The Bachelor of Arts in Social Work

Notice to Prospective Majors

The BA in Social Work is the beginning professional degree. Therefore, it is important that you complete the Social Work Core listed below, and regularly meet with your major advisor. You are ready to begin the Professional Sequence if you have:

1. Achieved junior class standing, including transfer students with 60 transferable semester units;

2. Completed or have in progress 39 of the 48 required General Education units and the specific prerequisites;

3. Completed the following courses at CSU, Chico or their articulated equivalents (see "Social Work Core" for course titles)

   BIOL 104 (or a human biology course)

   ECON 101, ECON 102, or ECON 103

   MATH 105

   PSYC 101

   SOCI 100

   SWRK 170

   SWRK 200

   SWRK 302

4. Have a minimum GPA of 2.0.

5. If you have passed the above requirements with a C- or higher you are eligible to apply for the Professional Sequence. An application will be posted on WebCT Vista in mid-September. Complete and return to the School of Social Work office by the deadline indicated.

6. Have 60 hours of documented volunteer experience in social work related activities in a community agency at time of application to the BSW Professional Sequence. The application will required that you document completion of these hours. The BSW Director is responsible for evaluating the applicability of documented volunteer experience.

It is also recommended that you have completed or have in progress the 6 units of U.S. History, Constitution, and American Ideals requirement.
Transfer students who plan to take prerequisites at other educational institutions must consult the BSW Director to assure you are enrolled in articulated equivalents to the prerequisite courses on the Chico campus. The BSW Director is responsible for evaluating the transferability of all social work prerequisites not listed on the articulation agreements between CSU, Chico and other units of the California State University, the University of California, and the California Community Colleges system. You may also refer to the following website for information on articulated equivalents: http://www.assist.org.

We are committed to your success. Please help us to support your achievements by maintaining frequent contact with your instructors and your Social Work advisor, asking for help and/or information when you need it, and by creating a community of mutual respect and collaboration with your student colleagues and faculty.

**Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree: 120 units**

See [Bachelor's Degree Requirements](#) in the *University Catalog* for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division.

A suggested Major Academic Plan (MAP) has been prepared to help students meet all graduation requirements within four years. You can view MAPs on the [Degree MAPs](#) page in the *University Catalog* or you can request a plan from your major advisor.

**General Education Pathway Requirements: 48 units**

See [General Education](#) in the *University Catalog* and the [Class Schedule](#) for the most current information on General Education Pathway Requirements and course offerings.

The 9-unit Upper Division Theme, included within the 48-unit GE requirement, may not be taken until you have completed 45 semester units. Complete all nine units within one theme.

**Diversity Course Requirements: 6 units**

See [Diversity Requirements](#) in the *University Catalog*. Most courses taken to satisfy these requirements may also apply to [General Education](#).

**Literacy Requirement:**

See [Mathematics and Writing Requirements](#) in the *University Catalog*. Writing proficiency in the major is a graduation requirement and may be demonstrated through satisfactory completion of a course in your major which has been designated as the Writing Proficiency (WP) course for the semester in which you take the course. Students who earn below a C- are required to repeat the course and earn a C- or higher to receive WP credit. See the [Class Schedule](#) for the
designated WP courses for each semester. You must pass ENGL 130I or JOUR 130I (or equivalent) with a C- or higher before you may register for a WP course.

SWRK 435 and SWRK 445 are the WP courses in this major.

**Course Requirements for the Major: 61-62 units**

**Prerequisites for Admission to the Social Work Major**

1. Completion of the following courses Social Work Core, or their approved transfer equivalents, is required of all candidates for this degree.
2. Social Work Core: 24-25 units. The following courses must be completed before taking any courses from the professional sequence in the spring semester of the junior year (Professional Sequence 1).
3. It is required that students meet with the BSW Program Director or advising before applying for the Professional Sequence to review completion and/or current progress of prerequisites and volunteer hours.

