Welcome to the University of Connecticut School of Social Work

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 areas 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, 800 North Lake Street, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20001-3081.

NASW
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 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?
Curriculum Requirements
Credit Summary for IGFP

- Basic foundation courses – including courses and field 27
- Advanced IGFP concentration courses 12
- Advanced Research Required Course (RSCH 5341 or 42) 3
- Advanced year field education 8
- Advanced field education seminar 1
- Electives (3 required) 9

60 Credits
# Curriculum Requirements

## Credit Summary for CORG & POPR

- Basic foundation courses – including courses and field: 27 credits
- Advanced CORG & POPR concentration courses: 15 credits
- Advanced Research Required Course (RSCH 5341 or 42): 3 credits
- Advanced year field education: 8 credits
- Advanced field education seminar: 1 credit
- Electives (2 required): 6 credits

Total credits: 60

Options to Consider

- The program can be completed in 2, 3, or 4 years.
- Please be aware the number of credits will affect your financial aid.
  - Students who pursue the extended degree program (3 or 4 years) will see a decline in their aid after the 2nd year.
  - Students who are enrolled part-time, regardless of their year in the program, are not eligible for grant money.

- You are prepared to go into field if:
  - you can handle taking four or five courses a semester,
  - change your schedule to accommodate a 15 or 20 hour a week field placement,
  - you received BSW exemptions and/or if you have taken a number of Non-Degree courses
## Fall Semester Regular Program

**IGFP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ENTERING 1st Year Field</strong></th>
<th><strong>NOT ENTERING 1st Year Field</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MINIMUM COURSE LOAD</strong></td>
<td><strong>Completing the program in 3 or 4 yrs.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BASC 5362</strong></td>
<td>ANY OF THESE COURSES CAN BE COMPLETED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HBSE: Macro &amp; Micro Theories</td>
<td>BASC 5300 Human Oppression 3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 cr.</strong></td>
<td>BASC 5333 Research I 3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BASC 5390</strong></td>
<td>BASC 5350 Analysis of Social Welfare Policy 3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macro Foundation Practice</td>
<td>BASC 5362 HBSE: Macro and Micro Theories 3 cr.</td>
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<td><strong>3 cr.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BASC 5391</strong></td>
<td>TOTAL 6 to 12 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Micro Foundation Practice</td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong> 13 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 cr.</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FED 5351</strong></td>
<td><strong>ENTERING 1st Year Field</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Education Foundation</td>
<td><strong>MINIMUM COURSE LOAD</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4 cr.</strong></td>
<td><strong>BASC 5362</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FED 5301</strong></td>
<td>HBSE: Macro &amp; Micro Theories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Field Education</td>
<td><strong>3 cr.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td><strong>BASC 5333</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>0 cr.</strong></td>
<td>Research I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong> 13 cr.</td>
<td><strong>BASC 5350</strong></td>
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Electives may be taken in any semester.
## Fall Semester Regular Program

**CORG & POPR**

### ENTERING 1st Year Field

**MINIMUM COURSE LOAD**

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<td>FED 5351</td>
<td>Field Education Foundation</td>
<td>4 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FED 5301</td>
<td>Foundation Field Education Seminar</td>
<td>0 cr.</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL** 16 cr.

### NOT ENTERING 1st Year Field

**Completing the program in 3 or 4 yrs.**

**ANY OF THESE COURSES CAN BE COMPLETED**

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Electives may be taken in any semester

**TOTAL** 6 to 12 cr.
## Spring Semester Regular Program

### IGFP

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<th>NOT ENTERING 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Year Field</th>
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<td>BASC 5333  Research I 3 cr.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGFP 5301  Practice with Individuals, Groups &amp; Families 3 cr.</td>
<td>BASC 5362 HBSE: Macro and Micro Theories 3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FED 5352  Field Education Foundation II 4 cr.</td>
<td>RSCH 5341/42 Advanced Research* 3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FED 5302  Foundation Field Education Seminar 1 cr.</td>
<td>*Must have taken BASC 5333 prior to course</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electives may be taken in any semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL 17 cr.</td>
<td>TOTAL 6 to 9 cr.</td>
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## Spring Semester Regular Program

**CORG**

### ENTERING 1st Year Field

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<td>Research I</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BASC 5350</td>
<td>Analysis of Social Welfare Policy</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORG 5300</td>
<td>Advanced Macro Practice</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORG 5301</td>
<td>Essential Theory &amp; Intervention</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
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<td>FED 5352</td>
<td>Field Education Foundation II</td>
<td>4 cr.</td>
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**TOTAL** 17 cr.

