

# BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

**\*The BSW program is pending accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education with an anticipated approval date of the Fall 2024 semester. Students will not be officially admitted into the BSW program until accreditation from CSWE has been obtained.**

The BSW program at A&M-Texarkana seeks to provide students with a quality education and prepare students with entry-level skills to become generalist social work practitioners prepared to address and work with diverse clients dealing with complex social issues.

## PROGRAM MISSION

The A&M-Texarkana Baccalaureate Social Work (BSW) Program mission is to prepare students as generalist Social Work practitioners to work with constituents at various systems levels to address regional problems related to poverty, chronic illness, and other social and economic injustices. The program seeks to prepare students with professional knowledge, values, skills, and processes guided by human rights, respect for diversities, and social responsibility and centralized around anti-oppressive, and trauma-informed social work practices essential for working with complex issues faced by individuals, families, communities, and organizations.

## PROGRAM GOALS

1. Prepare competent generalist social workers ready to engage with diverse client systems.
2. Engage students in research to better inform their practice and policy advocacy efforts.
3. Prepare students to promote anti-racist and anti-oppressive practices with constituents at various system levels within a variety of professional contexts.
4. Enhance students' problem-solving skills through experiential learning designed to prepare them for complex case work and ethical decision making in their field work and beyond.
5. Engage students to work in partnership with the community to address local and regional concerns.
6. Educate students about person-in-the-environment and ecological frameworks and how each gives context to providing anti-oppressive and trauma-informed care.

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*Students should refer to their DegreeWorks degree audit in their Web for Students account for more information regarding their degree requirements.*

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
General Education Requirements ( <a href="http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext">http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext</a> )		42
SOCI 1301	Introduction to Sociology <small>satisfies core curriculum; minimum grade of 'B' or higher</small>	3
PSYC 2301	General Psychology <small>satisfies core curriculum; minimum grade of 'B' or higher</small>	3
SOCW 2350	Introduction to Social Work <small>minimum grade of 'B' or higher</small>	3
SOCW 2390	Interviewing and Documentation in Social Work <small>minimum grade of 'B' or higher</small>	3
SOCW 330	Introduction to Trauma	3
SOCW 331	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SOCW 332	Diversity, Oppression, and Social Justice	3
SOCW 333	Child Welfare and Maltreatment	3
SOCW 334	Practice I: Social Work with Individuals	3
SOCW 335	Social Welfare Policy & Analysis	3
SOCW 411	Generalist Field Seminar I	1
SOCW 412	Generalist Field Seminar II	1
SOCW 430	Practice II: Social Work with Families and Groups	3
SOCW 431	Social Work with Communities and Organizations	3
SOCW 432	Statistics in Social Work	3
SOCW 433	Research Methods of Social Work	3
SOCW 434	General Field Practice I	3
SOCW 435	Generalist Field Practice II	3
12sch of upper division Social Work Electives <small>SOCW 300 - 400 level</small>		12

Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement

**Minimum Hours Required for Degree**

**120**

1. Students who are interested in the BSW program must have completed 60 hours of liberal studies coursework as determined by the University undergraduate catalog.
2. Students must also complete the two lower division social work prerequisite courses and passed both with a 'B' or better (SOCW 2350: Introduction to Social Work & SOCW 2390: Interview & Documentation).
3. Students must have taken and earned a B or better in two prerequisite courses which are three credit hour courses – General Psychology & General Sociology (Students may be admitted while enrolled in courses but admission will be contingent on the student earning a B or better in the courses. Course numbers may vary depending on where the student initially took the course).
4. Students must have an overall GPA of 2.6 or higher.

Note: A minimum of 54 upper division hours (300 and 400 level courses) are required for this degree. Resident credit totaling 25% of the hours is required for the degree. A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in three areas for graduation: Overall GPA, Institutional GPA, and Major GPA.

