

Master of Social Work Degree

Selected Educational Outcomes

1. Using the strengths perspective, graduates will practice without discrimination and with respect, knowledge, and skills that are appropriate for the range of human differences.
2. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to practice at increasing levels of complexity using specialized theories and practice methods.
3. Graduates will demonstrate elements of leadership and the ability to shape the professional environment.
4. Graduates will demonstrate an increasing ability to engage in informed and systematic self-directed practice.

Examples of Outcome Assessments

1. Students must complete all academic requirements to a satisfactory degree, including 1,000 clock hours of practicum.

This program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). VSU graduate students who are not enrolled in the M.S.W. program may take elective courses with the permission of the Head of the Department of Human Services, but required courses are restricted to M.S.W. students. The M.S.W. program is cohort-based, and the order of courses is strictly determined by selection of program. Academic credit will not be given for life experience or previous work experience.

Program cohort options and detailed programs of study are available at the Social Work Program website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/social-work/>). Students are admitted to one of the following cohort options:

1. Web Hybrid Option: Full-Time (2-year); Part-Time (3-year)
2. Advanced Standing Option: Full-Time (1-year)

The Web Hybrid option is for applicants with an undergraduate degree not in social work.

The Advanced Standing option is available only to students who received a Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program in the last 5 years. Additional admission requirements apply. Enrollment in this option is extremely competitive, and space is limited.

Two specialization tracks have been developed for MSW students: Direct Practice Social Work and Macro Practice for Social Workers. MSW students will select one of the tracks to guide their program of study during their advanced year. Courses have been selected for each track based on their applicability. In addition, one course from the track not selected may be used as an elective for the track selected.

Prior to admission to any graduate program at Valdosta State University, applicants must first submit a completed application to the Graduate School. A completed application packet includes official transcripts from all institutions previously attended, completed application form, fee, and any additional program requirements, submitted by the admission deadline. To be considered for the preferred term, all required materials must be received by the Graduate School no later than the close of business on the deadline. It is the responsibility of the applicant to allow adequate time for document submission and to ensure receipt of documents.

Application Deadlines

Deadline for applications is January 14 of each year for Advanced Standing Admissions (applicants who have earned a B.S.W. from a C.S.W.E.-accredited institution within the last 5 years) and February 14 of each year for standard applications. Applications received after the deadline will be considered on a space-available basis. Classes start in August for both regular M.S.W. students and Advanced Standing M.S.W. students.

Go to the Graduate School website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/graduate-school/welcome.php>) and click on Our Programs, then click on MSW Program for information on:

- Specific MSW Program Admission Requirements
- MSW Program Retention, Dismissal, and Readmission Policies
- MSW Program Graduation Requirements

To Apply Online, click here (<https://www.applyweb.com/apply/vsug/menu.html>).

Requirements for the Master of Social Work Degree

Code	Title	Hours
First Year - Generalist Courses		27
SOWK 6203	Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3
SOWK 6204	Diversity	3
SOWK 6301	Generalist Practice I: Individuals and Families	3

SOWK 6302	Generalist Practice II Organizations and Communities	3
SOWK 6310	Models of Intervention	3
SOWK 6400	Social Welfare Policy and Services	3
SOWK 6500	Generalist Practice in Research and Evaluation Methods in Social Work	3
SOWK 6800	Field Practicum and Seminar I	3
SOWK 6900	Field Practicum and Seminar II	3
Second Year - Specialization Courses		33
SOWK 7500	Advanced Practice in Research and Program Evaluation	3
SOWK 7611	Advanced Social Work Practicum I	3
SOWK 7612	Advanced Social Work Practicum II	3
SOWK 7613	Advanced Practice Seminar	3
SOWK 7810	Psychopathology and Assessment	3
Specialization Track (Select either Direct Practice or Macro Practice)		9
General Practice Electives		9
SOWK 7000	Independent Study in Social Work	
SOWK 7001	Special Topics in Social Work	
SOWK 7400	Advanced Practice in Social Welfare Policy and Practice	
SOWK 7700	Social Work Practice with Older Adults	
SOWK 7775	Social Work and Trauma	
SOWK 7776	Military Social Work	
SOWK 7800	Social Work Practice in Health Settings	
SOWK 7820	Issues in Substance Use	
SOWK 7840	Seminar on Loss and Bereavement	
SOWK 7850	Social Work Practice in Schools	
SOWK 7860	Grant Writing and Program Development for Human Services	
SOWK 7861	Human Services Organization Management	
SOWK 7870	Working with Victims and Perpetrators of Abuse and Neglect	
SOWK 7871	Advanced Direct Practice with Children and Adolescents	
SOWK 7890	Spirituality in Social Work Practice	
SOWK 7910	Advanced Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	

Total Hours Required for the Degree

60

Field Practicum

Students in the M.S.W. program complete two separate year-long practicum experiences. These field placements in social service agencies run concurrently with coursework and allow students an opportunity to integrate classroom content with actual practice experiences. Students are required to complete 16 to 18 hours per week in practicum, depending on program cohort option. Practicum placements are geographically limited and determined by the Director of Field Instruction.

Requirements for the Master of Social Work Degree--Advanced Standing

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		33
SOWK 7500	Advanced Practice in Research and Program Evaluation	3
SOWK 7611	Advanced Social Work Practicum I	3
SOWK 7612	Advanced Social Work Practicum II	3
SOWK 7613	Advanced Practice Seminar	3
SOWK 7810	Psychopathology and Assessment	3
SOWK 7000	Independent Study in Social Work	3
Specialization Track (select either Direct Practice or Macro Practice)		9
General Practice Electives		9
SOWK 7000	Independent Study in Social Work	
SOWK 7001	Special Topics in Social Work	
SOWK 7400	Advanced Practice in Social Welfare Policy and Practice	
SOWK 7700	Social Work Practice with Older Adults	

SOWK 7775	Social Work and Trauma
SOWK 7776	Military Social Work
SOWK 7800	Social Work Practice in Health Settings
SOWK 7820	Issues in Substance Use
SOWK 7840	Seminar on Loss and Bereavement
SOWK 7850	Social Work Practice in Schools
SOWK 7860	Grant Writing and Program Development for Human Services
SOWK 7861	Human Services Organization Management
SOWK 7870	Working with Victims and Perpetrators of Abuse and Neglect
SOWK 7871	Advanced Direct Practice with Children and Adolescents
SOWK 7890	Spirituality in Social Work Practice
SOWK 7910	Advanced Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Total Hours Required for the Degree **33**

Specialization Tracks

Code	Title	Hours
Direct Practice Track		9
SOWK 6004	Social Work Practice with Groups	3
SOWK 7300	Advanced Practice with Individuals	3
SOWK 7310	Advanced Practice with Families	3
Code		Hours
Macro Practice Track		9
SOWK 7320	Advanced Practice with Organizations and Communities	3
SOWK 7321	Community Organizing and Planning	3
SOWK 7322	Program Development for Human Services	3