriculum
Do You Plan to Work?
## IGFP Summary

### Advanced Standing Credit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer Session Requirements</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Concentration Course</td>
<td>3 crs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Laboratory</td>
<td>1 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Populations Course</td>
<td>1 cr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 crs.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall and Spring Semester Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(3) Advanced Concentration Courses</td>
<td>9 crs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Research Course</td>
<td>3 crs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Field Education</td>
<td>8 crs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Field Advising Seminar</td>
<td>1 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3) Electives</td>
<td>9 crs.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 crs.</td>
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**Total Credits** 35
## Advanced Standing Credit

### CORG & POPR Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer Session Requirements</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Concentration Course</td>
<td>3 crs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Laboratory</td>
<td>1 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Populations Course</td>
<td>1 cr</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall and Spring Semester Requirements</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(4) Advanced Concentration Courses</td>
<td>12 crs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Research Course</td>
<td>3 crs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Field Education</td>
<td>8 crs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Field Advising Seminar</td>
<td>1 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Electives</td>
<td>6 crs.</td>
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</table>

**Total Credits** 35
Advanced Standing Summer Session  
July 15th to August 23rd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>CORG 5300, IGFP 5301 or POPR 5300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>CORG 5340, IGFP 5340 or POPR 5340</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASC 5301</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Populations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: You will need to register and pay for your Summer Alternative Session 2 no later July 1st otherwise you will incur a late fee. If you register after this date, you will have 10 days to pay your fee bill before a late fee applies. If you decide to withdraw from the program after registering, consider doing so no later than July 19th. Otherwise you will be responsible for paying a portion of the tuition and fees.
Electives

• Enroll in an elective of interest when it is offered.

• Organize your electives around a Focused Area of Study, which is optional and not required.

• Some electives are not offered regularly and may be cancelled two weeks before classes begin if there is insufficient enrollment. Please have alternative classes in mind.
Focused Areas of Study

Requirements

**Focused Areas of Study Offered:**

- Health and Wellness Through the Lifespan
- International Issues in Social Work
- Intersectionality, Human Agency and Social Justice
- Urban Issues in Social Work
- Violence Prevention in Families and Communities

**Requirements Consists of:**

- A year-long field placement in a field of practice relevant to the Focused Area of Study, and
- 6 elective credits
  - Refer to [requirements](#) of each area.
Non-Degree Program

- Consider enrolling in an elective in the summer before the advanced standing summer session
  - This will help lighten your course load for the academic year
- All grades earned of B- or higher will be transferred to the student’s record
- Financial aid is not available if you choose this option
- Non-Degree Information
Field Education Overview
Purpose of Field Education

Field Education gives students the opportunity to:

- Apply theory to practice
- Observe professional social workers in action
- Learn and practice transferrable skills
- Be a learner and enhance self-awareness
- Take a risk; work with a new population or setting
Field Placement Process

1) Student completes and submits Field Education Information Form and current resume

2) Field Education staff will identify appropriate placements and contact the student with field instructor’s name and phone number

3) Student will call field instructor immediately to schedule an interview

4) Student will give Field Education Office regular updates

5) Students should not contact agencies without Field Education approval
Field Education Structures

- Field Education Forms are due **TODAY**.

- Concurrent placement
  - 20 hours per week (3 full days)
  - 15 hours per week (2 full days)

- Most if not all field placements are during daytime

- There are no evening/weekend only field placements.

- **Note:** School placements prefer 15 hours per week
How will you fit **15 to 20 daytime hours per week** into your schedule?

- You must have a plan in place to accommodate the 15 to 20 hours per week of field education.
- Flex time?
- Educational Leave?
- Vacation time?
- Sick time?
Process Recordings

- Purpose and value: Educational tool
- IGFP students submit 24 process recordings each year of field
- Macro students as assigned
Professional Expectations

- You are expected to act professionally in field, classes and all school interactions
- Wear “business casual” attire (no logos, leggings, sneakers)
- Give proper notice; call in if you are going to be late or if you cannot attend field.
- Regularly check your UConn emails from field instructor, faculty advisor and School
- Recognize the implications of your behavior; your absence or tardiness affects others including clients and colleagues.
Field Education Grades

• Students are evaluated on nine competencies, which are established by the Council on Social Work Education, our accrediting body.
• Students cannot move forward in their program if
  • an incomplete grade (I) is received in field education
  • an unsatisfactory grade (U) is received in field education
• In the instance of an (U) grade, a student’s program plan will be modified and the student will not be able to continue to take concentration courses along with field until the following year.
• In the instance where an (I) grade is not rectified within the specified time, the student will not be able to continue to take concentration courses along with field.
Preparing for the Interview