## Bachelor of Science- Social Work 4 Year Plan

### First Year

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Fall</b>		
ENGL 1301	Composition I <small>requires minimum grade of 'C' ; satisfies core curriculum</small>	3
Mathematics Core Curriculum Requirement ( <a href="http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext">http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext</a> )		3
SOCI 1301	Introduction to Sociology <small>satisfies core curriculum; minimum grade of 'B' or higher</small>	3
HIST 1301	United States History I	3
IS 1100	University Foundations <small>mandatory for FTIC students only</small>	1
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
<b>Fall Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ENGL 1302 or ENGL 2311	Composition II <small>satisfies core curriculum</small> Technical Writing & Communication	3
Life and Physical Sciences Core Curriculum Requirement ( <a href="http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext">http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext</a> )		3-4
HIST 1302	United States History II <small>satisfies core curriculum</small>	3
Language, Philosophy and Culture Core Curriculum Requirement ( <a href="http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext">http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext</a> )		3
PSYC 2301	General Psychology <small>satisfies core curriculum; minimum grade of 'B' or higher</small>	3
<b>Spring Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Total First Year Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>30-32</b>

### Second Year

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Fall</b>		
Life and Physical Sciences Core Curriculum Requirement ( <a href="http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext">http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext</a> )		3-4
PSCI 2305	U.S. Government and Politics <small>satisfies core curriculum</small>	3
SOCW 2350	Introduction to Social Work <small>minimum grade of 'B' or higher</small>	3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
<b>Fall Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
SPCH 1315 or COMM 1307 or COMM 1311	Public Speaking <small>satisfies core curriculum</small> Introduction to Mass Communication Introduction to Communication Studies	3
PSCI 2306	State and Local Government <small>satisfies core curriculum</small>	3

SOCW 2390	Interviewing and Documentation in Social Work <small>minimum grade of 'B' or higher</small>	3
Creative Arts Core Curriculum Requirement ( <a href="http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext">http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/#corecurriculumtext</a> )		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
<b>Spring Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Total Second Year Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>30-31</b>

## Third Year

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Fall</b>		
SOCW 330	Introduction to Trauma	3
SOCW 331	Human Behavior and the Social Environment	3
SOCW 332	Diversity, Oppression, and Social Justice	3
Upper Division Social Work Elective (300-400 level)		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
<b>Fall Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
SOCW 333	Child Welfare and Maltreatment	3
SOCW 334	Practice I: Social Work with Individuals	3
SOCW 335	Social Welfare Policy & Analysis	3
Upper Division Social Work Elective (300-400 level)		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
<b>Spring Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Total Third Year Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

## Fourth Year

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Fall</b>		
SOCW 430	Practice II: Social Work with Families and Groups	3
SOCW 432	Statistics in Social Work	3
Upper Division Social Work Elective (300-400 Level)		3
SOCW 434	General Field Practice I	3
SOCW 411	Generalist Field Seminar I	1
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		3
<b>Fall Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
SOCW 431	Social Work with Communities and Organizations	3
SOCW 433	Research Methods of Social Work	3
SOCW 435	Generalist Field Practice II	3
SOCW 412	Generalist Field Seminar II	1
Upper Division Social Work Elective (300-400 Level)		3
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement		1
<b>Spring Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Fourth Year Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>Minimum Hours Required for Degree</b>		<b>120</b>

Note: A minimum of 50 semester credit hours of upper division hours (300 and 400 level courses) are required for this degree. Resident credit totaling 25% of the hours is required for the degree.

**SOCW 2350. Introduction to Social Work. 3 Hours.**

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of social work and the concept of social welfare along with the values and ethics that guide the social work profession and the setting in which social workers are employed. The historical roots of the field of social work and the profession's commitment to diverse and at-risk populations and social/economic justice are highlighted. Cross-listed with SOCI 2350.

**SOCW 2361. Introduction to Social Work. 3 Hours.**

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of social work and the concept of social welfare along with the values and ethics that guide the social work profession and the setting in which social workers are employed. The historical roots of the field of social work and the profession's commitment to diverse and at-risk populations and social/economic justice are highlighted. Cross-listed with SOCI 2350.

**SOCW 2390. Interviewing and Documentation in Social Work. 3 Hours.**

This is the first class in the practice component of the Social Work curriculum. Interviewing and Documentation in Social Work is a prerequisite for SOW 365: Social Work Practice I and SOW 430: Social Work Practice II. This course introduces students to the process of interviewing and documenting encounters with clients. Students are introduced to the principles, skills, and phases of interviewing clients. The course emphasizes essential engagement, communication, and recording skills and techniques. It also develops students' ability to use interviewing, intervention, and documentation skills to enhance relationships with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and community systems. Students will learn the oral and written skills necessary to engage in social work practice and how interviews can help to promote social and economic justice. Attention is given to interviewing to communicate respect, warmth, acceptance, and authenticity related to clients' age, socio economic status, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation.