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*Must have taken BASC 5333 prior to course

Electives may be taken in any semester

**TOTAL** 6 to 9 cr.
## Spring Semester Regular Program

**POPR**

### ENTERING 1st Year Field

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<tr>
<td>BASC 5350</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPR 5300</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPR 5301</td>
<td>3 cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FED 5352</td>
<td>4 cr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FED 5302</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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### NOT ENTERING 1st Year Field

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Block Program

• The School offers a block second-year placement for qualified Individual, Group and Family Practice (IGFP) and Community Organizing (CORG) students. The application form is available upon request from the Field Education Department.

• Summer Block – is available for IGFP and Fall Block is available for CORG

• In this arrangement, the student spends 37.33 hours per week for 15 weeks in a field setting. Students must apply for this option, it must be approved by the Chair of their concentration, and an appropriate field site must be found by the field education department that meets University and School of Social Work requirements. A block placement is not guaranteed. (At present, there is no option for block placements for Policy Practice students.)

• Block placement is an option only if there are enough qualified students.

• It is also not possible to have an Employed Placement in a block format.

• Matriculated students may be able to get federal or UConn financial support for summer classes, although it is not guaranteed. Financial aid for these credits will have to be applied for independently.
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 summer course/courses such as BASC 5362 to lighten your course load before starting in the fall
- All grades earned of B- or higher will be transferred to the student’s record
- Summer session is now open
- A maximum of 6 credits may be taken for the summer
- Financial Aid is not available for incoming fall students
- 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; practice with a new population or setting
Field Placement Process

- Student completes and submits Field Education Information Form and current resume
- Field Education staff will identify appropriate placements and contact the student with field instructor’s name and phone number
  - Student should not arrange their own field placement
- Student will call field instructor immediately to schedule an interview
- Student will give Field Education Office regular updates
- Students will 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)

- **Block Placement**
  - Only second year field students are eligible
  - Application/Competitive process
  - You must meet application requirements including being in a 20 hr. placement in your 1st year

**Most if not all placements are during the day**
- There are no evening/weekend only field placements
- School placements prefer 15 hours per week
How will I fit 15 to 20 hours per week into my schedule?

• You must have a plan in place to accommodate the 15 to 20 hours per week of field education
  • Remember you have (2) 560 hour field placements
• Flex time?
• Educational Leave?
• Vacation time?
• Sick time?
Process Recordings

• Purpose and value: Educational Tool

• IGFP students must submit 24 process recordings each year of field

• Macro Students as assigned

• Students may receive an incomplete grade (I) for field education if process recordings are not submitted.
Micro Method Requirement for Macro Students

• If your field placement cannot offer you the opportunity for direct service (IGFP), you will attend a **Skills Lab** offered at the School.

• Skills Lab is currently offered on Saturdays only.
  • You will not need to register for this as a separate course.
Professional Expectations

- You are expected to act professionally in field, classroom 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.
Employed Social Work Program (ESW)

• Your employer will allow you to use a portion of your regular 35 - 40 hours of employment toward your field education placement.
• You must develop a written proposal (ESW outline provided)
• Field assignments are different from your regular job responsibilities
• The MSW Field Instructor cannot be your job supervisor
• Student must be employed by the agency for at least six months
• ESW must meet same rigors of a regular placement
• Only one of your placements can be ESW
• This is not an option for advanced standing students
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/Policies
  • 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/](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 in the student admin system, 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 Affairs (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
Urban Services Track

- **Urban Service Track (UST)**, is an interprofessional educational program to identify, train, and support students interested in healthcare and committed to providing care to the urban underserved patient populations. Urban Service Track is a collaboration between the Connecticut Area Health Education Center and the UConn Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Social Work as well as Quinnipiac University’s Physician’s Assistant Program. Interprofessional Education (IPE) is an approach to teaching and learning to help students from different professions develop and enhance capacities for effective collaboration so as to improve health outcomes. (WHO 2010).
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.
Fall Registration

Wednesday, June 19th 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 http://studentadmin.uconn.edu/
- If you decide to withdraw from the program after registering, consider doing so before August 23rd. 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 has been assigned by email
- Not Anymore Training – Complete by May 31\textsuperscript{st}
- Submit Immunizations/Vaccination Records to Storrs Student Health Services - Complete by June 1\textsuperscript{st}
- New Student Technology Training – Prior to today’s session
- Attend Convocation on Joining our SSW Just Community – August 23\textsuperscript{rd}
- 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