

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (M.S.W.)

Ranked in the top 10 percent in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*, Fordham University's Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) program will prepare you to engage effectively across all areas of social work throughout your career.

The world of social work is complex and changing. That's why we've developed a dynamic, forward-thinking curriculum that starts with a comprehensive foundational phase focusing on skills that are grounded in theory and ethics.

After completing core courses, you'll move to the advanced phase, where you'll create your own plan of study in one or more advanced practice areas:

- **Individuals and Families:** Learn how to provide direct services that address clients' environment and overall well-being.
- **Organizations and Community:** Be prepared to work effectively with entire communities and various types of organizations, including private and public companies and nonprofits.
- **Evaluation:** Be prepared to develop an understanding of research and evidence-based practices.
- **Policy Practice and Advocacy:** Develop skills related to managing organizations and systems, creating policy, writing grant proposals, and obtaining funding.

Accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, our M.S.W. curriculum is designed to turn you into a highly competent, integrated practitioner who has the tools to succeed in every setting.

By earning a Fordham M.S.W., you'll join an academic community that's as passionate about social justice as you are. If you're ready to change the world, we're ready to help.

For more information, please go to the Fordham GSS website.

Admissions

Gain the knowledge and skills you need to achieve your professional goals. Apply to the Master of Social Work program at Fordham University. We encourage applications from people who can meet the academic requirements of a graduate-level program and who demonstrate that their personal qualities and values are compatible with the mission of social work: To improve the lives of others.

Prerequisites

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
- 18 undergraduate credits in liberal arts content.

The GRE is not required for admission into this program.

For more details about the application process for our on-campus M.S.W. program, please visit the GSS Admissions website.

For more details about the application process for our online M.S.W. program, please go visit the online M.S.W. Admissions website.

Requirements

Our Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree is a 62-credit program. It consists of:

- 48 credits of classwork
- 14 credits of fieldwork experience

The first 31 credits are part of the Generalist Phase; everyone takes the same courses at this level. The remaining 31 credits are part of the program's Specialist Phase.

Fordham coursework applying towards the M.S.W. degree may be no older than 5 years (counted from the semester the coursework was taken).

Required Courses

Generalist Curriculum

Course	Title	Credits
SWGS 6005	Contemporary Social Welfare Policy	3
SWGS 6040	Integrating Human Rights and Justice in Practice	3
SWGS 6323	Social Work Practice With Individuals Across the Lifespan	3
SWGS 6324	Social Work Practice With Families and Groups Across the Lifespan	3
SWGS 6305	Social Work Skills Lab	3
SWGS 6320	Social Work Practice With Organizations and Communities	3
SWGS 6440	Advanced Clinical Assessment and Diagnosis	3
SWGS 6803	Applied Social Work Research and Evaluation	3
SWGS 6901	Generalist Field Instruction	7
Total Credits		31

Specialist Curriculum

Course	Title	Credits
Selective #1: Individuals and Families Domain- Choose one course		3
Selective #2: Organizations and Communities Domain- Choose one course		3
Selective #3: Evaluation and Research Domain- Choose one course		3
Selective #4: Policy Practice Domain- Choose one course		3
Selective #5: Course of your choice		3
Selective #6: Course of your choice		3
Selective #7: Course of your choice		3
Selective #8: Course of your choice		3
SWGS 6902	Specialist Field Instruction	7
Total Credits		31

See the Course Listings page for courses fulfilling Selectives #1-4, along with courses that fulfill the LCSW clinical coursework requirement.

Selectives #5-8 may be fulfilled by any course with the subject code SWGS, numbered 6000-7999 or 8999, except for the Generalist Curriculum courses listed above.

Programs

Program Modalities

- M.S.W. Dual Degree Programs
- M.S.W. Hybrid
- M.S.W. On Campus
- M.S.W. Online

Full Time Plan of Study

In the full time plan of study, students generally can complete their M.S.W. program in two academic years. It consists of:

- Two years of classroom coursework (24 credits each year).
- Two years of fieldwork (9 credits per year).

