



Master of Social Work (MSW) Program

The Master of Social Work Program is committed to the pursuit of a more just society through education, scholarship, research, and community service that addresses societal dynamics stemming from the intersection of ethnic experience, culture, socio-economic status, gender and membership in categories historically subjected to oppression, discrimination, and indifference. Dedicated to a diverse and complex urban setting in which no single group is the majority, the program prepares Master level social workers for social work practice in communities promoting social, economic, and environmental justice, and the preservation and enhancement of the well-being of individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities.

MSW Workshops

For more information, please come to an MSW Workshop and learn more about our three program options, application process, and accreditation status. Prospective students will also have an opportunity to get their individual questions answered.

Please check the Master of Social Work website for dates of upcoming workshops and to sign-up online:

<http://www.csudh.edu/cps/hhs/sw>

*DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Tuesday, October 18, 2011	6-8 pm	Loker Student Union
Tuesday, November 15, 2011	6-8 pm	Loker Student Union
Tuesday, December 13, 2011	6-8 pm	Loker Student Union
Saturday, January 14, 2012	10am-12pm	Loker Student Union
Tuesday, February 12, 2012	6-8 pm	Loker Student Union

**Tentative Dates/locations: Please check website periodically for any changes*

Accreditation

The program at CSUDH is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) as of February, 2010. Obtaining full accreditation is a lengthy process involving several steps and lasting for at least four years. Accreditation is essential for all graduate social work programs especially in states where there is licensure, because only graduates from accredited programs are permitted to take the licensing exam. The accreditation process for programs involves several steps: (1) Application (2) Completion of an initial self study referred to as Benchmark 1 followed by an on campus site visit results in admittance to candidacy. Candidacy is the first level of accreditation and graduates from programs in candidacy are granted the right to collect hours toward licensure. (3) Benchmark 2 is completed in year two of the program followed by another site visit; (4) A Draft Self Study is completed in year three of the program, with another on campus site visit and a recommendation the program complete a full Self Study and prepare for a full site team visit. (5) During year four the full Self Study is written and a team of social work educators visit campus to review the program. The program is then eligible for full accreditation. (6) Initial accreditation is granted for four years. The program will be up for reaffirmation in 2014.

Program Overview

The Master of Social Work program at California State University, Dominguez Hills is strategically located to focus on the diverse social service needs and problems particular to the South Bay area of Los Angeles County, a large metropolitan area, which includes a socially and culturally diverse population. Because of this diversity the program will prepare social work students for contextually competent social work practice, inclusive of the issues of culture, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, class, gender differences, sexual orientation, religion and the effects of bias, prejudice and institutionalized racism. These issues and concerns may obscure helping efforts if they are not appropriately recognized and dealt with in practice and in social policy development and implementation. Thus, the program aims at increasing students' understanding of the underlying causes and resulting effects of prejudice, discrimination, and stereotyping from a variety of perspectives and teaches ways of identifying strategies and interventions for addressing these concerns and problems in social work practice.

The Department of Social Work has developed a psychosocial, ecological and cross-cultural orientation to social work practice and is designed to educate contextually competent social work practitioners. The curriculum is developed and organized as a coherent and integrated whole consistent with program goals and objectives. Social work education is grounded in the liberal arts and contains a coherent, integrated professional foundation in social work practice from which an advanced practice curriculum is built at the graduate level.

Curriculum

The MSW program requires completion of 60 semester credit hours which can be accomplished with three program options: **1)** A two year full-time program with classes that meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the day, with fieldwork hours on Mon, Wed, and some Fridays **AND 2)** An Accelerated three-year part-time program with year round classes held in the evenings and weekends and field work hours on Mon, Wed and some Fridays in the second and third years; and **3)** A four year part-time program with classes in the evening, and fieldwork hours on Mon, Wed, and some Fridays also held in the second and third years.

Special Note: Field placements are held during regular business hours.

Revised 6/2011

The curriculum is organized and will orient students to the following core areas:

- Human Behavior
- Practice
- Policy
- Research
- Field Education

California State University, Dominguez Hills offers one concentration: **Social Work Practice in Communities (SWPC)**. There are three specializations that students can choose: **(1) Children, Youth and Families, (2) Community Mental Health, (3) Community Capacity Building**. Courses are evenly divided between foundation and specialization curricula. Field placements in these practice areas will further expose students to the complex issues that face diverse communities and prepare them for employment in these fields after they graduate.

The foundation curriculum is considered the basis for social work practice. The intent of the foundation experience is several fold:

1. To give students grounding in the social work profession.
2. Teach student assessment, practice and research models at all levels of social work practice.
3. Teach them about the social welfare institution and its many facets.
4. Engage them in practice opportunities utilizing the full range of social work roles in working with the breadth and scope of social work client systems, and
5. Expose them to advanced theory in preparation for autonomous practice.

