

School of Social Welfare

Overview

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. Educational emphasis is on preparing students for professional responsibility in the field of social welfare and the institutional systems that support it, particularly public social services and publicly-supported voluntary social services. Graduate 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, ethno-cultural factors, policies, and institutional systems governing services and research strategies for program development.

Undergraduate Program

Social Welfare (<https://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2024-25/undergraduate/degree-programs/socialwelfare/>): BA (offered under the jurisdiction of the College of Letters and Science)

Graduate Programs

Social Welfare (<https://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2024-25/graduate/degree-programs/social-welfare/>): MSW, Certificate, PhD

Social Welfare

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

Terms offered: Summer 2013 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2012 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2011 Second 6 Week Session
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.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

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

Terms offered: Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

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

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-3 hours of fieldwork per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 1-3 hours of fieldwork per week

8 weeks - 2-5.5 hours of fieldwork per week

10 weeks - 1.5-6 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

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

Terms offered: Spring 2023, Spring 2018, Fall 2017

Group study on selected social welfare topics. Open to freshmen and sophomores.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-3 hours of directed group study per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 3-7.5 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

SOC WEL 98BC Berkeley Connect in Social Welfare 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

Berkeley Connect is a mentoring program, offered through various academic departments, that helps students build intellectual community. Over the course of a semester, enrolled students participate in regular small-group discussions facilitated by a graduate student mentor (following a faculty-directed curriculum), meet with their graduate student mentor for one-on-one academic advising, attend lectures and panel discussions featuring department faculty and alumni, and go on field trips to campus resources. Students are not required to be declared majors in order to participate.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

SOC WEL 105 Introduction to Child Welfare in California and the U.S. 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2021 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2020 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2019 Second 6 Week Session

This course introduces students to the purpose, functions, and programs of the public child welfare system in the United States, with a particular focus on California, in a historical context, and with an emphasis on social justice and diversity concerns in policy-making and service delivery.

The course explores U.S. child welfare history/historical traumas, cultural and diversity issues, ethical considerations, mandated reporting of suspected child maltreatment, family and kinship supports, allied community services, causes for child removals and returns to families, judicial involvement, sibling-group placements, foster care, emancipation from the system, first-person guest speaker accounts, and policy-level interventions.

Hours & Format

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL 107 Foundations, Philanthropy, and the Social Services: Grant Writing for Program Development 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2017

Course explores the role of philanthropy, foundations, and proposal development in American society. A grant writing exercise in a Bay Area community agency is required.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL 110 Social Work As a Profession 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

This course examines social work as a profession: the practice of the profession, the organizational context of professional practice, and the ethics of the profession.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

8 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 102

SOC WEL 112 Social Welfare Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

Analysis of social welfare policies and programs including public assistance, social insurance, social services, and health and mental health.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: SOC WEL 110 completed or in progress at time of enrollment

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

8 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 100

SOC WEL 114 Practice in Social Work 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

This course introduces students to basic social work practice skills through the generalist intervention model. Both direct and indirect practice methods are introduced. Students are exposed to both theory and research that informs understanding of client system's strengths, problem development, and intervention. Biophysical, psychological, environmental, social, and cultural contributions to effective and ethical social work assessment and intervention with individuals, families, and communities experiencing a range of challenges will be examined. Requires concurrent enrollment in discussion section.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture and 2.5 hours of discussion per week

8 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL 116 Current Topics in Social Welfare 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Fall 2022

Course examines current problems and issues in the field of social welfare.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Social Welfare 110

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL 116H Homelessness in America 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2016

The course will address issues of homelessness in the context of social responsibility for the poor and definitions of poverty and need. It will consider the legal, social, and economic context of homelessness. It will look at homelessness as a full-time job of survival, exploring the prospects of the homeless for changing their condition. The course will look at the diversity of the homeless, their special needs, handicaps, and behaviors. It will explore the newly institutionalized system of caring for the homeless, its problems, and prospects. Included for consideration will be government-supported and private programs for housing and social services as well as new ways for addressing the homelessness problem through the child welfare, housing, health, mental health, and substance abuse treatment systems.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 110

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Segal

SOC WEL 120 Social Work Practicum 3 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

This Service Learning Course is designed to provide an opportunity for undergraduates to gain practice experience in a community-based agency, while simultaneously familiarizing themselves with research and the research process. Students will develop learning objectives in line with basic social work practice skills at the same time that they will become keen observers of the practice setting and/or practice dynamics within or around the agency.

Hours & Format

Summer: 8 weeks - 12 hours of fieldwork and 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

SOC WEL 125 Introduction into Social Work, Sports, and Social Justice 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2022 First 6 Week Session

This seminar will focus on the relationship between the field of social work and sports at a macro and micro level in American society. The course will explore ways in which the field of social work, and social workers, can better support athletes to promote positive change throughout the lives of athletes as well as the sports industry. Additionally, this course offers a space for students/educators/community members to cultivate interventions that address prominent issues within the sports world. We will interrogate a range of prominent issues such as anti-Blackness, coloniality, capitalism, race/ism, sex/ism, patriarchy, masculinity/femininity, misogyny/noir, queerphobia, fatphobia, beauty standards, pregnancy, mental health, and more.

Hours & Format

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternate method of final assessment during regularly scheduled final exam group (e.g., presentation, final project, etc.).