Your fieldwork includes a generalist and specialist year practicum. The practicum schedule is 21 hours OR 14 hours per week. All students are expected to complete 600 hours of fieldwork placement per year (1,200 hours total over the two-year period).

Part Time Plan of Study

The part-time plan of study is for students who would like a slower pace to completing their M.S.W. degree. In this plan of study, you can complete your M.S.W. degree in three to four years.

You can begin this plan with two classes per semester in the first year. Fieldwork placement is added in the second year. You also have the option of completing some courses during summer sessions (usually mid-May to early July).

Advanced Standing Plan of Study

Graduates of a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)-accredited undergraduate social work program within the past five years may apply for admission into the specialized practice year (second year) of the two-year program OR one year of CSWE-accredited M.S.W. coursework may be eligible for the advanced standing program. You can complete your M.S.W. in as little as one year or can go part time and complete your M.S.W. in two years.

Goals and Objectives

Goals

The goals for the M.S.W. program are:

1. To develop a strong knowledge and skill base in generalist practice with a focus on and commitment to human rights and social justice.
2. Develop specialist skills in advanced areas of the social work profession such as clinical, leadership and macro practice, research, community and organizations, that build on the generalist practice foundation
3. Practice with and on behalf of diverse populations, in order to promote individual, familial, organizational, and community well-being.
4. Critical and systematic examination, evaluation, and utilization of research and other sources of empirical evidence in order to refine practice knowledge, skills, and interventions

5. Competent social work practice guided by a sense of professional identity, values and ethical standards, as well as by recognition of the need for ongoing professional development

Objectives

The objectives for the M.S.W. program are:

1. Practice the core values of the social work profession as outlined in the NASW Code of Ethics including:
 - a. Commitment to service, human rights and social justice
 - b. Assistance to access resources, benefits and service in order for individuals to achieve their potential
 - c. The ideal in which every individual in society has equal rights opportunities, social benefits, and protection
 - d. Dignity & worth of every person
 - e. Placing the individual in high esteem and valuing individual differences
 - f. Importance of human relationships
 - g. Integrity, trustworthiness and adherence to moral principles
 - h. Competence, having the skills and abilities to work with clients effectively
2. Develop and practice a high level of self-awareness in working with individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities and other professionals
3. Demonstrate knowledge about the effects of oppression and discrimination on individuals, families, groups, and communities and the importance of human rights and social justice advocacy
4. Consistently work to assess the risk and resiliency factors of client systems of various sizes and types, especially with marginalized and culturally or socially diverse groups; and implement interventions that utilize a strengths perspective
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of social welfare as an institution and the history, mission and philosophy of the social work profession
6. Demonstrate knowledge, and skills in relation to varied practice settings with a focus on social policy, programs and practice development, organization and community change, and advocacy for clients with the goal of working to alleviate human oppression and discrimination by advancing human rights and social justice and the well-beings of all people
7. Critical thinking skills developed from a grounding in scientifically analyzed and applied theory and research that informs social work practice at all levels of intervention
8. Apply an analytic, empirically based approach to knowledge building in practice that integrates the methods of social research, the critical appraisal of research findings, and the evaluation of social policies, programs, practice processes and outcomes
9. Demonstrate the self-awareness skills necessary to evaluate practice outcomes through a commitment to ongoing learning and professional development

Enrollment Policies

Life Experience

No credit is given to students at GSS for work or life experience.

Course Waiver

A course waiver is granted to a beginning student who can document having successfully completed the course content required in our Master of Social Work program. You should make waiver requests during the admission process. When a course waiver is granted by the GSS Admissions Department, you are expected to enroll in other courses in order to earn the required total number of M.S.W. course credits. The student is being waived from the course requirement but not the credit requirement. The Assistant Dean of Admissions will refer you to the appropriate faculty member if a course waiver is indicated.

Transfer Credits

Transfer credits are credits for courses taken at another institution. Students may transfer graduate course work from a regionally accredited institution to Fordham University's Master of Social Work degree program.

Eligibility

- Courses must have been completed at a graduate school.
- Course content must have been in a social science discipline and in the scope of social work education.
- A grade of B or higher must have been earned.