The foundation curriculum coupled with the Social Work Practice in Communities concentration prepares students for autonomous professional social work practice. At the advanced levels students are expected to understand theory, analyze it for its contextual properties and implement cultural and contextually competent practice in one of the specialization areas.

Additionally students will be prepared to evaluate their practice, programs and create research questions that demonstrate advancement of ideas with specific populations. Students are expected to understand the connection between personal troubles and issues and realize that social change is a natural extension of social work practice at all levels. They will therefore be prepared to advocate and organize for this end. Under the supervision of program approved Fieldwork Instructors students will complete internship hours that allow them to carry out concentration curriculum objectives. And, at the conclusion of their study students will present a capstone project that reflects their knowledge, skills and values as professional social workers.

-MSW Course Schedule for Full-time Two Year Students-

Foundation Year Course Schedule

Fall	Spring
MSW 500 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I (3)	MSW 501 Human Behavior and the Social Environment II (3)
MSW 510 Social Welfare Policy I (3)	MSW 511 Social Welfare Policy II(3)
MSW 520 Generalist Social Work Practice I (3)	MSW 521 Generalist Social Work Practice II (3)
MSW 530 Social Welfare Research (3)	MSW 523 Social Justice in Social Work Practice (3)
MSW 540 Fieldwork Practicum I (3)	MSW 541 Fieldwork Practicum II (3)

Concentration Year Course Schedule: Children Youth and Families Specialization

Fall	Spring
MSW 550 Advanced SW Practice in Communities (3) *	MSW 555 Advanced Practice in Administration and Leadership (3) *
MSW 553 Multicultural Perspectives of Practice (3) *	* MSW 560 Social Welfare Policy III: Children Youth and Families (3) ***
MSW 570 Fieldwork Practicum III (3) **	MSW 571 Fieldwork Practicum IV (3) **
MSW 580 Seminar in Child Welfare Issues (3) ***	Elective (3)
MSW 595 Advanced Research for SW Practices (3) *	MSW 595 Capstone Seminar (3) *

* Courses required of all students regardless of concentrations

** Courses required of all students but placement is in a setting that supports their specific specialization

*** Courses required of CYF specialization only unless approved by specialization instructor

Concentration Year Course Schedule: Community Mental Health Specialization

Fall	Spring
MSW 550 Advanced SW Practice in Communities (3) *	MSW 555 Advanced Practice in Administration and Leadership (3) *
MSW 553 Multicultural Perspectives of Practice (3) *	MSW 561 Social Welfare Policy III: Community Mental Health (3) ***
MSW 570 Fieldwork Practicum III (3) **	MSW 571 Fieldwork Practicum IV (3) **
MSW 582 Seminar in Mental Health Issues (3) ***	Elective (3)
MSW 595 Advanced Research for SW Practices (3) *	MSW 595 Capstone seminar (3) *

* Courses required of all students regardless of concentrations

** Courses required of all students but placement is in a setting that supports their specific specialization

*** Courses required of CMH specialization only unless approved by specialization instructor

Concentration Year Course Schedule: Community Capacity Building Specialization

Fall	Spring
MSW 550 Advanced SW Practice in Communities (3) *	MSW 555 Advanced Practice in Administration and Leadership (3) *
MSW 553 Multicultural Perspectives of Practice (3) *	MSW 551 Social Welfare Policy III: Community Capacity Building (3) ***
MSW 570 Fieldwork Practicum III (3) **	MSW 571 Fieldwork Practicum IV (3) **
MSW 581 Seminar in Community Capacity Building (3) ***	Elective (3)
MSW 595 Advanced Research for SW Practices (3) *	MSW 595 Capstone Seminar (3) *

* Courses required of all students regardless of concentrations

** Courses required of all students but placement is in a setting that supports their specific specialization

*** Courses required of CCB specialization only unless approved by specialization instructor

-MSW Course Schedule for Accelerated Three-year Part-time Students-

MSW Intensive Program
 CSUDH – College of Extended Education
 Evening and Weekend Format
Community Mental Health – Specialization*