SOC WEL 148 Substance Abuse Treatment 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2021 First 6 Week Session, Summer 2020 First 6 Week Session, Summer 2019 First 6 Week Session

Provides an overview of theoretical perspectives and practice models in the substance abuse field. Addresses issues of misuse and addiction, impacts on the family, and the range of intervention modalities including prevention and treatment. Students will also become familiar with alcohol and drug related problems including mental disorders, HIV/AIDS, and criminal behavior.

Hours & Format

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL 150AC Race, Ethnic Relations, and Social Welfare in the United States 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2023, Fall 2020

Course examines the development of race and ethnic relations in the U.S., emphasizing relevant social welfare themes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Organista

SOC WEL 150L Sexuality and Social Work 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2016 10 Week Session, Summer 2015 First 6 Week Session

This course introduces the developmental, psychological and environmental issues related to sexuality at different stages in life, and in different social service venues. It includes an introduction to the strengths perspective, exploration of heterosexist aspects of society, policies related to a person's sexuality and gender, and ethics and diversity issues often arising in work with sexual minorities. Variability within sexual culture is addressed, introducing students to the strengths of the LGBT community, the experience of growing up and discovering sexuality, and how research and practice models define homosexuality in relation to human sexuality and development. Issues of sexuality in specific social work settings are addressed.

Hours & Format

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL 174 Immigration Control and the Criminalization of Immigration in the United States 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2013 10 Week Session, Summer 2013 Second 6 Week Session

This course is an introduction to the complex dynamics of US immigration policy. Intended and unintended consequences will be examined alongside sociopolitical factors driving the expansion of punitive responses to the movement of bodies across borders. Historical foundations of “deterrent” policies will be considered, including the influence of racism and discrimination in the pre- and post-civil rights eras. Issues of criminality, mobility, national security, privatization, and reform will also be explored. Informed by the NASW Code of Ethics, this course adopts a critical, action-oriented approach relevant to those interested in practice with individuals and families, community organizing, legislative advocacy, and beyond.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL 176AC Poverty, Social Welfare, and Carceral Systems 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024

This is a survey course intended to introduce the theoretical underpinnings, structure, and major components of two major U.S. institutions: the criminal legal system and the U.S. welfare state. The course offers an overview of the relationship between contemporary social welfare policies affecting low-income families in the United States with attention to how the criminal legal system further marginalizes already vulnerable populations.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructor: Sacks

SOC WEL 181 Social Science and Crime Prevention Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016

In this interdisciplinary course students examine the relationships among social science, law, and crime prevention policy. Emphasis is placed on how psychological science (clinical, developmental, social) can inform decisions about individuals at high risk for repeated involvement in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. Topics of focus include risk assessment, adolescent development and juvenile justice, and prevention/intervention/correctional psychology. Students will have an opportunity to master a specific problem area. Broadly, goals are for students to a) become comfortable in translating crime prevention problems into social scientific questions, and b) specifically understand how research findings can inform law and policy.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL C181 Social Science & Crime Prevention Policy 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020

In this interdisciplinary course students examine the relationships among social science, law, and crime prevention policy. Emphasis is placed on how psychological science (clinical, developmental, social) can inform decisions about individuals at high risk for repeated involvement in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. Topics of focus include risk assessment, adolescent development and juvenile justice, and prevention/intervention/correctional psychology. Students will have an opportunity to master a specific problem area. Broadly, goals are for students to a) become comfortable in translating crime prevention problems into social scientific questions, and b) specifically understand how research findings can inform law and policy.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Skeem

Also listed as: PUB POL C189

SOC WEL 185AC Prison Abolition 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2020, Spring 2017

This course introduces students to the long history of the prison in the American experience, and does so by engaging ideas, movements, and practices to craft worlds of care and mutuality beyond the harms that the prison produces and legitimates. Taking a broad interdisciplinary approach, the course engages with the full range of "carceral geographies" in which social life is penetrated with the state's power to surveil, arrest, judge, and punish its citizens; as well as the "abolition geographies" that, in Ruth Wilson Gilmore's terms, combine resources, creativity, and commitment to create freedom as a place where all life/lives are precious.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructors: Feldman, Turner Kerrison, Stanley, Hawkins Owen

Also listed as: ETH STD 181AC/GWS 181AC

SOC WEL C185 Prison 4 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

Taking a broad interdisciplinary approach, this course embraces the longue duree of critical prison studies, questioning the shadows of normality that cloak mass incarceration both across the globe and, more particularly, in the contemporary United States. This course thus explores a series of visceral, unsettling juxtapositions: "freedom" and "slavery"; "citizenship" and "subjugation"; "marginalization" and "inclusion", in each case explicating the ways that story making, political demagoguery, and racial, class, and sexual inequalities have wrought an untenable social condition.

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit if they have already taken ETH STD 181AC, LEGALST 185AC, or ARCH 185AC.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Feldman, Sacks, Simon

Also listed as: ETH STD C181/LEGALST C185

SOC WEL 186 Domestic Violence 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2021 First 6 Week Session, Summer 2020 First 6 Week Session, Summer 2019 First 6 Week Session

This course will investigate the phenomenon of domestic violence in the United States from historical, psychological, sociological, anthropological, legal, feminist, and cross-cultural perspectives. We will study the impact this social problem has on families, relevant theories of causation, the merits of related services and interventions, and the experiences of diverse populations.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

SOC WEL H195A Senior Honors Course I 2 Units

Terms offered: Not yet offered

Preparation of an honors thesis.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for SOC WEL H195A after completing SOC WEL 195A. A deficient grade in SOC WEL H195A may be removed by taking SOC WEL 195A.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Formerly known as: Social Welfare H195