Restrictions

- Transfer credits will not be granted for courses taken more than five years before applying to GSS.
- Transfer coursework accepted for credit may apply towards the M.S.W. degree for up to 5 years from the term the student first begins the degree.
- Transfer credits will not be awarded for courses under three credit hours.
- Transfer credits will not be awarded for courses used toward the receipt or conferral of another degree.
- A maximum of 12 transfer credits can be awarded.
- Transfer credits are not granted for life or work experience.
- You must request the credits when you apply to Fordham's M.S.W. program.

Applying for Transfer Credits

M.S.W. applicants who are eligible to apply for transfer credits must submit a Transfer Credit Application Form once they have been granted admission to the program. Your transfer credit application package must include:

- A Transfer Credit Application Form;
- Transcripts from those courses; and
- Course descriptions or syllabi of the courses for which you would like credit.

An addendum to your acceptance letter from GSS will indicate how many transfer credits you will receive. If you do not receive this notification, please contact the Office of Admission at gssadmission@fordham.edu or 212-636-6600 before registration.

Advanced Standing Students

To ensure that applicants who hold a B.S.W./B.A.S.W. degree do not repeat content that has been mastered, GSS only accepts applicants who have a B.S.W./B.A.S.W. degree from a CSWE-accredited social work

school or program to the Advanced Standing plan of study of the M.S.W. degree program.

B.S.W./B.A.S.W. graduates are ineligible for all other plans of study offered within the M.S.W. degree program.

Field Education Policies Overview

Field instruction is the signature pedagogy of Social Work education. It is a learning experience in a professional setting that enables students to integrate and apply theory and knowledge in order to develop and practice skills prior to entering the workforce that align with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) competencies. Field education is designed to provide students with hands-on experience in order to develop appropriate knowledge, value, skills, and professional identification. Placements are coordinated with social work agencies or institutions that work collaboratively with Fordham to plan individual learning opportunities. Fordham maintains relationships with many agencies and institutions nationally that offer a wide range of programs and settings.

Field Instruction Manual

Please note that all information shared on this Bulletin page are representing only some aspects of the Field Education process and expectations. This Bulletin is highlighting the primary areas in which students have the most questions. Please refer to the current Field Education Manual for all detailed specifics about Field Placement.

Field Practicum

The first Field practicum is completed in the Generalist/Foundation year. During the Generalist/Foundation Field year, students learn social work practice skills that are applicable to work with client systems (individual, family, and group) and organizations and communities. Generalist/Foundation year Field occurs over two semesters (for both on-campus and online students). Such considerations as current employment, past experience, hours of availability, and geography, along with agency requirements, are crucial in making foundation/generalist placement matches. The goal is to facilitate the learning of foundation-level skills that are transferable to all settings and all populations. Please note that the Generalist/Foundation year placement is assigned to you by the Field Department directly.

Specialist/Advanced year field is taken after completing and successfully passing the Generalist Field practicum. Students admitted into the Advanced Standing program are required to complete one full Specialist year Field practicum. In Specialist/Advanced Field, students apply skills learned in Generalist year to learning advanced practice skills with more complex clients and social policy/organizational systems. Specialist Field placements may involve direct practice with client systems; macro practice in administration, social policy and/or evaluation of practice; or a combination of direct and macro practice at the advanced level of learning in field. This placement process differs from Generalist/Foundation year placement where the Field placement coordinators work collaboratively with students to find a Specialist/Advanced year placement that coordinates with a student's preferences related to a particular setting and population where possible.

Agencies are requiring a variety of onboarding and clearances that must be completed prior to beginning a Field placement, which is generally dependent upon the site and type of training being received. This may

include, but is not limited to, such items as a criminal background check, a recent physical exam and/or certain tests or immunizations prior to placement. Students are notified in advance of any particular requirements related to their placement sites and should be ready to provide such information directly to the agency. Cooperation with these requirements is expected. In most instances, the costs of meeting these requirements are the responsibility of the student. Fordham does hold an agreement with Castlebranch to support students in providing a streamlined and protected way to submit and manage any documentation or clearances needed for sites/institutions. Students will be connected to this service when/if needed by the Field Education Department and prior to the placement year.

