

# SOCIAL WORK, BSW

## ADVISING AND CAREERS

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Students interested in either the social welfare major or bachelor of social work meet with the social work advisors to discuss degree requirements; career opportunities; complete the major declaration; and confer on student issues and concerns. Advisors are an excellent resource for information about campus and community services. Students should see an advisor at least once each semester to review academic progress. Advising appointments are made through Starfish (<https://wisc.starfishsolutions.com/starfish-ops/>) for current students, or by calling 608-263-3660. Social work faculty members are available for advice about coursework, research, and the social work profession in general.

### BSW ETHNIC STUDIES REQUIREMENT

The BSW degree program requires six ethnic studies credits. The BSW degree's minimum 47 credits assumes that three credits of the six-credit ethnic studies degree requirement will be met through SOC WORK 640, with the other three credits met as part of the Social Work electives, the Social Science Concentration, or other electives.

### FIELD EDUCATION

The director of field education makes final unit placement decisions and field instructors make final agency-placement decisions.

The types of agencies working with the field education program are varied. Field units are organized around a social problem area or a field of practice. Each unit has a range of field placement agencies and settings appropriate to its theme. The emphasis for undergraduate placements is on applying the knowledge and skills of generalist social work practice with systems of all sizes. The focus is on learning and applying analytic and intervention skills within an ethically based, problem-focused approach.

Social work students should be advised that the Wisconsin Caregiver Law requires a Wisconsin background check (Caregiver Check and Wisconsin Criminal History) for all potential field-education students prior to the field placement. More information regarding this process is available at Field Education (<https://socwork.wisc.edu/programs/field-education/>) on the social work website.

For more information about field units, the agencies they work with, and field course expectations see the Field Education Handbook (<https://socwork.wisc.edu/students/resources/#bsw-students>). Field unit availability may vary from year to year.

### L&S CAREER RESOURCES

Every L&S major opens a world of possibilities. SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps students turn the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and other coursework into fulfilling lives after graduation, whether that means jobs, public service, graduate school or other career pursuits.

In addition to providing basic support like resume reviews and interview practice, SuccessWorks offers ways to explore interests and build career

skills from their very first semester/term at UW all the way through graduation and beyond.

Students can explore careers in one-on-one advising, try out different career paths, complete internships, prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications, and connect with supportive alumni and even employers in the fields that inspire them.

- SuccessWorks (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/>)
- Set up a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Enroll in a Career Course (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/career-courses/>) - a great idea for first- and second-year students:
  - INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit)
  - INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Comm B General Education Requirement)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)
  - INTER-LS 260 Internship in the Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Activate your Handshake account (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/handshake/>) to apply for jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers recruiting UW-Madison students
- Learn about the impact SuccessWorks has on students' lives (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/about/mission/>)