

SOCIAL WORK

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



DELIVERY METHOD

Flexible course options for working professionals

START TERMS

Summer and Fall terms

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)



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 employment outlook for graduates is positive. Overall employment of social workers is projected to grow 12 percent from 2020 to 2030, faster than the average for all occupations; according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. About 78,300 openings for social workers are projected each year, on average. The median annual wage for social workers was \$50,390 in May 2021. The median wage is the wage at which half the workers in an occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$36,520, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$82,840 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics

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

Slippery Rock University is accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education. The Bachelor of Social Work program has been accredited since 1982. The Masters of Social Work program is designed according to the standards of the accrediting organization, the Council on Social Worker Education (CSWE).

SRU's MSW program has been granted candidacy by the Council on Social Work Education (effective AY 2020/21). Students who enter programs that attain candidacy in or before the academic year in which they begin their program of study will be retroactively recognized as having graduated from a CSWE accredited program once the program attains initial accreditation.

LICENSING

In Pennsylvania, a person with a Masters in Social Work (MSW) degree may apply for a license if their school is accredited or immediately upon their school receiving accreditation.

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 Childrent & 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
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FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

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Slippery Rock, PA 16057
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724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
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