Foundation/Generalist Field Placement Planning

Students begin foundation/generalist field instruction during their first year of the program if enrolled in the two-year plan of study, or their second year if in the extended, three- to four-year plan of study. Students should always refer to their plan of study when registering.

If you are accepted as a full-time student, the Office of Admissions provides the link to the electronic field application planning forms in your acceptance information. If you begin the program part-time, you will attend a field planning meeting, and the link to the planning forms will be provided at that time.

Advanced/Specialist Field Placement Planning

Students are informed of the names of the coordinators with whom you will meet individually to discuss your interests and educational needs. The coordinator with whom you meet will be responsible for placing you. Students entering Fordham as advanced-standing students receive the link to their field planning form in their acceptance information. Once the student submits their form, a placement coordinator will contact them for an interview. Depending on their geographic location, advanced-standing M.S.W. students will participate in a placement interview in person, by phone, or via Zoom.

Field Placement Hours and Credits

Within the M.S.W. degree program, traditional students are required to participate in two field practicums. Advanced Standing students will be required to complete one field practicum. Students must complete a minimum of 950 hours of field total in both field practicums, though some placements may require hours that surpass that minimum. Generalist/Foundation year students will be required to complete 450 hours in a field placement and Specialist/Advanced Standing year students will be required to complete 500 hours. Students are expected to be in field placement a minimum of 16 hours per week. If you are a student seeking evening/weekend hours, please note you are required to be in field placement for a portion of the required hours during the workweek, and that must occur between the hours of 8am-8pm. Please note that students are expected to determine hours and a schedule in collaboration with the agency/institution. Please note that some sites and/or specialized placements may require specific hours and days and students agreeing to be placed at those sites are expected to fulfill that obligation to the agency and clients. Please note that participating in Field means that students will remain in placement for the entire academic term and are not allowed to end Field earlier than 2 weeks prior to the end of each semester/term. This is meant to ensure that students are fully able to meet all CSWE competencies, fulfill their commitment to

the agency/institution and achieve the minimum number of Field hours designated. Field advisement sessions, which are taken concurrently with Field placement do not hold any credit hours. Field placement accounts for 14 credit hours within the total credit hours of 62 accumulated for the M.S.W. degree.

Field Advisement Sessions

All students in field instruction are required to participate in Field Advisement sessions that run concurrently with each placement year. These sessions are mandatory and are considered part of field instruction and do factor into the final grade for Field each semester/term. Students indicate their time preference for these sessions each year when they register for courses. Students enrolled in the online M.S.W. program and the Fordham/Molloy hybrid option are also required to participate in an online Field Advisement sessions. These sessions meet 7 times over the course of the academic year. The Advisement Sessions offer students the opportunity to share experiences in the field and to further integrate course work and fieldwork. The Field Adviser facilitates the Field Advisement sessions and is the student's link to the field internship and the assigned supervisor for the placement site. Please note that certain placements require enrollment in specific advisement sessions, including but not limited to those students applying for Palliative Care placements and the Pipeline For Youth Health placements.

Student/Field Placement Match

Field Education Department staff and coordinators use the information students provide on their field application, along with a resume and initial interviews, either in person, by phone or via Zoom, to place students for their Generalist/Foundation and Specialist/Advanced year Field placements. Student applications are assigned to field placement coordinators as they are submitted and students are informed of the names of the coordinators with whom they will meet individually to discuss interests and educational needs. Once a coordinator has been assigned, a student will receive outreach from them and will begin the placement process for the upcoming Field year. Because students are assigned based on geographical area and placement year, students can expect to have a different placement coordinator in their Specialist/Advanced year from the individual they worked with in their Generalist/Foundation year. Please note the Field Advisor assigned to the Field Advisement sessions may also change from Generalist/Foundation year to Specialist/Advanced year.