SOC WEL 197 Field Studies in Social Welfare 1 - 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018

Supervised experience relevant to specific aspects of social welfare in off-campus organizations. Regular individual meetings with faculty sponsor and written reports required.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of fieldwork per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 1-3 hours of fieldwork per week

8 weeks - 1-3 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

SOC WEL 198 Group Study for Advanced Undergraduates 1 - 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Group study on selected social welfare topics.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-3 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

SOC WEL 198BC Berkeley Connect in Social Welfare 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

Berkeley Connect is a mentoring program, offered through various academic departments, that helps students build intellectual community. Over the course of a semester, enrolled students participate in regular small-group discussions facilitated by a graduate student mentor (following a faculty-directed curriculum), meet with their graduate student mentor for one-on-one academic advising, attend lectures and panel discussions featuring department faculty and alumni, and go on field trips to campus resources. Students are not required to be declared majors in order to participate.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

SOC WEL 199 Supervised Independent Study and Research 1 - 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Fall 2023

Enrollment is restricted by regulations specified in the

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-3 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 1-3 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1-3 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

SOC WEL 200 Theories for Multilevel Practice 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This course examines the foundations of social work practice theories and strategies for connecting theory and practice. It provides an overview of the impact of the social environment, the impact of the “ecology” of human behavior and the way social institutions and practices provide structure over the life course. Practice implications are explored in terms of assessing client social and psychological needs. The course covers biophysical perspectives, crisis and intervention, cognitive-behavioral theories, systems/ecological frameworks, social psychological theories, social constructionism, humanism and existentialism, critical race and conflict theories, multilevel practice theories, and examination of individual and group differences.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 205 Psychosocial Problems and Psychopathology 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024

Developmental abnormalities and deviations which result in dysfunctional behavior in the individual. Examines problems and disorders of children and adults from psychological and social perspectives.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 210A Stress and Coping in Adulthood 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2014

Descriptions, measurements, and major theories concerning the etiology of stress and coping in the adult (25-60) years.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 200

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Organista

SOC WEL 210B Infant Development 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021

Topics and issues in infant development, including infant mental health, parent-child relationships, behavior assessment, predictors of disturbance, and intervention with high risk infants.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 200

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Ivins

SOC WEL 210C A Multilevel Approach to Working with Older Adults 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Fall 2021

Sociological, psychological, physiological, and cultural factors relevant to understanding the complexity of the aging process. Normative and maladaptive aspects of the aging process are examined in terms of their implications for personal and societal adaptation.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 212 Child Development from Infancy to Adolescence in Its Social Context 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Summer 2023 First 6 Week Session, Spring 2023

This course examines the bio-psycho-social development of children and adolescents as a basis for understanding 1) cognitive and affective developments allowing the child to construct individual and social life at increasingly complex levels of differentiation and affiliation; 2) use of developmental levels as paradigms for healthy functioning; 3) a range of childhood experiences impacting well-being and development; and 4) the utility of normal child development as a heuristic for understanding developmental theories of bio-psycho-social difficulties. Particular focus on issues of self-regulation, internal representation, affect, cognition, relatedness, and separation. All of these themes are illustrated through practice application.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 220 Foundations of Social Welfare Policy 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This course introduces key issues in social welfare policy and recent trends shaping the development of the American welfare state. This is a foundation policy course for first-year MSW students.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 230 Social Policy: Children and Families 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

Introduction to current problems, programs, and policies in child, youth, and family welfare.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Berrick

SOC WEL 232 Social Work and Education: Policy and Practice 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

This course examines the intersection between social work practice and the educational system. It focuses on the school as a social system and the current policy context of education. It presents current topics in educational policy and critically analyzes them from a social work perspective. A focus is placed on the potential roles played not only by school social workers, but the social work profession in general, in actively collaborating with educational systems to support optimal developmental pathways for children and adolescents.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 238C Health Policy--A Social Welfare Perspective 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

Reviews major issues and programs in the health care field. Course considers the social context of health care; the roles of the public, voluntary, and private sectors; and the implications of policies and programs for society and the individual client.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Hastings

SOC WEL 240 Anti-Oppressive Frameworks for Social Work Ethics and Justice 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

Introduction to masters-level education in social work and to the intellectual, historical, sociopolitical, and ethical foundations of the U.S. social work profession. Through examination of the profession's framing values, history, contextual influences, and current directions in a global society, students will begin to develop an orientation to practice, research, and policy-making informed by professional ethics and obligations and anchored in a commitment to plurality and social justice. Students will be oriented to social work professional ethics and ethical decision-making, and to social justice as the framing value for social work practice.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 241 Foundations of Multilevel Practice 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

SW 241, Foundations of Multi-Level Practice, is designed to introduce knowledge and skills needed for engagement, assessment, and intervention planning for social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities, guided by the principles of strength-based, evidence-informed, ecologically-grounded, and justice promoting practice.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 241A Foundations of Multilevel Practice: Assessment & Intervention Planning with Individuals and Families 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Fall 2001

The course aims to equip students with knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for serving those who access psychosocial services via culturally responsive, anti-oppressive, and evidence-informed social work practice. Students will learn relational concepts and theory that underpin effective engagement, assessment and intervention planning. We will also be learning about how to work with existing knowledge, even with its limitations, and discussing how we can extract value from knowledge that wasn't created with and for marginalized communities. Time will be balanced between knowledge domains, practice skill domains, and self-reflection.

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Objectives: Develop a foundational understanding of a range of interventions for children and youth that match client need, the organizational context, and are based upon sound evidence and critical thinking [EPAS Competency 8].