Fall Semester Yr 1	Spring Semester Yr 1	Summer Yr 1
HBSE 500 (3) – Sat (AM)	HBSE 2 501(3) – Sat (AM)	SW Policy 2 511 (3)– T - R
SW Policy 510 (3) - Sat (PM)	SW Research 530 (3) – Sat (PM)	Social Justice SW Practice 523 (3) – T - R
Gen Practice 1 520 (3)– Wed	Gen Practice 2 521 (3)- Wed	
		<i>Total Credit Hrs 24</i>
Fall Semester Yr 2	Spring Semester Yr 2	Summer Year 2
Field 1 540 (3)– Wed	Field 2 541 (3)– Wed	Seminar in MH Issues 582 (3)– T - R
Advanced SW Practice in Communities 550 (3)– Sat (AM)	Multicultural Perspectives of Practice 553 (3) – Sat (AM)	Social Welfare Policy 3 in CMH 561 (3) – T - R
MSW Elec-Sat (3)	MSW 555-/sat (3)	
		<i>Total Credit Hrs 24</i>
Fall Semester Yr 3	Spring Semester Yr 3	
Field 3 570 (3)- Wed	Field 4 571 (3) - Wed	
*Advanced Research for SW Practices 595 (3)- Wed	*Capstone Seminar 595 (3)- Wed	<i>Total Credit Hours 12</i>
*Course # may change		
		<i>Total Credit Hours (60)</i>

Notes:

- Courses on Wednesdays will be held in the evening during the regular 16 week semester format.
- The two courses designated as Sat courses will follow an intensive format meeting for four hour blocks every other Saturday for approximately 10 weeks along with a hybrid learning component.
- Field (internship) will run in years two and three following the traditional semester format.

*** The three year part-time program has a single specialization of Community Mental Health. The skills acquired in this specialization cuts across other social work fields of practice.**

-MSW Course Schedule for Four Year Part-time Students-

Course Schedule: Children Youth and Families Specialization

Fall Semester Yr 1	Spring Semester Yr 1	Summer Yr 1
HBSE 1 500 (3)	HBSE 2 501 (3)	SW Policy 2 511 (3)
SW Policy 510 (3)	SW Research 530 (3)	Social Justice in SW Practice 523 (3)
Fall Semester Yr 2	Spring Semester Yr 2	Summer Yr 2
Gen Practice 1 520 (3)	Gen Practice 2 521 (3)	Advanced SW Practice in Communities 550 (3)
Field 1 540 (3)	Field 2 541 (3)	
Fall Semester Yr 3	Spring Semester Yr 3	Summer Yr 3
Seminar in Child Welfare Issues 580 (3)	Social Welfare Policy III Children, Youth and Families 560 (3)	Elective (3)
Field 3 570	Field 4 571	
Fall Semester Yr 4	Spring Semester 4	
Multicultural Perspectives of Practice 553(3)	Advanced Practice in Admin & Leadership 555 (3)	
Advanced Research for SW Practices 595 (3)	Capstone Seminar 595 (3)	

Course Schedule: Community Mental Health Specialization

Fall Semester Yr 1	Spring Semester Yr 1	Summer Yr 1
HBSE 1 500 (3)	HBSE 2 501 (3)	SW Policy 2 511 (3)
SW Policy 510 (3)	SW Research 530 (3)	Social Justice in SW Practice 523 (3)
Fall Semester Yr 2	Spring Semester Yr 2	Summer Yr 2
Gen Practice 1 520 (3)	Gen Practice 2 521 (3)	Advanced SW Practice in Communities 550 (3)
Field 1 540 (3)	Field 2 541 (3)	
Fall Semester Yr 3	Spring Semester Yr 3	Summer Yr 3
Seminar in Mental Health Issues 582 (3)	Social Welfare Policy III Community Mental Health 561(3)	Elective (3)
Field 3 570 (3)	Field 4 571 (3)	
Fall Semester Yr 4	Spring Semester 4	
Multicultural Perspectives of Practice 553 (3)	Advanced Practice in Admin & Leadership 555 (3)	
Advanced Research for SW Practices 595 (3)	Capstone Seminar 595 (3)	

Course Schedule: Community Capacity Building

Fall Semester Yr 1	Spring Semester Yr 1	Summer Yr 1
HBSE 1 500 (3)	HBSE 2 501 (3)	SW Policy 2 511 (3)
SW Policy 510 (3)	SW Research 530 (3)	Social Justice in SW Practice 523 (3)
Fall Semester Yr 2	Spring Semester Yr 2	Summer Yr 2
Gen Practice 1 520 (3)	Gen Practice 2 521 (3)	Advanced SW Practice in Communities 550 (3)
Field 1 540 (3)	Field 2 541 (3)	
Fall Semester Yr 3	Spring Semester Yr 3	Summer Yr 3
Seminar in Community Capacity Building 581 (3)	Social Welfare Policy III Community Capacity Building 551 (3)	Elective (3)
Field 3 570 (3)	Field 4 571 (3)	
Fall Semester Yr 4	Spring Semester 4	
Multicultural Practice 553	Advanced Practice in Admin & Leadership 555	
Advanced Research for SW Practices 595 (3)	Capstone Seminar 595 (3)	

MSW Department Admissions

CSUDH's Rolling Admissions process accepts applications during a specified application period. Typically we accept applications from mid-October to the end of February or beginning of March. Applications may be accepted after the specified application period until the program has reached capacity. Once the program is filled, eligible students who have been reviewed may be placed on a waiting list. Applications received after the application period, may or may not be reviewed.