Work/Study and Employment-Based Field Instruction

Some students are able to meet their field instruction requirements through the social service agency where they are currently employed. If this is an option, the student is asked to indicate this on the field application and submit a proposal for the field placement. In order to qualify, the student must be employed by the agency for at least six months prior to the start of the placement. The field instructor may not be your regular supervisor, must have at least two years post-M.S.W. experience, must be licensed in accordance with the regulations of the state where students will complete field placements, and meet other training requirements. The department will review all proposals for suitability and consult with the Field Director prior to approval for any applications that do not fully meet criteria. Please note that application does not indicate certainty that this placement will be approved. For all supervisors in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, Fordham does require the additional Seminar in Field Instruction (SIFI) certification. Field instructors can sign up for this course at Fordham or any other New York area schools that offer this course.

Stipend-Based Internships

Students placed in internships are designated as student interns due to the Field placement process being considered a training program and is not considered paid employment. Please refer here to the CSWE statement released in May 2022 regarding paid internships.

Many placements may have monetary stipends or scholarships attached and students may qualify for these based on criteria identified per site and/or via requirements indicated by Fordham University. This will be reviewed with the student during the placement process if the site qualifies or offers financial support.

Choices in the Placement Process

It is always the intent of the Field Education Department to work collaboratively with students to determine a Field placement setting that provides the best possible learning experience for each practicum year. It is important to note that while preferences are taken into account, the Generalist/Foundation year placement setting will be assigned by the Field Department directly. For Specialist/Advanced students, students will be able to express greater preference and selection regarding the setting in which they are placed and with the associated service population. Students generally interview with the agency during both years to ensure that the setting is a good fit for the student. Once a student has met with an agency/institution, a joint affiliation agreement regarding placement is made between Fordham and the site. Students should not contact agencies directly to arrange interviews until advised to participate in this process by your coordinator.

Field Instruction Grades

Field instruction is a year-long course and graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. At the end of the first semester, if the student is progressing well, a grade of In Progress (IP*) is given. Grades of Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) are given upon completion of the course. The mid-year and final grades will only be entered when the field evaluation has been received. It is important to note that the mid-year grade of "IP*" does not change after a grade of "S" is received. The Field Education Department provides the student and field instructor with an evaluation tool for monitoring progress and learning needs. The field instructor also submits written evaluations to the school at the end of each semester. For specialized placements, additional evaluations may be provided as part of that placement process.

Absences from Field Placement

In field placement settings, students are permitted a maximum of three absences during the year for illness or other emergencies. These hours should still be made up at an alternate time agreed upon with the agency/institution to ensure the student stays on track with accumulation of hours. Students should plan ahead when entering their Field placement, as extended time off is not considered appropriate when committing to the agency and client population for the academic year. Students may have to delay or defer Field depending upon a scenario where extended time off is taken or being requested. Deferral or delaying Field may also affect a student's plan of study so it is imperative that consultations with the Field Department occur immediately if a student may need to interrupt Field placement for any reason.

If a situation occurs in which the student is ill for an extended period of time or another emergency requires a lengthier absence, the student must immediately consult with their Field Adviser and Field placement instructor/supervisor and obtain special approval from the Field Department to continue in Field for that current semester. For instances

that require lengthy absences for medical reasons, a student may apply for a Medical Leave of Absence with the Student Services Department.

Students who delay or are out of Field for more than one semester will be required to restart Field hours, regardless of the previous hours earned when an interruption or absence occurred. If students are out of the program for two or more semesters, they will have to reapply to the entire program and restart Field as part of that process.

Students are also required to be present in all Field Advisement sessions each practicum year. If more than two classes are missed, a student may risk failing Field. It is important to always stay in contact and share challenges in real-time with Field Advisors about any potential challenges known in advance.

If a student has any questions or encounters problems or emergent issues in field placement or with advisement sessions, they should contact and consult with the Field Adviser immediately. Field advisers consult directly with the Field Education Department should further intervention or guidance be needed.

Malpractice Insurance

As a student in field placement, you are covered by a malpractice policy. The cost for this policy is \$30 per year. The fee is charged to your account when you register for field instruction. This policy is only in effect during your internship hours. When you graduate and are no longer an intern, you may want to obtain your own liability policy. If you are a member of NASW, you are able to apply for liability insurance through its group plan.