Effectively begin, manage, and end a clinical interview so as to balance building rapport and collecting relevant clinical information in order to guide effective biopsychosocial services [EPAS Competency 6, 7]. Identify relevant human diversity, structural, and environmental factors, discern the impact of these factors upon the presenting issue, and take into account these factors to ensure that selected interventions are adaptive, responsive, affirming, and anti-oppressive [EPAS Competency 2, 7].

Identify the essential components of an intervention plan that incorporates a biopsychosocial assessment and clinical formulation and that is co-created with the client and caregivers [EPAS Competency 8]. Identify the essential elements of a biopsychosocial-spiritual assessment with an individual and/or family, and determine key biological, psychological, social/cultural, spiritual, and/or structural/environmental factors and their interactions [EPAS Competency 7].

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Social Welfare 241 Foundations of Multilevel Practice is a prerequisite for Social Welfare 241A. Course substitutions are not allowed unless instructor permission is obtained

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring:

15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Formerly known as: 241

SOC WEL 241B Foundations of Multilevel Practice: Assessment & Intrvn Planning w Groups Organizations Communities 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2002

In this course, students will develop skills in assessing groups, organizations, and communities and in engaging stakeholders within the community to enact needed change. This course provides an overview of the roles of groups, organizations, and communities in shaping the social environment and of factors that influence group, organizational, and community behavior. Students will also learn how organizations function in human services.

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Objectives: Assess the role of groups, organizations, and communities in shaping the social environment
 Become familiar with tools for assessing performance
 Convey program needs or issues to relevant stakeholders in a concise, impactful, and clear manner
 Describe and analyze skills required for effectively and equitably working with groups, organizations, and communities
 Evaluate facilitators and barriers of organizational change and understand the need for different types of community change tactics
 Understand how organizations are structured and governed
 Understand the purpose and use of community needs and capacity assessment in program planning, design, and development

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Social Welfare 241 Foundations of Multilevel Practice is a prerequisite for Social Welfare 241B. Course substitutions are not allowed unless instructor permission is obtained

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Formerly known as: 242

SOC WEL 250A Social Work with Groups 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2017, Fall 2015

Theory and practice regarding the formation, sustenance, and termination of groups. Emphasis on the role of the social worker in facilitating inter-personal processes in groups.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 241

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 250B Family Therapy 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

Theoretical frameworks and intervention skills for family work.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 241

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 250C Brief Mental Health Interventions in Social Work 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Fall 2022, Fall 2021

This course provides social work students with practical skills and theoretical foundations for implementing brief mental health interventions in diverse social work practice settings. With a focus on time-effective, client-centered methods, students will learn to integrate techniques from Motivational Interviewing (MI), Solution-Focused Brief Therapy (SFBT), CBT and trauma-focused practices. Emphasis will be placed on cultivating a strengths-based, collaborative stance that views clients as experts in their own lives.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: SOC WEL 241A; or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 250I Essential Spanish for Social Workers 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2014, Spring 2014

This course will provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to communicate effectively with monolingual Spanish speaking clients and perform effective and responsible social work practice assessments and interventions. The seminar will be conducted in Spanish and will expose students to the language utilized by social workers and other human service providers in a variety of settings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 250J Social Work with Latino Populations 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

This graduate-level course prepares social workers in training and students in allied fields to provide culturally sensitive and competent services to members of major U.S. Latino populations. The course is designed to enhance cultural sensitivity by using multiple relevant social science theories and frameworks to teach about social and cultural experiences of U.S. Latinos; to enhance culturally competent practice skills by teaching a comprehensive Latino practice model; and to provide a selective review of best/promising practices for various psychosocial and health problems within Latino populations. Latino diversity is addressed from a social justice perspective, emphasizing undocumented Latinos and immigration policy issues.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 241

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Organista

SOC WEL 250L Human Sexuality 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2020

This course will provide a forum for the exploration of multiple issues related to human sexuality and the diversity of sexual experience, including the human sexual response cycle; childhood and adolescent sexuality development; sexual problems, causes and treatment approaches (including systems approaches to working with couples); sexual orientation and gender identity development; sexuality and living with a disability; sexual violence and consent; sexuality and HIV/AIDS; and the law and ethics related to professional sexual misconduct and boundary violations. Teaching methods will include interactive lecture, small group discussions, video presentations, and guest speakers from throughout the Bay Area who specialize in a range of sexuality issues.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 250M Death and Dying 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

This course explores death and dying from a variety of perspectives: psychological, philosophical, cultural, spiritual, and phenomenological. Emphasis is placed on understanding the experiences of dying persons and their loved ones, as well as the interplay between the process of dying and the process of living. Implications for social work interventions are discussed. This course is both academic and experiential, relying on a wide variety of materials: autobiography, fiction, scholarly and theoretical writings, case examples, films, poetry, and guest lectures.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 250N Public Child Welfare Services 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

This course is designed for students preparing for careers in public child welfare. Addresses the range of documentation required for legal purposes, practice issues for social workers within the court setting, and skills required in presenting testimony.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 241

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Ralph

Formerly known as: 250NA and 250NB

SOC WEL 250T Social Work Practice in School Settings 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Summer 2023 First 6 Week Session, Fall 2022