The application season begins on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 through Monday February 27, 2012. The MSW program only offers fall enrollment; we do not offer spring or summer enrollment.

University guidelines require that all prospective graduate students must apply **to both the University (CSUDH) and the MSW department**. Students should apply to the university first and then to the department. Students can apply on-line to the university at <http://www.csumentor.edu>

Admissions Criteria

The CSUDH MSW program Admissions Committee welcomes applications that demonstrate high academic achievement and potential for professional social work practice.

1. Completed bachelor's degree with a liberal arts background from an accredited institution. Coursework should include a minimum of three (3) courses in the behavioral sciences (social work, sociology, cultural anthropology, psychology, economics, political science, gender or ethnic studies), two (2) courses in the humanities (philosophy, history, literature, religious studies, performing or visual arts, etc.), one (1) course in English composition and the two outlined prerequisites.
2. Students are required to have a 2.75 GPA to be admitted to the MSW program. Applicants with a lower GPA may be considered based on their meeting certain other criteria.
3. Students are required to have passed one (1) course in Human Development, or an equivalent.
4. Students are required to have passed one (1) course in Elementary Statistics.
5. Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores are strongly recommended if GPA is below 3.0.

Application packet: <http://www.csudh.edu/cps/hhs/sw/>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When is the deadline for admissions?

A: The Department of Social Work will accept applications until Monday February 27, 2012. Any applications filed after the deadline may be reviewed depending on availability and space.

Q: Can I apply in the spring or summer semester?

A: No, not at this time. The MSW program only accepts applications for the fall semester.

Q: How long is the program?

A: We currently offer a two (2) year full-time curriculum, a (3) year Accelerated three year part-time program, and a (4) year part time program.

Q: Does the Department of Social Work offer an advanced standing program?

A: This option is being strongly considered. Please check our website periodically for any updates.

Q: What type of undergraduate degree do I need?

A: We invite candidates with an undergraduate degree with a liberal arts background. This includes coursework in the humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and English composition. We believe these set of courses provides a solid foundation that adequately prepares students for generalist social work education.

Q: What is the minimum GPA? Do I need to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE)?

A: We invite candidates who have a minimum GPA of 2.75 in the last 60 semester units or 90 quarter units; Candidates who possess a GPA less than 3.0, should strongly consider submitting GRE scores with their application. For Candidates that have a GPA of 3.0 or higher the GRE is strictly optional.

Q: What are the prerequisites?

A: We request that all students have passed at least one (1) course in human development, (please check the website for a list of equivalents) and one (1) course in elementary statistics.

Q: Do I need to have completed all the requirements and/or prerequisites before applying for the MSW program?

A: No, however at least 80% of the requirements and/or prerequisites should be completed prior to submitting an application. Please note that all requirements and/or prerequisites must be formally completed before actually enrolling in the program.

Q: Does the MSW program give social work course credit for life experience or previous work experience?

A: In accordance with the Council of Social Work Education, the Department of Social Work cannot grant course credit for life experience or previous work experience.

Contact Information

California State University, Dominguez Hills

University Telephone: (310) 243-3300

Website: <http://www.csudh.edu>

Telephone Registration System (T.O.R.O.S.): (310) 243-2000

Toro Web: www.toroweb.csudh.edu

College of Professional Studies

Toll Free Number: 1-800-344-5484

Website: <http://www.csudh.edu/hhs/>

Deans Office (310) 243-2046

Welch Hall A-310

Department of Social Work

Phone: (310) 243-3170

Website: <http://www.csudh.edu/hhs/sw>

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Other Important University Phone Numbers

Admissions & Records Office

(310)-243-3645

Welch Hall C-290

Student Financial Services

(310)-243-3802

Welch Hall B-270

Bookstore

(310)-243-3789

Loker Student Union

Cashiers Office

(310)-243-3812

Welch Hall B-270

Financial Aid Office

(310)-243-3647

Welch Hall B-260

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CSUDH Admissions Online!

California State University's CSU Mentor

Simply use this website <http://www.csumentor.edu> and locate

California State University Dominguez Hills

On-line applications are encouraged by the College of Professional Studies.

CSU Mentor is free to use.

You will only pay the \$55 application fee charged directly by the CSU campus when
An application for admission is submitted.

Submit your application today!

Personal data entered by the user is not released without the user's express consent and direction.

<http://www.csumentor.edu>