**SOCW 330. Introduction to Trauma. 3 Hours.**

This course is a basic trauma 101 course focused on providing information on trauma, how it impacts constituents, and how we as social workers address it in agencies which we work. This course will also provide students with the basics of trauma informed care, and introduces students to the principles, pillars, and approaches of Trauma-Informed Care and their applications in working with various systems to achieve equity in service provision and outcomes. Prerequisite: SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 331. Human Behavior and the Social Environment. 3 Hours.**

This is a generalist social work course that examines biological and social science concepts and how they influence human behavior, particularly in the context of the social environment. The course focuses on human development from the prenatal period through older adulthood and investigates varying social contextual factors, such as race, culture, ethnicity, stress, adaptation, and gender impacts on development. Additionally, course explores and applies biological, psychological, social, and spiritual theories and how they contribute to client assessments. Prerequisites: SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 332. Diversity, Oppression, and Social Justice. 3 Hours.**

Course is designed to introduce students to the diverse populations and the biases and oppression they are likely to encounter that can have impact on their functioning. The course will assist social work students in understanding the complex nature of the person in the environment taking into consideration the dynamics of diversity, social oppression and social functioning. Students will learn about diverse cultures, family structure, roles, immigration and assimilation experiences of marginalized groups. Students will also learn about the influence of dominant culture on these diverse and marginalized (population at risk) groups. Additionally, this course will examine the adaptive capabilities and strengths of these marginalized groups and how such capabilities and strengths can be used in effective social work practice. Prerequisites: SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 333. Child Welfare and Maltreatment. 3 Hours.**

This is an introductory course in child welfare and maltreatment. This course is organized around four themes: (1) The history, mission, and scope of child welfare services and practice, including the underlying philosophy and values that drive child welfare practice, and addressing cultural and relationship issues when working with families; (2) Conceptual and practical information on identifying child maltreatment, assessing family needs and strengths, and determining the level of risk to children for future maltreatment; (3) Case planning and applying a casework model to working with families; (4) Interviewing skills in a child welfare setting, especially as these skills relate to family assessment, child risk and case planning, and integrating the use of professional authority in these activities. The course utilizes an ecosystem perspective for understanding and assessing the special needs of at-risk children and families. Specific attention is on assessing families and children using the State of Texas' Family Based Safety Services and other family assessment instruments. Prerequisites: SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 334. Practice I: Social Work with Individuals. 3 Hours.**

Provides an overview of generalist social work and the practice, knowledge, and skills needed to successfully work with individual clients in social work. Focuses on understanding human behavior guided by a range of perspectives, theories and interventions models used in social work practice. Emphasizes interpersonal engagement, critical thinking, problem solving, ethical decision making, and cultural humility. Course builds on interviewing and documentation skills from previous coursework and is one in a series of generalist practice courses. Prerequisites: Prerequisite: SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 335. Social Welfare Policy & Analysis. 3 Hours.**

Analyzes current social policy within the context of historical and contemporary factors. Examines major social forces and institutions as they relate to and determine social policy emphasizing social welfare services and social functioning within current U.S. society. Evaluates social welfare frameworks in light of the principles of social and economic justice and how this impacts individual, group and community well-being. Prerequisite: Prerequisite: SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 360. Working with Diverse Populations. 3 Hours.**

This course is designed to introduce students to the diverse populations they would come across in the field of social work. Course contents will include a discussion of the historical, cultural, socioeconomic, and political backgrounds of such groups as well as various ethical considerations involved in working with diverse populations.

**SOCW 365. Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families. 3 Hours.**

This course presents an overview of the theories and models of social work intervention with individuals, families, and groups with a focus on helping individuals and families cope with family problems. Through didactic and experiential activities, students will learn and practice assessment and intervention techniques for work with diverse family structures in a variety of practice settings including home, school, child welfare, mental health, family court, corrections, and other community environments. Specific practice models will include humanistic, positivistic, and evidence based methods.

**SOCW 370. Social Welfare Policy. 3 Hours.**

This course introduces students to social welfare policy and advocacy in the field of social work with emphasis on the historical, cultural, socio-economic, and political basis of social welfare policy in the United States and to some degree, around the globe. Attention will also be paid to issues such as poverty and inequality, health and health care policy, child welfare, mental health care policy, welfare of the elderly, and human rights.

**SOCW 411. Generalist Field Seminar I. 1 Hour.**

This course is a co-requisite with SOCW 433. The course focuses on teaching students to process their work with clients in professional recordings and to analyze their performance in field practicum. The course is an intentionally designed peer-learning community where students can critically evaluate the integration of generalist knowledge, skills, and values learned in courses with their field education experience. The course uses active reflection, encouraging students to draw upon strengths and identify areas of improvement through constructive feedback from peers and faculty; this process is designed to aid students in developing their professional reflexes. Prerequisite: Senior Standing and completion of all Junior level social work coursework.