This course (1) provides students with an understanding of how current educational policies and practices impact the day-to-day lives of academically and socially vulnerable students; (2) builds student skills in identifying and selecting the multiple points of intervention relevant to social work practice in schools, including individual intervention with children, family intervention, building links between families and school staff, advocacy, classroom-based intervention, and collaboration with teachers; and (3) presents assessment and intervention strategies guided by an ecosystemic and resilience perspective which focus on student and family strengths and suggests multiple intervention options.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 241

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Ayasse

SOC WEL 250U Substance Use and Interventions 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This course introduces the fundamentals of substance use, addiction, and interventions. We will discuss how drug and alcohol use is conceptualized, intervened upon, and managed. We will delve into the technicalities and specifics of substance use policies, effects, diagnosis, treatment, and other types of interventions using contemporary literature.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 241

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 250X Intimate Partner Violence: Multilevel Prevention, Assessment, and Intervention 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Fall 2015

This course will cover multilevel approaches to prevention, assessment, and intervention at a micro level with individuals, families, and children/youth impacted by intimate partner violence (IPV); at a mezzo level with organizations that serve them; and at a macro level with policies that affect them. We will review the scope, impact, and causes of the problem; relevant screening and assessment skills; effective clinical intervention paradigms and techniques for victims, perpetrators, and children; as well as organizational practices, relevant policies, and future directions.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 250Y International Social Development 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2015, Fall 2013, Fall 2012

This seminar focuses on the theory and practice of social development and, in particular, engages members of the seminar in an analysis of the social development practice strategies that are now widely used in community settings not only in the developing but in the western countries as well. The course is primarily designed for MSW students who have an interest in issues of development and international social welfare, but doctoral and undergraduate students may enroll.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate standing or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Midgley

SOC WEL 250Z Cognitive Behavioral Methods 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024

The purpose of this course is to increase students' understanding of and competencies in cognitive-behavior methods. Throughout the course practice decisions and related research will be closely integrated. Although further guided experience will be needed to develop high levels of related skills, especially concerning assessment and relationship factors as these are needed to maximize success, students will have the opportunity to develop a beginning understanding of basic behavior principles.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate standing

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 251 Program Development 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

This is a required practice course for students in the Management and Planning concentration. Using a community-based service delivery framework, the purpose of the course is to provide the competency and skill set necessary for effective program design including task group management, community engagement, and collaborative resource development. The course will focus on designing community-wide interventions in a diverse society through analyzing social problems, identifying community capacities and needs, developing effectiveness-based programs, and conducting evaluation.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Chow

SOC WEL 252 Program Implementation 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

This required Management and Planning practice course builds upon the conceptual and critical thinking skills found in the foundation MAP courses in order to focus on strategic management and leading skills in this course. It is designed to introduce students to the distinctive role of the manager in public and nonprofit human service organizations. Drawing on the management sciences and social work practice in administration, this seminar-style course focuses on a range of managerial processes with special attention to the analytical and interpersonal aspects of program implementation. The course is built upon the three domains identified in research on program management: leadership roles; analytic roles; and interactional roles.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Austin

SOC WEL 253 Third Wave Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Approaches 2 Units

Terms offered: Not yet offered

This course delves into the principles, techniques, and therapeutic applications of third-wave cognitive behavioral therapy approaches with a focus on acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT) and dialectical behavior therapy (DBT). Through interactive activities and practical exercises, students will be introduced to the core strategies of ACT and DBT. Emphasis will be placed on fostering psychological flexibility, cultivating mindfulness, and enhancing acceptance, all while supporting clients in building effective coping strategies and pursuing meaningful life goals.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 254 Policy Practice in Social Work 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2022, Spring 2021

This course focuses on sharpening students' skills in policy practice, so that they can serve as more effective change agents in their organizational, systems, and policy environments. In social work, policy practice typically entails proposing or enacting policy change in legislative, regulatory, agency, and/or community settings to enhance social and economic justice.

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Objectives: To develop evidence-based strategies to improve decision-making in social work advocacy and policymaking.

To develop students' advanced skills to influence change in the public domain, including via policy advocacy in different settings, developing a coalition or campaign, engaging people with lived experiences, and using the media.

To enhance students' critical analysis skills in examining proposed policies for their potential impact on vulnerable populations and for the opportunity to promote social justice.

To introduce students to the roles social workers can play as leaders in influencing the shape and content of policy to benefit vulnerable populations.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 255 Community Organizing 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

Introduction to the theory and practice of community organization.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Albano

SOC WEL 257 Financial Management 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

This course provides both theoretical knowledge and practical skills for managing scarce resources in social service organizations. Students will learn tools and techniques for effective planning and budgeting as well as how to design information systems to control, evaluate, and revise plans. Accounting principles and systems will be examined from a management perspective with an emphasis on designing systems to meet the unique management information needs of different organizations. The use and development of internal and external financial statements will be covered. Students will learn the tools and techniques of financial statement analysis, interpretation, and presentation. The course is designed to develop the core financial management skills needed by senior and middle managers in large and small social service organizations.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Formerly known as: 298

SOC WEL 260 Forensic Social Work 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020

Focuses on issues arising within the practice of forensic social work in correctional settings (jails, prisons, and probation and parole departments), especially practice with people whose social positions and/or mental health struggles render them disproportionately affected by incarceration. Uses a person-in-environment perspective to explore the phenomenology of corrections, paying particular attention to the intersection of social identities and psychological capacities among individuals who are incarcerated, the complexities of the systems within which social workers attempt to create change, and the historical and contemporary role of incarceration in the United States.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Social Welfare 240 and Social Welfare 241

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 260A Critical Disability 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024

