Why Should I Major in Social Work at Seton Hall?

Nationally accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, the Bachelor of Arts in Social Work program at Seton Hall University provides eligibility to be licensed to practice generalist social work, prepares students for professional service-delivery in a broad array of employment settings, qualifies them for admission to graduate schools with advanced standing, reducing the usual two-year program of study for the Master of Social Work degree to one year; and introduces options for graduate-level education in other disciplines, such as law, healthcare management, public administration and international relations. Students who have achieved academic excellence are invited to become members of the Alpha Theta Chapter of Alpha Delta Mu National Social Work Honor Society.

The Curriculum:

The social work curriculum is built on the Seton Hall liberal arts base and the social work professional foundation of values and ethics, diversity, populations-at-risk, social and economic justice, social policy and services, human behavior and the social environment, research, practice methodology and the social work practicum (junior and senior field education).

Learning objectives prominently feature social justice, the alleviation of poverty and oppression, and the development of leadership in the human and social services. Students regularly contribute to the improvement of the curriculum through individual feedback and student associations.

A minor in social work and a certificate in gerontology are also available.

What Does It Take to Graduate?

Students must demonstrate high-level performance in the 12 competencies of the program, articulating the knowledge, values and skills needed to communicate effectively with individuals, families, groups and communities; awareness of resources; outcomes assessment; and professional imagination.

Career Opportunities:

Carefully crafted social work internships provide guided learning experiences required for entry into professional practice. Specific assignments include child welfare agencies, community action programs, criminal justice and corrections programs, employment and industry-based services, family service agencies, healthcare facilities, legal services, mental health centers, older adult and end-of-life care and education. These internships often lead to full-time positions after students graduate.

A bachelor’s degree in social work is an excellent foundation for graduate school. Opportunities for continued studies include advanced standing for the Master of Social Work and qualification for law, healthcare management, public administration and international relations both at Seton Hall and other premier programs, including Columbia University, New York University, University of Pennsylvania and University of Southern California, among others. Outcome research demonstrates that the master’s programs acceptance rate of Seton Hall’s social work graduates is very high.

How Do I Apply for Admission?

Send your application to Seton Hall University and include the $55 non-refundable application fee ($45 if applying online). Freshman applicants must submit official high school transcripts and any college or university transcripts where credit was attempted, plus the results of the SAT I or ACT assessments. Transfer students must submit transcripts from each college or university where credit was attempted. Those with fewer than 24 earned credits must complete the freshman requirements.

Applications are available at admissions.shu.edu.

Can I Get Financial Aid?

Almost 90 percent of the students who entered Seton Hall last year received some form of financial aid, and 75 percent of these students received money directly from the University. The four types of financial aid include scholarships, grants and discounts, loans, and part-time jobs on campus. For further information, visit admissions.shu.edu/FinancialAid.htm or call (973) 761-9332.
Social Work Requirements:

Core Curriculum Requirements*
A. English Language (6 credits)
B. Communication (3 credits)
C. Mathematics (3 credits and prerequisites)
D. Natural Sciences (6 credits) and Behavioral Sciences (6 credits)
E. Western Civilization (6 credits), Foreign Language (6 credits) and American Civilization/African, Asian and Latino Civilizations/Foreign Literature/Advanced Language (6 credits)
F. Ethical Questions (3 credits)
G. Philosophy and Religious Studies (9 credits)

* Please see Undergraduate Catalogue

Social Work Major — 45 hours, including:
SOWK 1111 Introduction to Social Work
SOWK 2301 Social Policy Analysis
SOWK 2401 Social Welfare: Commonality and Diversity
SOWK 3611 Introduction to Helping Skills
SOWK 3711 Theory and Practice of Social Work I
SOWK 3811 Helping Careers Practicum

The following must be taken concurrently in the senior year. Formal candidacy, consultation with program advisers, completion of 100 credits and satisfactory completion of the above-listed courses are prerequisites.
SOWK 4511-4512 Behavior and Environment I-II
SOWK 4611 Social Work Practice and Research
SOWK 4711 Theory and Practice II
SOWK 4811-4812 Senior Practicum I-II (12 credits)
SOWK 5111 Senior Seminar

Social Work Minor — 18 hours, including:
SOWK 1111 Introduction to Social Work
Five SOWK courses numbered below 4000
Note: Students wishing to pursue a minor in social work must notify the Department of Social Work in writing to be assigned a faculty adviser.

Certificate in Gerontology — 18 hours, including:
I. Gerontology (9 credits)
AFAM 3302 Advanced Seminar in Gerontology
NUTH 4512 Gerontological Nursing
SOWK 1911 Introduction to Gerontology

II. Electives (6 credits from the following list)
AFAM 2328 Minority Aging
PHIL 1232 Philosophy of Death
PSYC 1214 Adult Development
RELS 2515 Religions and Aging
SOCI 2511 Sociology and Aging
SOWK 1912 Psychosocial Aspects of Aging

III. Additional Electives
Students wishing to supplement the required courses should consider courses in social and behavioral sciences, the life sciences, and policy and economics that are listed in the Undergraduate Catalogue.

IV. Internship (3 credits)
An internship (practicum or clinical) in direct service or research is required of all students. Please see the Undergraduate Catalogue for more details.

Degree Requirements: 150 total credit hours
Students can minor or double major in any of the College of Arts and Sciences disciplines.

For more information, call an admissions counselor at 1-800-THE-HALL, send an e-mail to thehall@shu.edu or visit admissions.shu.edu.
To talk to a faculty adviser, contact Richard Blake, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Social Work, at blakeric@shu.edu or (973) 761-9470.
Web site: artsci.shu.edu/Undergraduate/socialw/index.html

Seton Hall University is a major Catholic university. In a diverse and collaborative environment it focuses on academic and ethical development. Seton Hall students are prepared to be leaders in their professional and community lives in a global society and are challenged by outstanding faculty, an evolving technologically advanced setting and values-centered curricula.

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