

# SOCIAL WORK

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The CSWE accredited Social Work program prepares students to become skilled professionals ready to serve a variety of populations, including those who are at-risk, marginalized and oppressed. As graduates, students will be prepared for bachelor level licensure working with individuals, families, groups and communities. The program is unique with its justice-informed lens, recognizing the importance of preparedness to work with diverse populations toward positive change.

B.A. in Social Work (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/adult-professional-studies/academic-programs-disciplines/social-work/ba-social-work/>)

## Courses

### **SOWK 180 • Human Behavior in the Social Environment 4 Credits**

Analysis of individuals, families, and groups utilizing systems theory, learning theories and psychosocial frameworks as part of human behavior in the social environment perspective. Appraisal of important lifespan milestones and the influence of social environment on human development. Application of information and theories consistent with social work values, cultural diversity and the promotion of social justice.

*\$50 Professional Training fee.*

### **SOWK 210 • Introduction to Social Work 4 Credits**

Understanding of social work mission, core values, history, and field of practice overview. Recognition of the dimensions of diversity, cultures, and structures that may oppress and marginalize people groups. Communication and collaboration with diverse individuals with community-based, cross-cultural service learning. Consideration of social work as career choice.

### **SOWK 240 • Socioeconomic & Justice Issues in Market Economies 2 Credits**

Critical evaluation of how market economies operate, their broad socioeconomic consequences, and their impact on the lives of socially disadvantaged people. Evaluation of global and local processes and mechanisms. Analysis of theories and approaches to social justice that advocate and promote social and economic justice, and human rights.

*Fulfills: CAPS Goal Area 5.*

### **SOWK 294 • Topics in Social Work 1-4 Credits**

An in-depth study of a particular Social Work theme.

*Special Notes: Topics courses should serve as elective courses.*

### **SOWK 304 • Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities 2 Credits**

Description of how cultural structures and values affect privilege and power. Identification of practices that ensure that rights and responsibilities are distributed equitably. Analysis of strength-based assets and community empowerment. Application of self-awareness and self-regulation, relationship building and interprofessional collaboration strategies, multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks, and intervention strategies based on assessment, research, values, and preferences of clients.

*Prerequisites: SOWK 210 and either SOWK 180 or PSYC305. SOWK 180 can be taken concurrently.*

### **SOWK 312 • History of Social Change Through Policy 4 Credits**

Historical and critical examination of the interrelationship of social welfare history, social problems, social welfare policies, and service delivery from historical, economic, political, and program perspectives. Social systems content applied to social policy analysis. Students develop, analyze, advocate, and provide leadership for policy and service delivery that promote social, racial, economic and environmental justice.

*Prerequisites: SOWK200, SOWK 180 or PSYC305. SOWK 180 or PSYC305 can be taken concurrently.*

**SOWK 313 • Social Work Practice with Individuals 4 Credits**

Introduction to generalist social work theory and practice with individuals and families. Application of professional development, critical thinking, effective communication, Human Behavior and the Social Environment (HBSE), and ethical and evidence-based practice. Development of knowledge and skills of social work practice: engagement, assessment, planning, intervention, evaluation, and termination.

*Prerequisites:* SOWK 210 and either SOWK 180 or PSYC305. SOWK 180 can be taken concurrently.

**SOWK 320 • Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Experience I 2 Credits**

Integration of anti-racism and anti-oppressive and justice-informed theories and practice to social work experience. Understanding of how one's own cultural identity impacts engagement and assessment with individuals, groups, families, organizations, and communities. Application of interpersonal skills within a multi-service community based agency setting.

*Prerequisites:* SOWK 210. Can be taken concurrently. Fees: \$215 software fee and \$15 ICD Intercultural Conflict Style Inventory. *Special Notes:* Students are recommended to take SOWK 325 immediately after this course.

**SOWK 325 • Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Experience II 2 Credits**

Apply and integrate beginning knowledge, values, skills, and ethics for social work practice with an emphasis on diversity, human rights and justice, and professional generalist practice. Weekly field seminar supports integration while students work a minimum of 100 hours in field setting under agency supervision.