This online, asynchronous course introduces the interdisciplinary field of critical disability studies, which considers the political, ethical, and cultural factors that shape and define impairment and disability. Critical realism and the social model of disability frame this course and make important distinctions between the concepts of impairment and disability. An examination of individual and group differences will be highlighted throughout, as well as perspectives on how power, privilege, oppression, and societal structures impact health and well-being of disabled peoples.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: STERZING

SOC WEL 265H Social Work Practice in Integrated Behavioral Health Care 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Students in this practice course will be introduced to the foundation of integrated behavioral health practice, including population-based screening instruments and functional assessment for use in primary care. Students will become familiar with primary care medical culture and psychopharmacological interventions for depression and anxiety. A main emphasis of this class is skill acquisition in evidence-based behavioral interventions for a variety of conditions commonly seen in IBH settings. These include: behavioral activation, mindfulness relaxation strategies, sleep-hygiene techniques, and problem solving treatment

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 265L Social and Emotional Learning Foundations 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024

This 12 week course focuses on equipping students with knowledge about systemic social and emotional learning (SEL) and practical strategies to promote adult well-being and equitable, evidence-based SEL among school-aged children and youth. The Course is designed for classroom teachers who work directly with Pre K-12th grade students. The course will survey a spectrum of assets-based, accessible methods to develop local strategies that promote positive relationships and improve conditions for learning to make schools centers of social and emotional well-being. Major topics of exploration include: the field's history, purpose, research-base, and role in promoting educational equity; personal and community well-being among educators.

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Objectives: Synthesize knowledge gained in the course to create an improvement project within a local learning environment

Student Learning Outcomes: Apply basic neuroscience principles behind emotions, motivation, and learning, and the impact of stress and trauma on the brain, to classroom settings.

Demonstrate enhanced capacity to build authentic partnerships with families to support student SEL.

Demonstrate enhanced capacity to engage in personal development and reflection practices that strengthen adult SEL competencies and well-being.

Demonstrate enhanced capacity to foster developmentally appropriate student SEL competencies through direct instruction, academic integration, and classroom pedagogy that centers student voice and experience.

Demonstrate enhanced capacity to foster developmentally appropriate student SEL competencies through direct instruction, academic integration, and classroom pedagogy that centers student voice and experience.

Demonstrate enhanced knowledge of classroom and school-wide SEL planning, implementation, and continuous improvement processes, including selecting evidence-based SEL curricula.

Synthesize knowledge gained in the course to create an improvement project within a local learning environment

Understand SEL's role in promoting educational equity and global citizenship by using transformative, culturally responsive, and healing-centered practices.

Understand both the research-base that underlies SEL practice and the strategies for using research evidence to continuously improve educational practice.

Understand how SEL is connected to related education frameworks and goals, including academic attainment and school climate and culture imperatives.

Understand the core goals and components of systemic social and emotional learning, including why and how SEL is central to promoting positive relationships, well-being, and success in school, work, and life.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: The course requires bachelors-level preparation

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 12 weeks - 1 hour of lecture and 0.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 265M Motivational Interviewing 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

Motivational interviewing (MI) is a modern clinical paradigm that dialectically integrates humanistic, client-centered principles with goal-focused strategies. Students in this course will be introduced to all key aspects of MI including its major tenets, its theoretical base, the available empirical evidence on its efficacy, and its overall compatibility with social work. Moreover, students will learn all of the associated clinical skills for the four processes of motivational interviewing: 1) engaging; 2) focusing; 3) evoking; and 4) deciding and planning.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 265N Narrative Practices with Vulnerable Populations 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2023, Summer 2022 Second 6 Week Session, Spring 2022

Narrative therapy is a natural choice in the practice of social work, as it rejects pathology as the main focus of treatment. This class provides an introductory exploration of the narrative approach to therapy as developed by Michael White and David Epston. Students will consider how to apply narrative practices as a potential intervention for individuals, families and communities; and explore possibilities for appropriately adapting narrative interventions in social work service settings. Students will be encouraged to explore if and how Narrative Therapy has the potential to reinforce already existing therapeutic culturally-rooted practices like dance, storytelling, myths, poetry, spirituality and music.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Social Welfare 243, Social Welfare 244, or Social Welfare 245; or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 265T Trauma-Informed Multilevel Approaches 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

The overarching aim of this course is to explore multilevel approaches for recognizing, understanding, and responding to the effects of complex trauma. We will apply the best available knowledge and evidence to inform engagement, assessment, and intervention approaches within and across persons and populations at various levels of the social ecology: (a) individuals across the life span, (b) their families and communities, and (c) the organizations that serve them.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 274 Immigrants and Refugees in the U.S 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

Overview of immigration policy in the U.S. from an international and historical perspective. Theories of migration, transnationalism, and adaptation will be addressed, along with skills required for working with refugees and immigrants facing difficulties. Addresses the impact of policy on who comes to the U.S. and the circumstances newcomers and their families face once here.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Chow

SOC WEL 279 Seminar in the History and Philosophy of Social Welfare 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

Primarily for doctoral students. A review of efforts to conceptualize the field of social welfare and to analyze its tendencies.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Gilbert

SOC WEL 280 Critical Research Literacy 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2020, Spring 2019

This course will help students develop critical research literacy skills to effectively evaluate the quality of research they consume throughout various formats, paying particular attention to equity issues. Students will learn to identify the purpose and application of research across these platforms. To equip students with the necessary skills and tools, they will be introduced to the library research resources in social welfare, including reference works, bibliographic aids, and computer databases. Students will gain an understanding of the purpose and politics of citations, the promises and perils of AI for summarizing knowledge, and a practical understanding of how to evaluate and use research to support their multilevel practice.