**SOCW 412. Generalist Field Seminar II. 1 Hour.**

This course is a co-requisite with SOCW 434. The course focuses on teaching students to process their work with clients in professional recordings and to analyze their performance in field practicum. This course assists students in understanding and achieving competence in the social work skills taught and practiced in their field practicum setting. The course requires students to report and analyze field activities with faculty and peers, including the assessment and evaluation of client populations. Prerequisite: Senior Standing.

**SOCW 430. Practice II: Social Work with Families and Groups. 3 Hours.**

This undergraduate course introduces students to the generalist practice foundation of social work with families and groups, also known as mezzo systems. Students will learn skills for developing professional relationships with mezzo client systems, garnering and examining data, assessing constituent concerns as they relate to attributes of the client system and the client's environment. The course will also focus on planning, choosing appropriate interventions, implementation interventions and evaluation of client system outcomes. Prerequisites: SOCW 330, SOCW 331, and SOCW 333.

**SOCW 431. Social Work with Communities and Organizations. 3 Hours.**

This undergraduate course introduces students to the generalist practice foundation of social work with communities and organizations, also known as macro systems. Students will examine and apply concepts, theories, and models of practice with macro systems to address complex issues of these systems. The course will analyze and implement approaches social workers use to engage with, influence, and intervene with communities, organizations, and other macro systems. Prerequisites: SOCW 333 and SOCW 434. Also, SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 432. Statistics in Social Work. 3 Hours.**

Introduces the use of statistics for research in social work and focuses on understanding statistical outputs. Teaches descriptive and inferential statistics with specific focus on understanding central tendency, variability, correlation, probability, regression, and various other inferential statistical techniques such as t-test, analysis of variance, post-hoc tests, and non-parametric statistics. Prerequisites: MATH 1314, 1324, or 1332. Also, SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 433. Research Methods of Social Work. 3 Hours.**

This is an undergraduate course that focuses on research methods used in social work. This course prepares students for designing and carrying out research in practice settings and for agency purposes. This course includes training students to critically analyze scholarly literature and apply it in work within social work practice settings. This course will also explore practice and program evaluation. Prerequisites: SOCW 432 with a minimum of D. Also, SOCI 1301, PSYC 2301, SOCW 2390, and SOCW 2350 or SOCW 2361 all with a minimum grade of B.

**SOCW 434. General Field Practice I. 3 Hours.**

This course is the first of two within a sequence. The course focuses on engaged field education and developing practice skills through live field engagements with clients systems. This course is considered signature pedagogy for the BSW program's curriculum and is designed to socialize students to become professional social work practitioners. The course is designed to connect content learned in the coursework across the curriculum to live practice. The course seeks to reinforce purposes, values, and ethics of the social work profession and fosters the integration of empirical and practice-based knowledge (evidenced-based practice) to promote the development of professional competence. This course requires students to complete field practicum hours as dictated by the Council on Social Work Education. Prerequisites: Senior Standing and completion of all junior level social work coursework.

**SOCW 435. Generalist Field Practice II. 3 Hours.**

This course is the second within a sequence. The course focuses on engaged field education and developing practice skills through live field engagements with clients systems. This course is considered signature pedagogy for the BSW program's curriculum and is designed to socialize students to become professional social work practitioners. The course is designed to connect content learned in the coursework across the curriculum to live practice. The course seeks to reinforce purposes, values, and ethics of the social work profession and fosters the integration of empirical and practice-based knowledge (evidenced-based practice) to promote the development of professional competence. This course requires students to complete field practicum hours as dictated by the Council on Social Work Education. Prerequisites: Senior standing and completion of all junior level social work coursework.

**SOCW 475. Introduction to Gerontology. 3 Hours.**

This course provides students with a broad overview of the field of gerontology and discuss the characteristics of older adults, the sociology of aging, theories of aging, stereotypes, and ageism, physiological and psychological changes of aging, and alternative healthcare methods that may benefit older adults. It explores a variety of perspectives on aging, including the social aspects of aging: family relationships, health, economics, retirement, widowhood, and care of the frail elderly.

**SOCW 489. Independent Study. 3 Hours.**

This course provides individual instruction. Students may repeat the course when topics vary.

**SOCW 497. Special Topics. 3 Hours.**

Instructors will provide an organized class designed to cover areas of specific interest. Students may repeat the course when topics vary.