*Note: A maximum of 15 units of internship (courses numbered 189, 289, 389, 489) may be applied to a bachelor's degree at CSU, Chico.*

**Social Work Core: 24-25 units**

*The following courses must be completed before taking any courses from the professional sequence in the spring semester of the junior year (Semester 1).*

1 course required selected from:

- BIOL 103 Human Anatomy 4.0 FS GE
- BIOL 104 Human Physiology 4.0 FS GE

OR (the following course may be substituted for the above)

A transferable human biology course.

1 course selected from:

- ECON 101 Introduction to Economics 3.0 FS GE
- ECON 102 Principles of Macroeconomic Analysis 3.0 FS GE
- ECON 103 Principles of Microeconomic Analysis 3.0 FS GE

6 courses required:
STATISTICS

Prerequisites: Completion of ELM requirement.

PSYC 101 Principles of Psychology

SOCIOLOGY

Introduction to Sociology

SWRK 170 Social Welfare Institutions: A Response to Power and Scarcity

SWRK 200 Multicultural Awareness for Human Services

Corequisite: SWRK 202 for SWRK majors only.

SWRK 202 302 Human Behavior Across the Lifespan

Corequisites: SWRK 200 for majors only.

Note: It is recommended that students enroll in SWRK 170, SWRK 200, and SWRK 302 (or at least SWRK 200 and SWRK 302) in the same semester, both for educational reasons and to meet the other students who will go through the Professional Sequence with them.

Note: A maximum of 15 units of internship (courses numbered 189, 289, 389, 489) may be applied to a bachelor's degree at CSU, Chico.

Professional Sequence: 37 units

The completion of the Social Work Core is a prerequisite for enrolling in the Professional Sequence.

Credit for life experience or prior work experience in lieu of coursework or the social work practicums is not permitted. Please refer to the BSW Student Handbook for more information regarding the school's transfer of credit and proficiency exam policies. All social work courses required in the Professional Sequence are restricted to social work majors.

In the event you drop, do not receive at least a grade of C-, or take an incomplete in a required course, including the Social Work Core, you may be ineligible to progress in the major. Contact the BA Director immediately to develop an academic contract.

All courses must be taken in the sequence outlined.

Professional Sequence Semester I (Spring): 9 10 units

3 courses required:

SWRK 303 Human Behavior and the Social Environment

Prerequisites: SWRK 170, SWRK 200, SWRK 302. Majors only.

Corequisites: SWRK 305, SWRK 325. Have CPCR

SWRK 305 Community and Organizational Change

Prerequisites: SWRK 170, SWRK 200, SWRK 302, acceptance into the BSW professional sequence.
Corequisites: SWRK 303, SWRK 325.
SWRK 325 Basic Skills in Social Work Practice 3.0 SP
Prerequisites: SWRK 170, SWRK 200, SWRK 302. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 303, SWRK 305. Have CPR

SWRK 330 Social Work Research Methods 4.0 FA
Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence I. Social Work majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 435, SWRK 489A, SWRK 490A. Have CPR

Professional Sequence Semester II (Fall): 13 12 units

4 courses required:

SWRK 330 Social Work Research Methods 4.0 FA
Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence I. Social Work majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 435, SWRK 489A, SWRK 490A.

SWRK 435 Social Work Methods I 3.0 FA WP
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 or JOUR 130 (or equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher. Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence I. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 330, SWRK 489A, SWRK 490A.

SWRK 485 Social Welfare Policy, Programs, and Services 3.0 SP
Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence II. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 445, SWRK 489B, SWRK 490B. Have CPR

SWRK 489A Social Work Practicum I 5.0 FA
Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence I. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 330, SWRK 435, SWRK 490A.

SWRK 490A Seminar for Practicum I 1.0 FA
Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence I. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 330, SWRK 435, SWRK 489A.

Professional Sequence Semester III (Spring): 12 units

4 courses required:

SWRK 305 Community and Organizational Change 3.0 SP
Prerequisites: SWRK 170, SWRK 200, SWRK 302, acceptance into the BSW professional sequence. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 303, SWRK 325. Have CPR

SWRK 445 Social Work Methods II 3.0 SP WP
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 or JOUR 130 (or equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher. Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence II. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 485, SWRK 489B, SWRK 490B.
SWRK 485  Social Welfare Policy, Programs, and Services  - 3.0 SP -
Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence II. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 445, SWRK 489B, SWRK 490B.

