

# MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Concordia University Wisconsin offers the Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. The MSW is a two-year graduate program. Advanced standing is available to those with a Bachelor of Social Work. The program is available for full-time and part-time students.

## Mission Statement

The mission of Concordia University Wisconsin's online Master of Social Work program is to provide a graduate education, using a Christian lens, by which we believe all people are born equal and in the image of God. We prepare MSW professionals to have the knowledge, values, and skills to be strength-based, and to identify and oppose racism in order to combat oppressive systems in an increasingly diverse and global society.

The MSW program aims to educate advanced generalist social workers who are able to engage in a culturally responsive, ethical, and competent practice, foster resiliency, strengthen individuals, families, groups, communities, organizations, and advocate for justice to advance human rights for all.

### Accreditation

MSW programs are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Full accreditation was awarded in February 2020. Accreditation is retroactive to the first class who graduated in August, 2018. As of September 12, 2022, the MSW Program was approved by CSWE to become an online (asynchronous) program.

## General Academic Information

The Master of Social Work degree is designed to prepare students for professional practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. The MSW is a competency based degree that emphasizes the significant contribution of knowledge, values, skills, and the importance of cognitive/affective responses to practice situations. The MSW degree is a highly sought after professional degree and recognized nationally and internationally for the quality of professional practice.

Social work practitioners are found in every aspect of practice. They are licensed in every state. Social workers provide critical services at multiple levels of practice and in inter-professional settings. The Advanced Generalist Specialization prepares social workers for practice at all levels of practice. Advanced Generalist Social Workers are employed in hundreds of positions requiring the special knowledge base of the profession.

Advanced Generalist Social Work practitioners work with those who have mental health issues, domestic violence, child abuse, family problems and many others. They work in the criminal justice system as probation officers, juvenile justice social workers, court social workers, and many others positions. Social workers work in community agencies to develop programs, write grants, organize and manage community endeavors to better society. Social work practitioners are prepared for administration as CEOs, administrators, supervisors, political advocates, politicians, and many other macro level jobs.

## Clinical Licensure Courses

Completing the MSW clinical licensure courses prepares you to become a Wisconsin LCSW. With an LCSW you will be able to contribute to the social work profession in various settings including mental health, youth

and families, and practice as an independent therapist. Below is a list of courses you can take that are recognized by WIDSPS:

- SW 6150: Advanced Practice: Diverse & Vulnerable Population (required course in MSW curriculum)
- SW 5450: Psychopathology in Social Work (elective- required for LCSW licensure)
- SW 5550: Social Work with Groups (elective option)
- SW 5600: Advanced Trauma: Interventions for Healing (elective option)
- SW 5650: Drugs, Society and Human Behavior (elective option)

## Graduate Certificate in Management

When students from the MSW program at Concordia graduate, their CUW educational experience sets them apart as they enter the working world. In fact, many of our MSW graduates are eventually asked to assume leadership positions in the organizations where they work. Considering this, the Department of Social Work partnered with Concordia's Business School to develop a pathway that will enable an MSW student to graduate with both an MSW degree, and a Graduate Certificate in Management. The path to complete the Graduate Certificate in Management is detailed below:

The Graduate Certificate in Management is 12 credits.

\*6 credits of required MSW courses:

SW 5200 Social Policy and Advocacy

SW 6000 Administration and Supervision with Groups, Communities, and Organizations

\*6 credits of required MBA courses. Suggested business courses are:

BUS 5120 Financial Analyses to Drive Business Growth

BUS 5900 Human Resource Management & Administration

BUS 5910 Training and Development (could be considered, first 2 preferred)

\*The 2 MBA courses can be taken as "Electives" within the MSW program instead of the MSW program electives or these 2 courses can be taken in addition to the MSW program electives (at increased cost)

## Fieldwork Experiences

The MSW degree requires two field placements supervised by experienced MSW practitioners. The program has contracts with more than 250 agencies willing to provide supervised experience for MSW interns. The Department of Social Work plans for and places students in agencies supporting the student's specified area of interest.

## Credit Transfer

The MSW Program will accept transfer credits, of previous graduate level coursework, into the MSW program based on the following criteria:

1. Only transfer of a foundation level course will be considered. Foundation level courses are equivalent to MSW 600-level courses.
2. The student must have earned a grade of "B" or better.
3. The credit will have been earned within five years of the request.
4. **Prior to the student's admission to the program, the student will provide the syllabus for the course for which they are requesting transfer.** The submitted course syllabus will be reviewed by the

primary faculty assigned to the CUW course the student is requesting be replaced with the transfer course. A determination will be made by the primary faculty. A decision to transfer a credit in place of a foundation level course will be agreed upon by the primary faculty and the MSW Director. The registrar's office will be notified by the MSW Program Director via email with a copy to the student's advisor and the student. A copy of the email will be placed in the student's file.

The MSW Program will accept electives. The MSW Program will only transfer courses as elective course if they support social work practices. The MSW Program reserves the right to refuse to accept course credits from another university. *Under no circumstances will credit be given for prior work or life experiences.*

1. Credits will not be transferred if they were included as a part of a previously granted degree.
2. Credits must have been completed/earned no more than five years prior to the admission on the student to the MSW program.
3. Credits are accepted for transfer only during the admission process.
4. The agreed transfer credits will be listed on the signed graduate admission form, and returned to the graduate school at the point of admission.
5. Transfer of any credit is not guaranteed.

## Cost

Students pay per credit hour, which is posted on the Concordia University Wisconsin website.

