

# Social Welfare

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**School of Social Welfare** (<http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu>)

**School of Social Welfare Office: 120 Haviland Hall, (510) 642-4341**

**Dean: Jeffrey Edleson, PhD**

**School Website: Social Welfare** (<http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu>)

## Undergraduate Program, College of Letters and Science

Under the jurisdiction of the College of Letters and Science, the School of Social Welfare administers the Undergraduate Group Major in Social Welfare leading to the BA degree. This liberal arts major, with a focus on the social sciences and core social welfare courses, introduces students to problems, policies, and methods in the social welfare field and allows students to test their career interest in social work before employment or graduate professional education. It also serves as a flexible pre-professional major for various other fields.

Social Welfare is an impacted major, which means that there is more demand than can be accommodated. Students should declare the major as soon as they have completed the required prerequisites. Students should begin the sequence of four required social welfare courses with 110, continuing thereafter with 112, 114, and 116.

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## Major Requirements

### Lower Division

- **Required:** Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to Sociology, Introduction to Statistics, and Completion of the Letters and Science Reading and Composition requirement
- **Recommended but not required for the major:** Introduction to Anthropology, Introduction to Economics, or Introduction to Political Science

### Upper Division

- A minimum of 29 upper division units taken for a letter grade, including Social Welfare 110, 112, 114, and 116
- A minimum of five approved social science electives

For a list of approved electives and further information on the major, contact the Social Welfare Undergraduate Office, 129 Haviland Hall, (510) 642-4407.

## Honors Program

The honors program in social welfare provides an opportunity for qualified undergraduates to investigate thoroughly an area of interest, to work closely with a faculty member, and to produce a paper of some magnitude. Students who meet the eligibility requirements (a 3.5 GPA overall and in the major, and completion of Social Welfare 110 and 112) may enroll in H195 in their senior year. The fall H195 (one unit) is a two-hour biweekly seminar addressing topic identification, library research, and the preparation of an annotated bibliography and essay prospectus. The spring H195 (three units) is an individual tutorial in which students

prepare the honors essay under the supervision of their faculty essay advisers.

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## Graduate Programs

The School of Social Welfare is a graduate professional school dedicated to educating social workers and social welfare scholars for a range of leadership, research, teaching, and advanced practice roles in the profession. Our educational emphasis is on preparing students for professional responsibility in the field of social welfare and the institutional systems that comprise it, particularly public social services and publicly supported voluntary social services. Masters-level professional education at Berkeley is characterized by a spirit of critical inquiry and an emphasis on the use of tested knowledge and theory in developing and applying intervention methods. Classroom preparation focuses on knowledge of individual and family development, ethnocultural factors, policies, and institutional systems governing services and research strategies for program development.

### Master of Social Welfare (MSW)

A two-year full-time program of study for the Master of Social Welfare (MSW) degree prepares students for advanced practice in social work. Classroom and field courses are designed to teach professionals to use tested knowledge and skill and research methods in their practice. Applicants for admission must have strong academic preparation in the liberal arts and sciences, including coursework in the social and behavioral sciences. In addition, introductory coursework in social welfare and social work, research methods, and quantitative reasoning is given special attention. Knowledge of the social welfare field and professional commitment to social work are also evaluated. Such knowledge and commitment are usually demonstrated in part by successful paid employment related to social welfare. Paid experience, however, is not a requirement for admission; those who demonstrate sufficient knowledge and commitment through voluntary experience may also qualify.

The MSW program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (<http://www.cswe.org>).

### Combined Program, Master-Doctoral Studies

Also offered is a combined program of master-doctoral studies that begins in the first graduate year and leads to both the Master of Social Welfare and the PhD in Social Welfare degrees. Applicants must show evidence of their ability to complete doctoral study successfully and must have undergraduate preparation sufficient for the MSW program.

## Special Programs

The School sponsors several special programs: the MSW/MPH dual and concurrent degree programs, the Social Welfare/International and Area Studies dual degree program, the Social Welfare/Law concurrent degree program, the Pupil Personnel Services Credential program, and the Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program.

### The PhD in Social Welfare

The PhD in Social Welfare prepares students for careers in teaching, research, policy development and analysis, and administration in the field of social welfare and the profession of social work. It is open to applicants who hold a master's degree in social work or social welfare or have comparable preparation in a closely related field and who show evidence of intellectual and other qualifications essential to successful doctoral study.

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## Applications

Applications for admission to any of these programs should be submitted as early as possible beginning in September and no later than December 1 for the PhD, MSW/PhD, and MSW/MPH, and January 5 for the MSW for admission in the following academic year. Admission to the school is contingent on admission to graduate standing. For more information, see the Graduate Division website. (<http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/index.shtml>)

Consult our website (<http://socialwelfare.berkeley.edu>) or contact the School's admissions office for more information.

## SOC WEL 10 An Introduction to American Social Welfare in World Context 2 Units

**Department:** Social Welfare

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Term course may be offered:** Summer

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 5 hours of lecture/discussion per week for 6 weeks. 2 hours of lecture/discussion per week.

This course will consider the U.S. social welfare system in comparison with systems in other parts of the world, including Japan, Mexico, and the United Kingdom. It will examine the history and role of "welfare," "the welfare state," and the social work profession in the U.S. and in other countries and will consider key issues in contemporary social work practice. Topics such as discrimination, economic deprivation, and oppression and their effects on people of color, women, and gay and lesbian people will be highlighted.

## SOC WEL 20 Confronting America's Social Problems 2 Units

**Department:** Social Welfare

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Term course may be offered:** Summer

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 5 hours of Session per week for 6 weeks.

America's recognition of and response to major social problems usually involves a mix of hyperbole and denial, inaction and innovation, volunteerism and professionalization, feasts and famines of resources, media applause and attack, and unsustained successes and long-term failures. What is usually lacking is a consistent, thoughtful effort. Yet help is given and lives are changed, for better and sometimes worse. Social Welfare 20 considers the American approach to social problems through an examination of issues such as substance abuse, mental illness, poverty and inequality, homelessness, family violence, and child maltreatment. Each area will be explored in terms of history, causes and dimensions, and human service and social policy responses.

Instructor: Grossman

## SOC WEL 24 Freshman Seminar 1 Unit

**Department:** Social Welfare

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

**Hours and format:** 1 hour of Seminar per week for 15 weeks.

The Freshman Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small-seminar setting. Freshman seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Enrollment is limited to 15 freshmen. Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

## SOC WEL 97 Field Studies in Social Welfare 1 - 3 Units

**Department:** Social Welfare

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall, spring and summer

**Grading:** Offered for pass/not pass grade only.

**Hours and format:** Field work in community agencies and individual conferences with faculty.

Supervised experience relevant to specific aspects of social welfare in off-campus non-profit and governmental organizations.

Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

## SOC WEL 98 Group Study in Social Welfare 1 - 3 Units

**Department:** Social Welfare

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** Offered for pass/not pass grade only.