SWRK 489B  Social Work Practicum II  5.0 SP
Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence II. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 445, SWRK 485, SWRK 490B.

SWRK 490B  Seminar for Practicum II  1.0 SP
Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of Professional Sequence II. Majors only.
Corequisites: SWRK 445, SWRK 485, SWRK 489B.

Elective: 3 units

Select three units of social work elective in consultation with your major advisor. The elective may be taken during the semester of your choice.

Professional Standards and Disqualification

The social work degree signifies readiness to begin professional work in positions requiring trust and high ethical standards. You are expected to meet the ethical and professional standards set by the profession and the practicum agencies. Should it be determined you do not meet such standards, you can be dropped from the practicum and all corequisite social work courses and, thus, be prevented from completing the social work major.

The professional standards include the following

1. honoring the NASW Code of Ethics of the social work profession;

2. being found acceptable and receiving at least a minimum satisfactory evaluation by practicum agencies;

3. passing performance in SWRK 305, SWRK 489A, SWRK 489B, SWRK 490A, and SWRK 490B;

4. avoiding behavior that suggests potential harm to clients, colleagues, or themselves.

Please refer to the BSW Student Handbook for more complete information regarding these standards.

Federal Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program

The undergraduate social work program is a participant in the Federal Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program. The program provides stipends to students who commit to a minimum of two years of postbaccalaureate employment in public child welfare. Interested students should contact the BSW Director and the Title IV-E Coordinator in the School of Social Work.
**Electives Requirement:**

To complete the total units required for the bachelor's degree, select additional elective courses from the total University offerings. You should consult with an advisor regarding the selection of courses which will provide breadth to your University experience and possibly apply to a supportive second major or minor.

**Grading Requirement:**

All courses taken to fulfill major course requirements must be taken for a letter grade except those courses specified by the department as Credit/No Credit grading only.

By policy, students receiving less than a grade of C- in the Social Work Core and Professional Sequence may not progress in the program. You may petition the BSW Director to review the application of the policy in your situation if serious and compelling conditions contributed to the poor grade. Progression in the Professional Sequence also depends on maintaining a cumulative and CSU, Chico grade point average of 2.0 and completing all prior and current required classes.

**Advising Requirement:**

Advising is mandatory for all majors in this degree program. Consult your undergraduate advisor for specific information.

**Honors in the Major:**

Honors in the Major is a program of independent work in your major. It requires 6 units of honors course work completed over two semesters.

The Honors in the Major program allows you to work closely with a faculty mentor in your area of interest on an original performance or research project. This year-long collaboration allows you to work in your field at a professional level and culminates in a public presentation of your work. Students sometimes take their projects beyond the University for submission in professional journals, presentation at conferences, or academic competition. Such experience is valuable for graduate school and professional life. Your honors work will be recognized at your graduation, on your permanent transcripts, and on your diploma. It is often accompanied by letters of commendation from your mentor in the department or the department chair.

Some common features of Honors in the Major program are:

1. You must take 6 units of Honors in the Major course work. All 6 units are honors classes (marked by a suffix of H), and at least 3 of these units are independent study (399H, 499H, 599H) as specified by your department. You must complete each class with a minimum grade of B.
2. You must have completed 9 units of upper-division course work or 21 overall units in your major before you can be admitted to Honors in the Major. Check the requirements
for your major carefully, as there may be specific courses that must be included in these units.

3. Your cumulative GPA should be at least 3.5 or within the top 5% of majors in your department.

4. Your GPA in your major should be at least 3.5 or within the top 5% of majors in your department.

5. Most students apply for or are invited to participate in Honors in the Major during the second semester of their junior year. Then they complete the 6 units of course work over the two semesters of their senior year.

6. Your honors work culminates with a public presentation of your honors project.

While Honors in the Major is part of the Honors Program, each department administers its own program. Please contact your major department or major advisor to apply.

**Honors in Social Work** is by faculty permission and open to seniors who meet the above requirements.