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Objectives: Conduct and write a literature review
Critically evaluate the application and quality of research used across varied formats.
Understand the ethics for social work research in practice
Understand the promise and perils of AI
Understand the purpose and politics of citations

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL W280 Introduction to Social Welfare Research 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2017 8 Week Session, Summer 2016 10 Week Session, Summer 2016 8 Week Session

The goal of this course is to develop a working knowledge of research designs and methods for the purpose of evaluating social work practice and programs.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of web-based lecture per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of web-based lecture per week

Online: This is an online course.

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 282A Seminar in Social Welfare Research I 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2024, Fall 2023

This course is designed to provide (1) an overview of epistemological paradigms (or how we organize and legitimize our ways of knowing) and (2) various research methods that are derived from those paradigms and are used to inform social welfare research and practice.

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Objectives: To cultivate a healthy spirit of skepticism and become sharper consumers of the biological, psychological, and social scientific information that informs evidence-based practice and praxis. To equip students with the research skills that will help them engage thematic material in previous and subsequent social welfare courses. To provide the necessary background for students to begin conducting research that is steered by and advances social work values.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Social Welfare 280

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 7.5 hours of seminar per week

8 weeks - 5.5 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 282B Seminar in Social Welfare Research II 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This course provides an overview on techniques for and challenges in program evaluation. Students will develop the critical skills necessary to assess the quality of evaluation research projects, to apply technical evaluation skills in professional practice, and to develop evaluation plans for a variety of programs. Students will apply the knowledge of research methods acquired through the MSW program to develop a program evaluation plan. Special attention will be paid to participatory, collaborative and equitable evaluation approaches, as well as qualitative methods. Through this course, each student will develop a program evaluation plan for a program of their choice.

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Objectives: Distinguish between different types of evaluation, including needs assessment, process evaluation, and outcome evaluation.

Identify and describe the key steps in planning an evaluation for different types of social welfare programs, including the use of both qualitative and quantitative methods, by in-class lecture and workshops, and the application of these skills in the program evaluation plan.

Master the basic concepts of program evaluation, and understand how it differs from other types of research activities.

Understand how to evaluate the quality of surveys and other instruments for assessing processes and outcomes of social welfare programs.

Write a finalized plan to conduct a process or outcome evaluation with feedback from instructors and peers.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Social Welfare 280 and Social Welfare 282A

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 7.5 hours of seminar per week

8 weeks - 5.5 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 287 Research Resources and Processes 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

Students will be introduced to the tasks and tools of library research in social welfare, including reference works, bibliographic aids, and computer databases. Individual faculty members will present their research, emphasizing methodology, outcomes, and contributions to social welfare.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 289A Research Methods and Techniques in Social Welfare 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This course provides doctoral students a firm foundation in research processes and methods. Topics include problem formulation, use of theory, conceptualization, measurement, causal inference, sampling, and design methods. A core goal is to provide insight into the opportunities and challenges social work researchers face as they apply social science and related theory and methods to real world problems and settings. Course activities will guide students to future coursework in research methodologies and analysis, as well as position paper and dissertation proposal development. Sessions combine a focus on the conceptual and technical aspects of the research process and consider issues across quantitative and qualitative approaches.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 291 Preparing for an Academic Career in Social Work 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2013

This 2 unit seminar is intended for doctoral colleagues who are preparing to embark on a career as social work scholars and educators. The seminar is designed to facilitate an understanding of the nature of research universities and the role of social work education in these universities. It focuses on preparing doctoral colleagues for academic positions within research universities, and to understand their roles and expectations with regard to scholarship, teaching and service. It seeks to acquaint them with the evolution of professional social work education, with particular reference to research universities and to discuss current topics, issues and concerns in the field.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Midgley

SOC WEL 293 Social Welfare Theory: Policy Implications 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2015, Fall 2014, Fall 2012

The course deals primarily with macro-theories of a sociological and political-economy nature that offer 1) conceptual representations of welfare systems, 2) explanations of the dynamics and functions of welfare systems, and 3) analyses and assessments of the different normative perspectives that inform policy making in social welfare. The latter aspect is given particular emphasis and the major normative theoretical perspectives in the field will be reviewed with reference to their policy implications for social welfare in the United States. The major theoretical perspectives to be discussed include institutionalism, welfare pluralism, neo-liberalism, Marxism, traditionalism, regulationism, critical theory, multiculturalism, feminism, ecologism, and developmentalism. This course is designed for doctoral students but is open to other qualified graduate students with instructor permission.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate standing

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 294 Master's Special Topics Seminar: Workforce Development 1 - 2 Units

Terms offered: Not yet offered

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the tensions, techniques, and dynamics of current issues applicable to a specific social work workforce arena (e.g., child welfare, public behavioral health, integrated behavioral health, aging services). Actively exposing oneself to current issues in the workforce, the organizational contexts in which they are embedded, convergences and divergences between the theoretical, evidentiary, and practice bases characteristic of the arena, identifying areas of entry-level professional development trajectories, and for development in the social work field, and developing effective strategies for presenting scholarly work are important skills for social work professionals.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes. Students may enroll in multiple sections of this course within the same semester.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 295 Writing and Publication Seminar 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

