

SOCIAL WORK

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

ACCREDITED BY THE



Board of Accreditation

DELIVERY METHODS

Blended - In-Person/Online
or
100% Online (begins Fall 2024)

START TERMS

Summer and Fall

COMPLETION TIME

1 yr for Advanced Standing (those with a BSW)
2 yrs for traditional program
(those with undergraduate degrees
other than Social Work)

NUMBER OF CREDITS

39 for Advanced Standing
60 for traditional program

OPPORTUNITIES TO EARN A CERTIFICATE

Post-Master's Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)
Animal-Assisted Social Work (AASW)

**MSW SPECIALIZES IN
"ADVANCED CLINICAL
PRACTICE"
AND
STUDENTS AUTOMATICALLY
EARN A COGNITIVE
BEHAVIORAL THERAPY
CERTIFICATE (CBT)**

**SlipperyRock
University**

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu/graduate

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Make a greater impact in helping vulnerable individuals, families, and communities by earning a Master of Social Work degree. Slippery Rock University's (SRU) Master of Social Work (MSW) is a 60-credit program, with a combination of on campus and online classes. Built on the foundation of SRU's successful Bachelor of Social Work, the program prepares students to provide social work interventions according to the profession's best practices, and to be effective leaders in public and private organizations. SRU's MSW prepares students for generalist practice and an area of specialized practice, Advanced Clinical Practice with Children, Adults and Families.

The need for social service managers and clinical social workers has grown by 25% between 2012 and 2022 and will continue to grow faster than average into 2032 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The national mean annual wage in 2022 for social workers was \$61,420 with social workers in Pennsylvania earning an annual mean wage between \$73,390 and \$83,430. The top 10% of social workers in the United States can earn \$95,560.

Many social workers begin their careers working directly with vulnerable people such as children and adults who have behavioral health problems, people across the age spectrum who have suffered abuse, and people who have traumatic injuries or chronic illnesses. A career in social work can also lead to a wide variety of career paths such as health system administration, health insurance management, legislative advocacy, policy analysis, even elected office.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Slippery Rock University's Master of Social Work offers:

- a 60-credit professional degree that can be completed in two-years attending full-time; or one calendar year for students with advanced standing (39 credits)
- part-time students, especially those who are employed, will have individualized paths to complete their degrees according to their needs and goals
- a certificate in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) obtained simultaneously
- advanced clinical electives to expand knowledge and skills in areas including crisis intervention, forensic social work & animal-assisted intervention
- a competitive curriculum for a competitive advantage in the job market
- an opportunity to earn a certificate in Animal-Assisted Social Work (AASW) -- courses are designed with single weekend attendance to make the summer course(s) more feasible for out-of-state students -- flexible scheduling

ACCREDITATION

SRU is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Slippery Rock University's bachelor's and master's of social work programs are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education's Board of Accreditation.

Accreditation of a baccalaureate or master's social work program by the Council on Social Work Education's Board of Accreditation indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of program quality evaluated through a peer review process. An accredited program has sufficient resources to meet its mission and goals and the Board of Accreditation has verified that it demonstrates compliance with all sections of the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards.

Accreditation applies to all program sites and program delivery methods of an accredited program. Accreditation provides reasonable assurance about the quality of the program and the competence of students graduating from the program.

LICENSING

A person with a master's in social work from Slippery Rock University may apply for a license in the state of Pennsylvania.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Successful applicant profiles will include a strong academic record, volunteer or work experience in health or social services, and letters of recommendation that endorse the applicant's leadership.

All applicants must submit a completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee:

1. Official undergraduate degree transcript(s) and any graduate transcripts
2. Two electronic recommendation forms
3. Resume
4. Personal Statement: Write an essay 1 1/2 - 2 pages describing yourself and the qualities that will make you an effective social worker; your experiences related to social work; your career goals

TUITION AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

Information on current tuition and graduate assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office at www.sru.edu/FinAid or the Office of Graduate Admissions.

CURRICULUM GUIDE - MSW TWO YEARS - FULL-TIME (60 CREDITS)

| Fall, Year 1 | | Spring, Year 1 | |
|---|----------|--|--|
| SOWK 600: Human Behavior and the Social Environment | | SOWK 605: Social Welfare System | |
| SOWK 601: Foundations of Social Work Practice | | SOWK 610: Macro Social Work | |
| SOWK 615: Clinical Social Work & DSM* | Elective | | |
| SOWK 620: Human Rights, Social Justice & Policy | | SOWK 730: Practice Skills following Crisis * OR SOWK 731: Practice in Forensic Social Work* | |
| SOWK 650: Generalist Field I | | SOWK 650: Generalist Field II | |
| Fall, Year 2 | | Spring, Year 2 | |
| SOWK 635: Clinical Practice with Adults* | | SOWK 630: Clinical Practice with Children & Families* | |
| SOWK 705: Research Methods in Social Work | | SOWK 710: Qualitative Research | |
| Elective | | Elective | |
| Elective | | Elective | |
| SOWK 750: Specialized Field I | | SOWK 750: Specialized Field II | |

*Indicates practice class that must be taken concurrently with field practicum.