Contact Us

We know that many questions or challenges may arise during the Field placement process and the placement teams assigned to our online and on-campus students are always willing to provide support and problem solving whenever needed.

All students can always feel free to contact the Field Department directly at gssfieldinstruction@fordham.edu and your email will be forwarded to the appropriate person who can best address your questions or needs. This email address is for both online and on-campus students to use.

If there are questions or concerns specifically related to the Online program, please also feel free to reach out directly to the online placement team at fieldeducation@onlinemsw.fordham.edu

For grievances or concerns, please direct these to the Director of Field Education, Christie Hunnicutt, at chunnicutt2@fordham.edu and/or the Associate Director of Field Education, Gwen Mitchell, at gmitchell4@fordham.edu

We look forward to working with you!

Field Education Forms Available Forms

- Proposal for Work/Study Field Placement

Important Information

If you are interested in using your place of employment as a fieldwork placement, your employer must be willing to allow you to function in the role of an M.S.W. intern for a minimum of 15 hours and a maximum of 21 hours per week in your current work position (the tasks must

be connected to the Council on Social Work Education Social Work Competencies).

Your immediate supervisor can function in the role of your field instructor to supervise your placement if they meet all criteria, although a different field instructor is preferred. The field instructor must possess an M.S.W. degree, and at least 2 years of post-master's experience.

If you are interested in proposing a work/study field placement, your field instructor and employment supervisor must be different. Field placement tasks must be different from employment responsibilities.

Applications must be submitted to the Field Education Office at gssfieldinstruction@fordham.edu no later than May 1 for work/study proposals.

For more information

Contact the Field Education Office at gssfieldinstruction@fordham.edu.

Academic Advising

Academic advising is a collaborative process between advisers and students that helps students meet their academic goals. It involves planning, evaluation, and decision-making in partnership with the advisee (the student) and the academic adviser.

Lincoln Center Campus

- Mr. Johnny Torres (jtorres@fordham.edu)
- Ms. Melissa Lippiello (mlippiello@fordham.edu)

Westchester Campus

- Ms. Laura Sutter (lsutter@fordham.edu)
- Ms. Kaitlynn Toro (ktor2@fordham.edu)

Molloy Collaborative

- Ms. Joanna Suppa (suppa@fordham.edu)

Online Student Success Advisers

- Assigned after admission

Special Offerings

Advanced Standing Program

This plan of study is open only to transfer students and Bachelor of Social Work graduates who have achieved a competent level of academic performance and a successful fieldwork experience within five years of applying to the M.S.W. program at Fordham. The undergraduate or graduate social work program that the applicant attended must be accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). If the applicant's program does not have CSWE accreditation, you are not eligible for the Advanced Standing Plan of study. Students in this plan have generally completed the first year of an M.S.W. program. For Bachelor of Social Work graduates, your undergraduate coursework is the equivalent of the first year of the M.S.W. program at Fordham's Graduate School of Social Service. The 33 credits of the student's B.S.W. program are transferred into the M.S.W. program at Fordham. Under this plan, you earn the remaining 33 credits for the degree in the advanced/specialist phase of your program, divided into 24 classroom credits and nine fieldwork credits. You can complete this plan of study in one academic year, or you may extend it over two years.

Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC-T)

Substance use disorders are defined broadly to include both alcohol and other mood-altering substances. The qualification will incorporate content regarding multiple client populations and multiple service settings as they relate to alcohol and other mood-altering substances.

Requirements

- Field Practicum: Advanced/Specialist year in an approved substance use disorders setting. This will include specific learning goals and assignments related to services and practice in the area of substance use disorders.
- Field Advisement Sessions: A special section for Advanced/Specialist year students placed in substance use disorder settings.
- Elective Requirement: SWGS 6417 Social Work Practice with Substance Use Disorders

After completing these requirements, students will have met the New York State educational hours required (350 hours) for the CASAC-T (Credentialed Alcoholism Counselor in Training certificate). However, the qualification is not equivalent to the New York State CASAC credential. For further information, contact Dr. Linda White-Ryan, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, at whiteryan@fordham.edu.

