

SOCIAL WORK

Master of Social Work Program Learning Outcomes (<https://catalog.csudh.edu/program-learning-outcomes/health-human-services-nursing/master-social-work-learning-outcomes/>)

College of Health, Human Services, and Nursing
Department of Social Work
Master of Social Work (2-year and 3-year, on campus curriculum)

Faculty

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Program Support

Ana Hernandez
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Program Office: WH A-385, (310) 243-3170

Program Description

The Master of Social Work (MSW) program at California State University, Dominguez Hills is intentionally designed to address the diverse social service needs, issues and problems particular to a large metropolitan area such as Los Angeles County. Building on the diversity of the various ethnic groups and cultures residing in the area, the program will prepare social work students for contextually competent social work practice, inclusive of the issues of culture, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, religion, class, sexual orientation and gender. The effects of bias, prejudice and institutionalized racism are examined so that students understand how these issues can affect social work practice, policy development and program implementation. Students learn a variety of perspectives and ways of identifying strategies and interventions for addressing these concerns and other problems in social work practice with individuals, families and communities.

The Department of Social Work promotes a psychosocial, ecological and cross-cultural approach to social work practice with Critical Race Theory and Intersectionality serving as the theoretical framework for contextually competent practice. The curriculum is developed and organized as a coherent and integrated whole consistent with program goals and objectives. California State University, Dominguez Hills offers one concentration: Social Work Practice in Communities (SWPC) and three specializations that students can choose from: Children, Youth and Families, Community Mental Health and Community Capacity Building.

The MSW program requires completion of 60 semester credit hours, which can be accomplished through the following program options: A two-year full-time program with classes that meet on campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the day, with fieldwork hours on Monday, Wednesday, and some Fridays; or a three-year part-time program

with year-round classes held in the evenings and weekends and fieldwork occurring in the second and third years during normal business hours on weekdays. The curriculum is organized around the following core areas: Human Behavior in the Social Environment, Practice, Policy, Research and Field Education. At the end of the foundation year, students are expected to have acquired a sense of professional responsibility and the ability to use knowledge on behalf of individuals, groups, and communities. In the advanced year, the curriculum is planned to combine the concentration around major intervention systems, or specializations that build on a generalist base obtained in the first year of study. This combination enables graduates to move into the social work community with a combination of knowledge and skills in a broad area, as well as in-depth knowledge and skills in a particular method or area of service.

Academic Advisement

Interested students should visit <https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/> or contact the Department of Social Work at (310) 243-3170 for more information. **Students and applicants are strongly advised to consult the website for updated information, prior to contacting the Department of Social Work.**

Pre-Admission Disclosure for Academic Programs Leading to Licensure or Credentialing

Admission into programs leading to licensure and credentialing does not guarantee that students will obtain a license or credential. Licensure and credentialing requirements are set by agencies that are not controlled by or affiliated with the CSU and requirements can change at any time. For example, licensure or credentialing requirements can include evidence of the right to work in the United States (e.g., social security number or tax payer identification number) or successfully passing a criminal background check. Students are responsible for determining whether they can meet licensure or credentialing requirements. The CSU will not refund tuition, fees, or any associated costs, to students who determine subsequent to admission that they cannot meet licensure or credentialing requirements. Information concerning licensure and credentialing requirements are available from **Sharon Chun Wetterau: WH 385 - (310) 243-2040.**

Admission to the Master of Social Work Program

Applicants must apply to both the University and the Department of Social Work. In order to be considered for admission to CSU Dominguez Hills and the MSW program, eligible applicants must complete an on-line application through Cal State Apply: <https://www.calstate.edu/apply> (<https://www.calstate.edu/apply/>). Supplemental program materials must also be submitted and may be obtained through the admissions page of the Department of Social Work's website: <https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions> (<https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions/>). Official transcripts should be submitted approximately two (2) weeks after completing the online application.

Following careful review of the program materials and application guidelines that are available on the Department of Social Work's website, questions about the MSW program, application requirements, review process, and decisions may be directed to: [mswadmissions@csudh.edu](mailto:mwadmissions@csudh.edu).

Admission Requirements

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited, four-year institution or equivalent academic preparation as determined by appropriate campus authorities (a liberal arts foundation is preferred). Applicants without a baccalaureate degree are eligible to apply, as long as they meet certain eligibility requirements, as outlined by the CSU Office of Admissions.
2. A GPA of 2.75 (on a scale of 4.0) or better in the last 60 semester/90 quarter units. Applications with a lower GPA may be considered based on their meeting certain other criteria.
3. A successful applicant must have satisfactorily completed (earned a grade of "C", not "C-" or better) each of the following eight courses:
 - Elementary Statistics or its equivalent (visit <https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions> (<https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions/>) for a partial list of equivalent courses);
 - Human Development or its equivalent (visit <https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions> (<https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions/>) for a partial list of equivalent courses);
 - Three courses in the behavioral sciences (social work, sociology, cultural anthropology, psychology, child development, human services, economics, political science, and gender, ethnic or disabilities studies, etc.);
 - Two courses in the humanities (philosophy, U.S. history, literature, religious studies, performing or visual arts, etc.); and
 - One course in English composition.

