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

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.

Employed Experienced Social Service Practitioner (EESSP) Program
This part-time plan of study is for applicants with a bachelor’s degree (in any field) who have been employed in the social work profession for at least three years and have received supervision with a supervisor who has an M.S.W. degree. The applicant must demonstrate competence in the field of social service, and experience should reflect direct practice. The employer must agree to provide a 28-hour-per-week field placement experience during the Advanced/Specialist Phase of study. The fieldwork should include a change of both assignment and supervisor. In this plan of study, you take the Foundation/Generalist Phase coursework, but you are not required to complete the Foundation/Generalist Phase fieldwork placement. Instead, you attend a monthly Field Instruction Seminar Lab Practicum to discuss your experiences and the integration of practice with theory and classroom learning. As with all the plans of study, you must complete 66 credits before graduation.

Qualification in Substance Abuse
Substance abuse is 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 substance abuse.

Requirements
- Field Practicum: Advanced/Specialist year in an approved substance abuse setting, with specific learning goals and assignments related to services and practice in substance abuse
- Integrative Seminar: A special section for Advanced/Specialist year students placed in substance abuse settings
- Substance Abuse Elective Requirement: SWGS 6417 - Practice with Abusers of Alcohol and Other Substances

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, Assistant Dean of Student Services, at 212-636-6605 or whiteryan@fordham.edu ((212)%20636-6605%20or%20whiteryan@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 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 Dean Elaine Congress at congress@fordham.edu or 212-636-6667 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 Dr. Gregory Acevedo at gracevedo@fordham.edu.

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