Master of Social Work Foundation Year

**Beginning the Journey**
- Familiarize yourself with your degree plan
- Attend UTA Orientation
- Complete your core SOCW courses:
  - 5301 Human Behavior
  - 5304 Generalist Micro Practice
  - 5306 Generalist Macro Practice
- Explore different MSW Specialties
- Attend InPlace Orientation
- Explore dual degrees
- Meet with your advisor
- Apply for Foundation Field

**Trailblazing the Path**
- Reach out to professors who share your specialty
- Attend School of Social Work events
- Begin your Foundation Placement
- Broaden your horizons by taking SOCW 5392
- Join a social work organization related to your specialty
- Complete your foundation placement

**Destination Graduation**
- Select a specialty
- Choose cohort or non-cohort
- Complete advanced coursework
- Select advanced electives
- Apply to graduate in your final semester

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- **Educate**
  - Maintain a 3.0 GPA
  - Make a self-care plan and stick with it
  - Attend UTA Orientation
  - Explore School of Social Work Scholarships
  - Explore study abroad and study away opportunities
  - Use Teams to connect with classmates

- **Engage**
  - Meet your Graduate Student Leader and reach out to them with questions
  - Apply for School of Social Work Student Organizations
  - Meet with the Writing Center to get feedback and help with your papers
  - Make a self-care plan and stick with it
  - Maintain a 3.0 GPA

- **Excel**
  - Consider becoming a GSL
  - Attend the Career Fair to explore post-graduation career opportunities
  - Aim for acceptance into the Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society
  - Consider the CPS stipends
  - Update your resume using the School of Social Work Career Corner and Career Development Center
  - Join professional social work organizations such as NASW
  - Consider the Thesis option

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*Please meet with an advisor and fill out the required forms to officially transition into your major.*
Master of Social Work Advanced Year

WHAT IS IT? WHAT ARE SOME COURSES I WOULD TAKE?

5324 Social Work Supervision
5321 Advanced Community Practice
Find more information on Community Administrative Practice here

WHAT ARE MY FIELD AND EMPLOYMENT SETTINGS?

• Non-Profit Organizations
• Federal and State Agencies
• Congressional Offices
• Foundations
• For-Profit Organizations

WHAT ARE TYPICAL JOB TITLES?

• Lobbyist
• Manager
• Grant writer
• Program Evaluator
• Program Coordinator
• Executive Director

Do you like solving problems, creating new programs or finding out if programs work?

In Community and Administrative Practice (CAP), you will learn ways to evaluate and lead programs to create more efficient and effective operations. Through identifying problems on a macro level, you will engage in how to create and change policy to address struggles.

Do you enjoy working with children and their families?

Do you enjoy focusing on assessment and intervention?

Do you enjoy tending to the unique needs of older adults and their caregivers?

Here you will have the opportunity to work at the micro and macro level to develop and implement effective interventions, programs, and policies. Through partnering with practitioners and community agencies, you will learn to improve the lives of older adults through evaluation, assessment and intervention.

Do you enjoy advocating for patients in a health setting?

Here you will gain the information, skills, and expertise needed to do so. You will focus on working with clients and families facing acute, chronic and terminal conditions. Throughout the program you will learn how to help patients understand illness and various treatment options, intervene in crisis situations, and serve as patient advocates at the individual and community level.

Do you enjoy focusing on assessment and intervention with acute and chronic mental health problems and substance abuse disorders?

Here you will be trained to diagnose, treat, collaborate on recovery, and advocate for social justice for those across the life span who have mental and substance abuse disorders, as well as to deliver services and support policies to prevent such disorders.

Do you enjoy working with children and their families?

Here you will learn information, skills, and expertise relevant to social work practice with this population. Through concentrating on adjustment issues in the family, you will be prepared for intervention in a variety of settings.

5318 Death and Dying
5334 Family Caregiving and Aging
Find more information on Aging here

5314 Intimate Partner Violence
5344 Health Insurance and Access to Care
Find more information on Health here

5356 Cognitive Behavioral Intervention
5354 Treatment of Addictive Behaviors
Find more information on Mental Health and Substance Abuse here

5370 Social Work in the Schools
5367 Treating Parent and Child Relationships
Find more information on Children and Families here

FAQ

What if I want to do CAP activities with one of the other specialties?

Take the following 3 courses before you graduate and earn the Administrative Certification:

1. SOCW 5320 (Online) Advanced Administrative Practice
2. SOCW 5312 (Online) Community and Administrative Practice
3. SOCW 5324 (Online) Social Work Supervision

How do I continue to grow my skills?

• Continuing Education
• Certifications (e.g., BDMR)
• Webinars
• Professional Conference

Texas Licensure Titles and Information

LMSW: Licensed Master Social Worker
LCSW: Licensed Clinical Social Worker
LCCD: Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor

Licensure information for Texas
Licensure information for other states

Dual Degrees

Students in social work may participate in one of ten dual degree programs whereby they can earn a Master of Social Work and a second master's degree in another.

Find more information here

Are there other ways to specialize my MSW besides dual degrees?

Yes! UTA offers a wide variety of graduate certificates that can be added to your degree plan.

Find a list of choices here