The goal of this seminar is to help doctoral students improve project conceptualization skills, academic writing abilities, and professional productivity. Resources on thinking clearly, writing well, and writing often will be provided. Students will submit papers for group review, and provide constructive feedback on other student papers. Students will discuss specific topics selected by the class, and review two draft student papers. Papers can include (a) statement of specific aims, outlines, and other beginning tools, (b) major sections of proposals (for grants, fellowships, dissertations), and (c) major sections of a new research product (publishable article or dissertation). A "major section" may be an introduction or a method section.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 296 Individual Study for Graduate Students 1 - 12 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019

Designed to permit qualified graduate students to pursue special study in a subject area of their choosing under the direction of a faculty member.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week

10 weeks - 1.5-18 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 298 Group Study for Graduate Students 1 - 12 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Spring 2023

Intensive examination of selected social welfare topics.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-12 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 299 Individual Research for Graduate Students 1 - 12 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2025, Spring 2021, Fall 2020

Designed to permit qualified graduate students to pursue research in a subject area of their choosing under the direction of a faculty member.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2.5-30 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 2-22 hours of independent study per week

10 weeks - 1.5-18 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

SOC WEL 299C Social Welfare Graduate Research Colloquium 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

Actively exposing oneself to various forms of scholarship, participating in research forums, identifying areas for professional development, and developing effective strategies for presenting scholarly work are crucial skills for social work academics. Thus, students are required to participate in research colloquia for the Social Welfare PhD degree. The colloquium is designed to expose students to a variety of scholarly approaches, models of scholarly professional development, and public presentation of scholarly work. Students will be exposed to research colloquia offered by other students, faculty, and invited scholars. Students will gain practice presenting their work, critiquing work of others, and receiving and responding to critique.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1.5 hours of colloquium per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 301 Training in Teaching 1 - 6 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2021, Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Supervised teaching assistance.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-6 hours of independent study per week

Summer: 10 weeks - 2-15 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 375 Teaching in Social Welfare 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2020, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Interactive seminar that prepares doctoral students for teaching in social welfare. Includes examination of education from the perspective of both student and teacher, and their interface. It reviews philosophies and theories of adult education, and underscores the importance of critical reflection for both teacher and student. The course covers the practice of teaching in social welfare, and addresses specific skills, such as syllabus design, instructional methods, coverage of diversity content, student assignment and evaluation, use of technology, advising, mentoring, and working with students with special needs. Students will share their own learning and teaching experiences, and develop the beginnings of a teaching portfolio.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 402 Practicum Integration Seminar 1 Unit

Terms offered: Spring 2003, Spring 2002, Spring 2001

Taken concurrently with foundation (SW 410A/B) and advanced (SW 412A/B) yearlong practicum, the practicum integration seminar facilitates the development of holistic competence for MSW students as they make meaning from their experiences with agency practice, integrate social work knowledge, values, and skills, and form their professional identities as social workers.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Other professional

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 403 Training in Research 1 - 6 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2020, Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Supervised research assistance.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-6 hours of independent study per week

Summer: 10 weeks - 1.5-9 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Other professional

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 410A Foundation Practicum I 5 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2020, Fall 2019

Foundation Practicum I advances the experiential learning capacities and professional competencies of foundation MSW students. Supervised by a School-qualified social work practitioner employed in an approved agency-based setting (i.e., Practicum Instructor), MSW students will be exposed to a range of generalist learning opportunities along all phases of the intervention cycle (engagement, assessment, intervention, and/or evaluation) and various levels of the social ecology (individuals, families, groups, and/or communities) and meet generalist competency standards. These opportunities allow the student to practice, receive observationally-based feedback, refine professional competencies, and ultimately, have their competencies assessed.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 15 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Other professional

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 410B Foundation Practicum II 5 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

Foundation Practicum II advances the experiential learning capacities and professional competencies of foundation MSW students. Supervised by a School-qualified social work practitioner employed in an approved agency-based setting (i.e., Practicum Instructor), MSW students will be exposed to a range of generalist learning opportunities along all phases of the intervention cycle (engagement, assessment, intervention, and/or evaluation) and various levels of the social ecology (individuals, families, groups, and/or communities) and meet generalist competency standards. These opportunities allow the student to practice, receive observationally-based feedback, refine professional competencies, and ultimately, have their competencies assessed.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: SOC WEL 410A

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 15 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Other professional

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 412A Advanced Practicum I 7 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2021, Fall 2020

Advanced Practicum I advances the experiential learning capacities, professional competencies, and leadership capacities of advanced MSW students. Supervised by a School-qualified social work practitioner employed in an approved agency-based setting, MSW students will be exposed to a range of complex learning opportunities along various phases of the intervention cycle (engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation) and at various levels of the social ecology (individuals, families, groups, and communities) and meet advanced competency standards. These opportunities allow the student to practice, receive observationally-based feedback, refine professional competencies, such that ultimately, their competencies can be assessed.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: SOC WEL 410A and SOC WEL 410B

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 21 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Other professional

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

SOC WEL 412B Advanced Practicum II 7 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022

Advanced Practicum II advances the experiential learning capacities, professional competencies, and leadership capacities of advanced MSW students. Supervised by a School-qualified social work practitioner employed in an approved agency-based setting, MSW students will be exposed to a range of complex learning opportunities along various phases of the intervention cycle (engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation) and at various levels of the social ecology (individuals, families, groups, and communities) and meet advanced competency standards. These opportunities allow the student to practice, receive observationally-based feedback, refine professional competencies, such that ultimately, their competencies can be assessed.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: SOC WEL 410A, SOC WEL 410B, and SOC WEL 412A

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 21 hours of fieldwork per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Social Welfare/Other professional

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.