



Below is a summary of the components of a bachelor's degree in Social Work at MSU Denver

MSU Denver General Education Requirements	Recommended General Education Courses for Social Work Majors	Credit Hours	Class Taken & Semester Planned
Written Communication (1 of 2)	Completion of Written Communication is a pre-requisite for admission to the Social Work major	3	
Written Communication (2 of 2)		3	
Oral Communication	(see course list)	3	
Quantitative Literacy	MTH 1080 or MTH 1210 is sufficient for SWK majors	3	
Arts & Humanities (1 of 2)	Recommend choosing a course that also fulfills global diversity, if needed	3	
Arts & Humanities (2 of 2)		3	
Historical		3	
Natural & Physical Science (1 of 2)	BIO 1000, 1030, or 1080+90 is a pre-requisite for SWK majors	3	
Natural & Physical Science (2 of 2)		3	
Social & Behavioral Science (1 of 2)	PSC 1010 is a pre-requisite for SWK majors	3	
Social & Behavioral Science (2 of 2)	PSY 1001 is a pre-requisite for SWK majors	3	
Global Diversity	(if not already taken)	0-3	
Ethnic Studies & Social Justice	ANT 2330 recommended to overlap with SWK pre-req and ESSJ	3	
Total Credit Hours in General Education Requirements		36-39	
Social Work Pre-requisites		Credit Hours	Class Taken & Semester Planned
SWK 1010: Introduction to Social Work		3	
SWK 1600: Community Engagement & Civic Responsibility		3	
Total Credit Hours in Social Work Major Pre-requisites		6	
Social Work Major		Credit Hours	Class Taken & Semester Planned
See flip side of this page for the Social Work major classes.			
Total Credit Hours in BSSW Program (social work major) Requirements		51	
General Elective Hours		Credit Hours	
Elective hours are needed to reach 120 total credit hours for your degree, even if all other requirements are completed.			
Total Credit Hours in General Electives		Varies as needed to reach 120	
Total Credit Hours Required for a Bachelors Degree		120	



Contact Us

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MSU
DENVER

Department of
Social Work

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK (BSSW) PROGRAM

CURRICULUM GUIDE

To begin junior and senior year social work classes, you must officially apply and be admitted to the major. See the Admission Guide for information.

JUNIOR YEAR SOCIAL WORK COURSES - 21 CREDITS

Classes MUST be completed before senior year. Check semester offerings and prerequisites.

FALL ONLY COURSES

SWK 3050: Theories for Individual and Social Change (3)

Pre-requisite: Admitted to Social Work major

SWK 3090: Critical Reflection: Exploring Social Work Thinking & Knowledge # (3)

Pre-requisites: SWK 1010, SWK 1600, Written Communication GS

SWK 3350: Social Work Experience, Practice, and Comm ^ (3)

Pre-requisite: Admitted to Social Work major; Requires ~3 hrs/week volunteer service for 45hrs/semester

SWK 3410: Engaging for Change (3)

Pre-requisites: SWK 1010, SWK 1600, PSY 1001, SOC/ANT, Written Comm GS, BIO 1000/1030/1080+90



Attend a Social Work Internships information session before your senior year. You will learn what counts for an internship, how to find one, and how to find support along the way.

SEMESTER
PLANNED

SPRING ONLY COURSES

SWK 3120: Unraveling Inequalities in Social Work Practice # (3)

Pre-requisites: Written Comm GS, SWK 1010

SWK 3420: The Power of Groups in Social Work (3)

Pre-requisites: Admitted to major; SWK 3050, SWK 3410; (may be offered sparingly in the fall)

SWK 3780: Social Policy Practice # (3)

Pre-requisites: SWK 1010, SWK 1600, PSC 1010, Written Comm GS

This is a good spot for a SWK elective or other required class!

Courses can be taken over the summer

^ Requires volunteer time

SEMESTER
PLANNED

SENIOR YEAR

SOCIAL WORK COURSES - 18 CREDITS

Must be taken in the sequence listed. Complete fall to spring.



The BSSW requires a 2-semester internship that must be completed beginning in fall and ending in spring.

FALL ONLY COURSES

SWK 4300: Introduction to Social Work Research Methods (3)

Pre-requisites: All junior year courses, Math GS

SWK 4500: Senior Internship Experience I * (3)

Pre-requisites: All junior year courses; Co-requisite: SWK 4400

SWK 4400: Macro Magic: Co-Creating Change in Communities and Organizations (3)

Pre-requisites: All junior year courses; Co-requisite: SWK 4500

* **Linked courses must enroll in the same section both semesters; ~13-14 hrs/week fieldwork for 200 hrs/semester.**

SEMESTER
PLANNED

SPRING ONLY COURSES

SWK 4310: Research Applications and Data Analysis (3)

Pre-requisites: SWK 4300

SWK 4510: Senior Internship Experience II * (3)

Pre-requisites: SWK 4500

SWK 4430: Partnering with Families for Change (3)

Pre-requisites: Admitted to major; SWK 3050, SWK 3410; (may be offered sparingly in the fall)

NOTE: Students who have taken SWK 3080 may be able use it to fulfill SWK 4430. (see advisor)

SEMESTER
PLANNED

REQUIRED SOCIAL WORK ELECTIVES - 12 CREDITS

4 courses required; can be taken anytime. Offered fall, spring, and summer. Review the list of [SWK Electives](#) and when they are offered.

SEMESTER
PLANNED

SEMESTER
PLANNED

SWK Elective 3000+ (3) _____

SWK Elective 3000+ (3) _____

SWK Elective 3000+ (3) _____

SWK Elective 3000+ (3) _____

To ensure your degree planning includes **all requirements** to graduate, check your [degree progress report \(DPR\)](#).

In addition to social work major requirements, you also need to consider [general studies](#), [ESSJ requirement](#), and general elective hours.

To be sure you stay on track, visit with your [Academic Advisor](#) at least once per semester.

Need more information or help degree planning?

Reach out to bssw@msudenver.edu to connect with the Social Work Student Services team or call 303-615-0555