

SOCIAL WORK, BSW

Undergraduates in the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work receive a liberal arts education in the social and behavioral sciences and their application to human problems that prepares them to be informed citizens involved in human services or social welfare problems and policies. Students take courses in a variety of social sciences to enable them to view social welfare in its broad social, economic, and political contexts. The Bachelor in Social Work (BSW) Program prepares students as beginning-level professional social workers.

Social work's special contribution rests on an established body of knowledge, values, and skills pertinent to understanding human relationships and the interaction between people as individuals, in families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social work courses offer a theoretical understanding of social problems and an introduction to practice methods used by social workers. The curriculum covers such areas as aging, family and child welfare, poverty, mental health, developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, diversity, race and ethnicity, criminal justice, oppression, and social, economic, and environmental justice, and at-risk populations.

BSW PROGRAM MISSION AND GOALS

The School's main undergraduate Guide page (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/social-work/>) provides a broader overview of the School and its mission.

Guided by the core values of the social work profession and grounded in the generalist practice framework, the BSW program's mission is to provide social work education that will nurture competent, ethical entry-level social work professionals committed to scientific inquiry, evidence-based practice, respect for human diversity, the promotion of human and community well-being, human rights, and social, economic and environmental justice. Read more about the BSW Program Mission and Goals (<https://socwork.wisc.edu/about/mission/>).

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Students in the social welfare major and BSW program often choose from a variety of certificate programs (<https://www.wisc.edu/academics/certificates/>) available. Common certificates include African American Studies, American Indian Studies, Business, Chicano/a and Latino/a Studies, Criminal Justice Certificate, Gender & Women Studies, Global Health, LGBTQ Studies, South Asian Studies, and South East Asian Studies, among others.

MSW ADVANCED STANDING

BSW students may be considered for advanced standing if they apply and are accepted to one of the MSW Programs. Advanced standing qualifies a student to exempt out of all or part of their generalist year. For more information, please refer to the Prospective Graduate Students page (<https://socwork.wisc.edu/students/prospective-graduate-students/>) on the School of Social Work website.