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (9MSW) UCC 11.09.2021 Revised: 12.6.2021

IMPORTANT CURRICULUM GUIDE NOTES

This Curriculum Guide is provided to help SRU students and prospective students better understand their intended major curriculum. Enrolled SRU students should note that the My Rock Audit may place already-earned and/or in progress courses in different, yet valid, curriculum categories. Enrolled SRU students should use the My Rock Audit Report and materials and information provided by their faculty advisers to ensure accurate progress towards degree completion. The information on this guide is current as of the date listed. Students are responsible for curriculum requirements at the time of enrollment at the University.

PASSHE - Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Institutions

CURRICULUM GUIDE - ADVANCED STANDING ONE YEAR - FULL-TIME - SUMMER START (39 CR)

| Summer, Year 1 | Fall, Year 1 | Spring, Year 1 |
|----------------|---|---|
| Elective | SOWK 615: Clinical Social Work & DSM | SOWK 730: Practice Skills following Crisis OR SOWK 731: Practice in Forensic Social Work |
| Elective | SOWK 635: Clinical Practice with Adults* | SOWK 630: Clinical Practice with Children and Families* |
| Elective | SOWK 620: Human Rights, Social Justice & Policy | SOWK 710: Qualitative Research |
| | Elective | Elective |
| | SOWK 750: Specialized Field II | SOWK 750: Specialized Field II |

CURRICULUM GUIDE - ADVANCED STANDING ONE YEAR - FULL-TIME (39 CREDITS)

| Fall, Year 1 | Spring, Year 1 | Summer, Year 1 |
|---|---|----------------|
| SOWK 615: Clinical Social Work & DSM | SOWK 730: Practice Skills following Crisis OR SOWK 731: Practice in Forensic Social Work | Elective |
| SOWK 620: Human Rights, Social Justice & Policy | SOWK 630: Clinical Practice with Children & Families* | Elective |
| SOWK 635: Clinical Practice with Adults* | SOWK 710: Qualitative Research | Elective |
| Elective | Elective | |
| SOWK 750: Specialized Field I | SOWK 750: Specialized Field II | |

*Indicates practice class that must be taken concurrently with field practicum.

CURRICULUM GUIDE - ADVANCED STANDING TWO YEARS - PART-TIME (39 CREDITS)

| Fall, Year 1 | Spring, Year 1 | Summer, Year 1 |
|---|---|----------------|
| SOWK 615: Clinical Social Work & DSM | SOWK 730: Practice Skills following Crisis OR SOWK 731: Practice in Forensic Social Work | Elective |
| SOWK 620: Human Rights, Social Justice & Policy | Elective | Elective |
| Fall, Year 2 | Spring, Year 2 | Summer, Year 2 |
| Elective | SOWK 710: Qualitative Research | Elective |
| SOWK 635: Clinical Practice with Adults* | SOWK 630: Clinical Practice with Children and Families* | |
| SOWK 750: Specialized Field I | SOWK 750: Specialized Field II | |

*Course must be taken concurrently with specialized field practicum.

ADVANCED STANDING, MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (9SWA)

UCC 11.9.21

Revised: 12.6.2021

Clinical Practice Electives:

SOWK 732: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
 SOWK 733: Disaster Management
 SOWK 734: Trauma-Informed Care
 SOWK 736: Working with Families Impacted by Trauma
 SOWK 737: Behavioral Health Services in Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice
 SOWK 738: Intervention for Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence
 SOWK 739: Forensic Social Work in Corrections
 SOWK 740: Animal-Assisted Social Work Practice
 SOWK 741: Grief & Loss: Theory & Skills for Intervention
 SOWK 742: Animal-Assisted Social Work with Children & Adolescents
 SOWK 743: Animal-Assisted Social Work with Seniors
 SOWK 744: Animal Assisted Crisis Response

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Tami J. Micsky
 MSW Program Director
 117 Dinger Building
 724.738.4493
 tami.micsky@sru.edu

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions
 105 North Hall, Welcome Center
 Slippery Rock, PA 16057
 www.sru.edu/graduate
 724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
 graduate.admissions@sru.edu