Joint Degree Programs

Joint Degree Program in Social Work and Law

This program is designed for graduate students who wish to earn both a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from the Fordham University School of Law and a Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree from the Graduate School of Social Service. Applicants interested in the combined law and social work degree must apply and be admitted to both programs simultaneously. Due to the requirements of the American Bar Association, the first year of study must be completed at the School of Law. Contact Assistant Dean of Admissions Melba Remice at 212-636-6601 or remice@fordham.edu or Melissa Fiore Lippiello, J.D., L.M.S.W., at mlippiello@fordham.edu for further information.

Joint Program with Mt. Sinai School of Medicine's Master of Public Health Program

Fordham's Graduate School of Social Service has a joint Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree program with Mt. Sinai School of Medicine's Master of Public Health Program. Mt. Sinai is located in Manhattan at East 99th Street. Contact Associate Dean Elaine Congress at congress@fordham.edu or 212-636-6667 or Abigail Ross at aross28@fordham.edu for further information.

Study Abroad

GSS London Summer Study

GSS is very pleased to offer our M.S.W. students the opportunity to take courses taught by GSS faculty at Fordham University's London Centre. The London Summer Program highlights the rich history of the settlement house movement in London and New York City, and its role in the formation of the social work profession and social welfare. Faculty will facilitate structured opportunities for students to integrate their community-based and classroom experiences and learning, and enhance the international comparative nature of their study abroad. For more information, contact Gregory Acevedo at gracevedo@fordham.edu or Dana Marlowe at marlowe@fordham.edu.

Career and Alumni Resources

Career Planning

GSS provides the opportunity for students to seek employment through the online internship and job database Handshake. As a current GSS student, you already have an account set up with your Fordham email address. Just click "Forgot Password." On the Handshake platform, you can post your resume, apply for jobs directly on the system, and access it after graduation as alumni. To learn more about using Handshake, visit the webpage.

Continuing Education

Continuing education is now required for licensing in New York State. GSS will be offering CEU opportunities for our graduates and the community. You can find upcoming opportunities on the school's website.

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

Keep your membership up as a graduate and enjoy the opportunity to have a continuing impact on your profession. It is also a good way to stay current on the issues that affect us as professionals, as well as the issues that affect our clients. There are a variety of committees at the local chapters, and being involved is an excellent form of professional networking.

Licensing

New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut all have different requirements for certification or licensing after you have your M.S.W. In New York and Connecticut, you may take the LMSW—Master's level exam after you have graduated. New Jersey students may take the exam (the same test but called LSW) in their final semester. Exam highlight sessions on test-taking strategies and content review are held often during the end of the spring semester and early summer at both Westchester and Lincoln Center campuses. Announcements will be emailed in advance so that you can make whatever arrangements are necessary to attend.

There is an Online Licensing Preparation course (five hours) available to all M.S.W. students and alumni. The course includes five modules: The first module is on test-taking strategies, and the other four modules align with the four areas of the licensing exam. The course also outlines resources for studying. All graduating students receive an email in April providing access to the course. There is no fee for the course.

Alumni Events

You will receive information about Fordham University alumni events, and those specific to the Graduate School of Social Service, through the University's Alumni Office. Make sure you update your information on the Forever Fordham page. You can use the online directory to search for fellow classmates or network with other alumni. Most information is sent electronically, so it is important that you keep your email address current. An Alumni tab will be accessible from your my.fordham.edu account.

All graduates are eligible for an alumni card Ram Pass that allows you building access and browsing privileges in the libraries. To receive one, go to the University's homepage and click "Alumni." You can apply for a Ram Pass online.

Professional Development Sessions

Students, faculty, and administrators have spearheaded professional development sessions with invited speakers addressing topics of interest at the Lincoln Center and Westchester campuses. Times and topics are posted online, and you will receive an email with information on how to register for the sessions. Some of these sessions are recorded so that students unable to attend can view them.