



DEGREE PLANNING GUIDE FOR SOCIAL WORK

The profession of social work is based on a commitment to human service and social justice. Social workers are employed in a variety of public and private agencies to deliver services, to help individuals and families solve problems, and to improve our society for the poor and oppressed.

The primary objective of the St. Edward's Social Work Program is to prepare social work majors for beginning professional social work practice. Graduates will obtain the knowledge, values, and skills required for beginning generalist social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

The second objective of the program is to prepare social work majors for graduate studies in social work or related fields. The Social Work Program at St. Edward's is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and its graduates, therefore, may be eligible for advanced standing in many social work graduate programs across the country. There are two general components of your degree program at St. Edward's: a general study of the liberal arts (this is common for all majors and is often referred to as the general education requirements), and an in-depth study of your major. A complete degree takes approximately 120 credit hours (about 40 courses). Almost half of your study will be in the liberal arts area, with the balance of your program focused on your major field of study and its related courses and electives. Electives are courses you choose because they interest you, strengthen your career preparation, or provide you with a secondary area of emphasis.

YOUR GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Foundational Skills: 21 hours (7 courses) including math, computational skills, oral and written communication and foreign language

Cultural Foundations: 18 hours (6 courses) designed to provide you with an understanding of our heritage, an appreciation and recognition of other cultures, and an exposure to contemporary world issues. Some of these include Understanding and appreciating the Arts, American Dilemmas, History & Evolution of Global Process, and Contemporary World Issues

Foundations for Values and Decisions: 18 hours (6 courses) that stress critical thinking, moral reasoning, problem solving, and the assumption of social responsibility.

WHAT IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND? No problem! In fact, it is not unusual. Part of what college is about is a process to identify your area of interest. As long as that decision is made in the first two years, it is not likely to impact your degree program very much, as a good deal of your initial course work is the area of general education, that body of courses common to all students. There are a few exceptions - major change in direction after two years (philosophy to accounting for example) would lengthen your program. If you are a full-time student and take five courses each semester, you will graduate in four years. It's unusual to do it much faster and not uncommon for it to take a little longer. It all depends on how many courses make sense for you & if you enroll in summer(s). It is recommended students take a total of 6 hours in summer school by graduation so course load may be only 12 hours during senior field practica. You may discuss off campus options with your advisor to decrease costs.

PLANNING YOUR FIRST YEAR OF STUDY We want you to take an active role in planning your degree program. While there are a good deal of requirements in your program, there are still decisions you will need to make. For example, which foreign language do you wish to study; which math classes do you want to choose to satisfy the math requirement; is there a particular religious study or philosophy course that appeals to you; are there any time conflicts? Your advisor will help, but your planning and proactive involvement is critical.

SUGGESTED DEGREE PLAN FOR SOCIAL WORK (SOCW)

FIRST FALL

FSTY 1310 Freshman Studies
 FSTY 1311 Rhet & Comp I
 SPAN 1311* Spanish I
 SOCW 1301** Intro to Social Work
 SOCI 1301** Self & Society

15 hours

FIRST SPRING***

ENGW 1302 Rhet & Comp II
 CULF 1318 Lit & Hum Exper
 CULF 1320 American Exper
 SPAN 1312* Spanish II
 PSYC 2301 General Psychology

15 hours

SECOND FALL

CULF 1319 Und & App Arts
 Ethics
 RELS 1304 Religions of the World
 SOCW 2325** Social Policy
 SOCI 3327** Marriage & Family

15 hours

SECOND SPRING***

MATH 1312 or higher
 CULF 2321 American Dilemmas
 Oral Communication
 BIOL 1305 (Human Biology)**
 Elective

15 hours

THIRD FALL

CULF 3330 Hist of Global Process
 SCIE 2320 Science in Perspective
 SOCI 2329 Social Statistics
 SOCW 3331** Human Behavior & Social Enviro I
 Elective

15 hours

THIRD SPRING***

SOCW 3330 Social Research
 SOCW 3640 Gen. Practice I: Individuals, Families & Groups
 SOCW 3341** Human Behavior & Social Enviro II
 PSYC 4341 Abnormal Psychology

15 hours

FOURTH FALL

CAPS 4360 Capstone
 SOCW 4344 Generalist Practice II: Macrosystems
 SOCW 4650** Field Practicum & Seminar I
 Elective

15 hours

FOURTH SPRING

CULF 3331 Contemporary World Issues
 SOCW 4343 Race, Class & Gender
 SOCW 4651** Field Practicum & Seminar II
 Elective
 GDCT 4000.01+ Intent to graduate

15 hours

* Spanish is recommended for all social work majors ** Key course for major–prerequisite for later course or must be taken in sequence *** It is recommended students take a total of 6 hours in summer school by graduation so course load may be only 12 hours during senior field practia. You may discuss off campus options with your advisor to decrease costs.

***+You must register for this course in the term you plan to graduate.
 Failure to do so will result in you not being certified and not graduating.***