• Visit agency website
• Dress appropriately (business attire)
• Bring your current resume
• Have prepared questions pertaining to:
  • Orientation provided to interns
  • Possible assignments
  • Supervision
  • Available trainings
  • Agency Requirements
  • Weekly schedule for field
Agency Requirements

• Agencies may require students to attend on certain days.
• Some agencies will only take second year students.
• Field hours should coincide with field instructor’s schedule and client needs.
• You may need to attend training prior to start of field.
Agency Requirements

- You are responsible for meeting the agency’s requirements.
  - Successfully completing background checks including drug screenings
  - Demonstrating that you are current with immunizations
  - Asking field instructor what you can do to prepare over the summer
- SSW is not responsible for securing placements if you are unable to meet these requirements.
Background Checks

• All students are subject to background checks for the University.
• Most field placements also require background checks.
• University Contracted Vendor for background checks and health monitoring is American Data Bank (ADB).
• Student is responsible for the cost of background checks and health monitoring.
• Visit this link https://uconn.complio.com/ to create your account and complete necessary information by July 1st.
Field Advising Seminar

- 2 hour group meeting with faculty advisor & peers
- Focused on field learning
- Meets 4 times per academic year – refer to academic/field calendar
- Receive 1 credit per academic year, earned during spring semester
- Faculty advisors will be assigned in August and will be posted on Field Education Board in SSW 1st floor
- Seminar attendance is mandatory
Faculty Advisors

• The current Graduate Advisor of Record, Dr. Ann Marie Garran, will remain until your new advisor is assigned in August.

• Until your new advisor is assigned; please direct all communications to the Office of Student & Academic Services (OSAS) or Field Education depending on your questions.

• Assigned Faculty Advisors may be full time faculty or adjunct faculty including field staff
Field Education

• To check the status of your field education placement forms, contact Nancy Urcinas at: nancy.urcinas@uconn.edu
School Community
Graduate Student Organization (GSO) Mission

- School of Social Work Graduate Student Organization exists to create and strengthen a beneficial environment for its members, matriculated students.
- The GSO observes and celebrates diversity in all forms through educational and social programs, community service projects and advocacy opportunities.
- In accordance with the UConn School of Social Work’s mission, our organization’s function is to augment the students’ academic experience. In pursuit of this mission, GSO models its conduct in accordance with the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics.
Student Requirements
HOLDS

- An ENR hold for Social Work New Admits is on all incoming students’ record.

- This will ONLY be removed once you attend orientation and advising and will be lifted on the day of registration.
OTHER HOLDS

• Holds from other departments can be added to your record for a certain term date (i.e. final transcript, immunization, money owed)

• Please be sure to check for holds regularly and contact the appropriate office who placed the hold as these will prevent you from registering.
Advanced Standing
Summer Registration

Prior to June 26th

• Review your concentration program plan & the summer schedule
  http://ssw.uconn.edu/students/schedules/ to ensure you register for the right courses

• You need to self-register through the Student Administration account at
  https://ssw.uconn.edu/calendars-and-schedules/.

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Fall Registration

Wednesday, June 19\textsuperscript{th} at 10 am

- Well before registration, review your account and your program plan to enroll in the correct courses.
- You need to self-register through the Student Administration account at \url{http://studentadmin.uconn.edu/}
- If you decide to withdraw from the program after registering, consider doing so before \textbf{August 23\textsuperscript{rd}}. Otherwise you will be responsible for a paying a portion of the charges if you are registered for classes.
Requirements of Incoming Students

- Advising Session – May session date will be assigned by email
- Not Anymore Training – Complete by May 31st
- Submit Immunizations/Vaccination Records to Storrs Student Health Services - Complete by June 1st
- New Student Technology Training – Prior to today’s session
- Attend Convocation on Joining our SSW Just Community – August 23rd
- Transcripts
  - Send official transcript to UConn Graduate School in order to register for Summer and Fall
  - Those currently finishing courses - you will also need to send an official transcript after your degree is conferred in order to register for Spring 2020
University Resources

• Bursar
• Financial Aid
• Off-Campus Housing
• Parking Services
Student Supports

- Career Services
- Center for Students with Disabilities
- Graduate Student Organization
- Office of Student & Academic Services
- Hartford Campus Library
- Sexual Violence Awareness
- UConn Bookstore
- The Writing Center
Technology Supports

- New Student Technology Training
- Information Technology Services
- Microsoft/Windows Software for Students
Student email – Google Apps@UConn

- Official UConn student email system – all students have an account
- **After orientation we will begin communicating to this email, please be sure to activate it as soon as possible after today**
- Vital information is sent regarding financial aid, field education, registration, events, etc.
- Regularly check your account and delete messages as necessary.
- You may forward this account to your personal email account.
Q&A