*Prerequisites:* SOWK 210, SOWK 320. SOWK 210 can be taken concurrently. \$15 FPPAI Fee. *Special Notes:* Students are recommended to take this course immediately after completing SOWK 320.

**SOWK 327 • Identity, Diversity, and Social Justice 4 Credits**

Exploration of historical factors to understand how systems of oppression and racism affect present-day individuals, families, and communities. Examination of societal concepts and terms to understand diverse social realities and intergroup relations. Consideration of cultural structures, social systems, and values to reveal how they oppose or enhance privilege and power. Development of antiracist and anti-oppressive counter-storytelling practices. Synthesis of diverse perspectives in response to social issues. Understanding how identity influences perspective.

**SOWK 340 • Environmental Justice and Health Disparities 2 Credits**

Examination of policies established to address the inequitable distribution of environmental risks. Explanation of theories and history of environmental justice. Analysis of environmental justice and health disparities in racial groups and communities. Identification of strategies to reduce environmental injustices and health disparities.

**SOWK 379PT • Portfolio in Social Work 0.5-6 Credits**

Portfolio course of preselected topics within an existing course in the field of Social Work.

*Special Notes:* Portfolio courses are created upon request with permission by an overseeing Program Director.

**SOWK 405 • Social Work Practice with Families and Groups 4 Credits**

Application of generalist social work theory to integrated practice within client systems. Emphasis on families/groups and on the planned change process. Application of critical thinking, research-informed practice and culture competence. Evaluation of assessment and intervention strategies applicable to a specific population.

*Prerequisites:* SOWK 210, SOWK 304, SOWK 313.

**SOWK 420 • Social Work Field Instruction I 4 Credits**

Field Practicum in which students perform the role of a professional social worker under the supervision of a qualified field instructor. A synchronous field seminar supports integration of theory with social work practice. Minimum of 200 hours in the field. A structured learning contract applies social work knowledge, values and skills.

*Prerequisites:* SOWK 210, SOWK 320, SOWK 325, SOWK 313, SOWK 327. SOWK 327 can be taken concurrently. *Special Notes:* Students must complete 200 field hours in this course. Students are encouraged to take SOWK 425 immediately after completing this course.

**SOWK 425 • Social Work Field Instruction II 4 Credits**

Demonstration of ethical and professional behavior. Engagement in Antiracist, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI), practice-informed research, research-informed practice, and policy practice. Advancement of human rights and social, economic, racial and environmental justice. Engagement, assessment, intervention, and evaluation with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.

*Prerequisites: SOWK 210, SOWK 320, SOWK 325, SOWK 313, SOWK 327, SOWK 420. SOWK 327 can be taken concurrently. \$15 FPPAI fee. Special Notes: This course requires 200 hours of field experience. Students are recommended to take this course immediately after SOWK 425.*

**SOWK 450 • Abuse and Trauma and Mental Health in Social Work Practice 4 Credits**

Presentation of the characteristics and consequences of family violence, intimate partner abuse and child and elder abuse. Identification of theoretical frameworks for assessment and intervention with survivors. Exploration of the role of racism and oppression in addressing abuse and trauma. Application of the DSM in case plans for client vignettes.

*Prerequisites: PSYC 100, SOWK 180. Both can be taken concurrently.*

**SOWK 451 • Research for Social Work Practice 4 Credits**

Analysis of research methods, with an emphasis on becoming proficient and critical consumers of research-based data, for the purposes of knowledge advancement, informed practice, and program and practice effectiveness evaluation.

*Prerequisites: SOWK 210, SOWK 320, SOWK 325.*

**SOWK 499 • Senior Integrative Seminar 4 Credits**

Examination of social work's most monumental and systemic challenges as a final Integration of generalist social work knowledge, values, and skills. Review ethics-based case studies to demonstrate competence in professional and ethical practice. Professional licensure examination preparation. Advanced exploration of the ethical integration of faith and professional social work practice prior to graduation and licensure.