## Professional Membership

NASW student membership is highly recommended for all students. Current student membership rates are available on [www.nasw.org](http://www.nasw.org). The department also recommends membership with the North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW). Visit [www.nacsw.org](http://www.nacsw.org)

## Financial Aid

Federal student loans are available to graduate students seeking degrees who are US citizens or permanent residents. Students may apply online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Concordia's school code is 003842. Students are eligible for Federal Student loans and Graduate PLUS loans to cover the cost of tuition, books, fees, transportation, and living expenses.

## Program Learning Outcomes

The Curriculum is based on the following competencies:

1. Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
2. Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice
3. Engage Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) in Practice
4. Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-Informed Practice
5. Engage in Policy Practice
6. Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
7. Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
8. Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

9. Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

## Curriculum

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Generalist Student (non-BSW graduate)</b>		
Foundation / Generalist Year		27
Advanced Generalist Year		36
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>63</b>

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Advanced Standing Student (BSW graduate)</b>		
Advanced Generalist		36
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>36</b>

### Foundation/Generalist Year

Code	Title	Hours
SW 5000	Advanced Human Behavior in Social Environment (Foundation/Generalist)	3
SW 5100	Generalist Practice I: Individuals & Families	3
SW 5150	Generalist Practice II: Groups, Organizations & Communities	3
SW 5200	Social Policy & Advocacy	3
SW 5500	Research Methodologies	3
SW 7100	Advanced Field Education I	3
SW 7110	Advanced Field Seminar I	3
SW 7200	Advanced Field Education II	3
SW 7210	Advanced Field Seminar II	3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>27</b>

### Second Year Graduate Students & Advanced Standing Graduate Students (Advanced Generalist Year)

Code	Title	Hours
SW 6000	Administration, Organization & Supervision	3
SW 6100	Advanced Practice: Individuals & Families	3
SW 6150	Advanced Practice: Diverse and Vulnerable Populations	3
SW 6500	Research Project I	3
SW 6520	Research Project II	3
SW 7300	Advanced Field Education III	3
SW 7310	Advanced Field Seminar III	3
SW 7410	Advanced Field Seminar IV	3
SW 7400	Advanced Field Education IV	3
SW 6900	SW Ethics & Christianity	3
<b>Electives (Select 2)</b>		<b>6</b>
SW 5350	Social Work and Social Welfare	
SW 5450	Psychopathology in Social Work	
SW 5550	Social Work in Groups	
SW 5600	Advanced Trauma: Interventions for the Healing Process	
SW 5650	Drugs, Society and Human Behavior	
BUS 5120	Financial Analyses to Drive Business Growth	
BUS 5900	Human Resource Management and Administration	

IPE 5100	Global Education
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>36</b>

### Entrance Requirements

- Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college/university.
- BSW from CSWE accredited Social Work program, if applying for advanced standing. (within 7 years)
- Minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.00 for full acceptance.

### How to Apply

- Application form available at: [www.cuw.edu/apply](http://www.cuw.edu/apply)
- One page essay, using APA format, addressing the following:
  - Why do you want to be a social worker? How has your life led you to this profession?
  - What are your career goals and how will obtaining an MSW from CUW help you reach those goals?
  - How do you plan to adjust your life to accommodate the intense demands of studying for an MSW degree (time, energy, commitment, change, frustration)?
- Current resume, including your education, employment, volunteer and community involvement, and any military experience
- One professional letter of recommendation that addresses your potential for success in the program and profession
- All official transcripts leading to your bachelor’s degree
- Contact the Department of Social Work with any further inquiries.  
262.243.4436. [social.work@cuw.edu](mailto:social.work@cuw.edu)
  - Sarah Collins, MSW Program Director ([sarah.collins@cuw.edu](mailto:sarah.collins@cuw.edu) or 262-243-2191)

SW 6100	Advanced Practice: Individuals & Families	3
BUS 5120	Financial Analyses to Drive Business Growth (optional elective)	
<b>Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Semester 5</b>		
SW 6500	Research Project I	3
SW 6520	Research Project II	3
SW 6150	Advanced Practice: Diverse and Vulnerable Populations (if not already taken)	
SW 7400	Advanced Field Education IV	3
SW 7410	Advanced Field Seminar IV	3
SW 6000	Administration, Organization & Supervision	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Semester 6</b>		
SW 6900	SW Ethics & Christianity	3
BUS 5900	Human Resource Management and Administration (optional elective)	
SW 5550	Social Work in Groups (optional elective)	
<b>Hours</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>57</b>

Course options and schedule are subject to change.

### Plan

Course	Title	Hours
<b>Semester 1</b>		
SW 5000	Advanced Human Behavior in Social Environment	3
SW 5100	Generalist Practice I: Individuals & Families	3
SW 5500	Research Methodologies	3
SW 7100	Advanced Field Education I	3
SW 7110	Advanced Field Seminar I	3
SW 5450	Psychopathology in Social Work (optional elective)	
SW 5350	Social Work and Social Welfare (optional elective)	
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Semester 2</b>		
SW 5150	Generalist Practice II: Groups, Organizations & Communities	3
SW 5200	Social Policy & Advocacy	3
SW 7200	Advanced Field Education II	3
SW 7210	Advanced Field Seminar II	3
SW 5450	Psychopathology in Social Work (optional elective)	
SW 5650	Drugs, Society and Human Behavior (optional elective)	
<b>Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Semester 3</b>		
SW 5600	Advanced Trauma: Interventions for the Healing Process (optional elective)	
SW 5550	Social Work in Groups (optional elective)	
IPE 5100	Global Education (optional elective)	
<b>Hours</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>Semester 4</b>		
SW 6150	Advanced Practice: Diverse and Vulnerable Populations	3
SW 7300	Advanced Field Education III	3
SW 7310	Advanced Field Seminar III	3