Students without this background are encouraged to apply and may be admitted to the MSW program but will likely be required to complete certain liberal arts requirements prior to matriculation.

4. Official transcripts of all college coursework completed to date, must be submitted to the Office of Admissions by the designated deadline. The following circumstances may apply to some applicants:
 - **Current and former CSUDH students** do not need to submit CSUDH transcripts. However, the Department of Social Work still requires applicants to submit updated official transcripts from all non-CSUDH institutions.
 - **Applicants with remaining coursework at the time of application** must submit an initial set of official transcripts of all college coursework completed to date, then submit updated transcripts reflecting successful completion of remaining coursework (and conferral of baccalaureate degree, if applicable).

Submit official transcripts (electronic transcripts are preferred) by the designated deadline to:

CSU Dominguez Hills
Office of Admissions & Records
1000 East Victoria Street
Carson, CA 90747

Please direct transcript-related questions to admit@csudh.edu or (310) 243-3645.

5. Good standing at the last college or university attended.
6. Apply to CSU Dominguez Hills and the Department of Social Work via Cal State Apply (<https://www.calstate.edu/apply> (<https://www.calstate.edu/apply/>)). Application guidelines and forms required by the Department of Social Work are available at <https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions> (<https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions/>). Students must submit the following documents as part of the on-line application process:

- A 4-6 (four to six) page personal statement;
- Statement of Financial and Time Management; and
- Experience Profile

7. Submission of a recommendation form **and** a formal recommendation letter from three (3) separate individuals who can evaluate the applicant's potential for graduate study (forms and guidelines are available at <https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions> (<https://www.csudh.edu/social-work/admissions/>)).

Completed reference materials should be mailed or hand delivered by the designated deadline to:

CSU Dominguez Hills
Department of Social Work (Welch Hall A-385)
College of Health, Human Services, and Nursing
1000 East Victoria Street
Carson, CA 90747

Master of Social Work

Total Course Requirements for the Master's Degree (60 units)

The students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average to remain a student in good standing in the Social Work program. A student will be placed on academic probation if, in any term, he or she fails to earn a grade point average of 3.0 or higher for work taken through that term. During a subsequent probationary term of one semester, the student must achieve a grade point average sufficiently high enough to bring the cumulative grade point average to 3.0 or better. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the program.

Students may not earn social work course credit for life experience or previous work experience.

See the "Requirements for the Master's Degree" in the University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements.

Requirements

A. Foundation Year (30 units)

- MSW 500 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I (3)
- MSW 501 Human Behavior and Social Environment II (3)
- MSW 510 Social Welfare Policy I (3)
- MSW 511 Social Welfare Policy II (3)
- MSW 520 Generalist Social Work Practice I (3)
- MSW 521 Generalist Social Work Practice II (3)
- MSW 523 Social Justice in Social Work Practice (3)
- MSW 530 Social Welfare Research (3)
- MSW 540 Fieldwork Practicum I (3)
- MSW 541 Fieldwork Practicum II (3)

B. Concentration Year (27 units)

1. Children, Youth and Families Specialization (CYF)

- MSW 523 Social Justice in Social Work Practice (3)
- MSW 550 Advanced Social Work Practice in Communities (3)
- MSW 555 Advanced Practice in Administration and Leadership (3)
- MSW 560 Social Welfare Policy III: Children, Youth and Families (3)
- MSW 570 Fieldwork Practicum III (3)
- MSW 571 Fieldwork Practicum IV (3)
- MSW 580 Child Welfare Issues (3)
- MSW 598 Directed Research (3)
- MSW 599 Social Work Thesis (3)

2. Community Mental Health Specialization (CMH)

- MSW 523 Social Justice in Social Work Practice (3)
- MSW 550 Advanced Social Work Practice in Communities (3)

MSW 555 Advanced Practice in Administration and Leadership (3)
MSW 561 Social Welfare Policy III: Community Health/Mental Health (3)
MSW 570 Fieldwork Practicum III (3)
MSW 571 Fieldwork Practicum IV (3)
MSW 582 Seminar in MH Issues (3)
MSW 598 Directed Research (3)
MSW 599 Social Work Thesis (3)

3. Community Capacity Building Specialization (CCB)

MSW 523 Social Justice in Social Work Practice (3)
MSW 550 Advanced Social Work Practice in Communities (3)
MSW 555 Advanced Practice in Administration and Leadership (3)
MSW 551 Social Policy III: Community Capacity Building (3)
MSW 570 Fieldwork Practicum III (3)
MSW 571 Fieldwork Practicum IV (3)
MSW 581 Seminar in Community Capacity Building (3)
MSW 598 Directed Research (3)
MSW 599 Social Work Thesis (3)

C. Electives (3 units)

MSW 522 Clinical Interventions with Youth, Children and Families in
Social Work (3)
MSW 592 Diagnostic Assessment in Social Work Practice (3)