CSULB School of Social Work - Master of Social Work (MSW)

About Our Program
The School of Social Work at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) welcomes your interest in our School and the programs we offer. We are pleased you are committed to a career in social work, a profession dedicated to the development of a just society. Our mission is to educate and graduate diverse, ethical and competent social work students; engage in collaborative, community-based research; and provide meaningful service to the community and the profession. Our goal is to prepare students to enter professional, multicultural social work practice.

Our Master of Social Work (MSW) program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and prepares graduates to serve as professional social workers who excel in all levels of practice in economically and socially diverse environments. Students learn to practice as professional social workers with persons and groups representing the range of human diversity and with all size systems (individuals, families, groups, communities and institutions). In addition, students are prepared for advanced, specialized practice in one of the following specializations: Child and Family Wellbeing, Adulthood and Aging, or Integrated Health.

Our MSW Program emphasizes ecological and systems perspectives which focus on the fit and interactions of a person or system in relation to the various environments likely to be encountered. Within these perspectives, knowledge, values, and skills are used in a change-oriented process within a multicultural context to help individuals and social systems achieve improved quality of life and social participation, including advocacy for just institutions and equitable access to opportunities and resources. Graduates of our program are prepared to work with diverse populations, advocate in a variety of settings, ensure equitable access for disenfranchised populations and promote social justice. We address community challenges related to child welfare, health and behavioral health integrated care, substance use, poverty, homelessness, domestic violence, the growing aging population and social change. We educate students for micro and macro practice and leadership in government agencies, non-profit organizations, schools and non-traditional settings.

The MSW degree requires the completion of 60 semester units over the course of a 2-year program or 3-year program plan. We also offer an Advanced Standing option for those applicants who have completed a recent undergraduate degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program. In addition to on-campus courses, the MSW curriculum includes a fieldwork sequence which allows students to apply their knowledge, social work practice and intervention skills in a community agency setting under the supervision of qualified field instructors during two 500-hour placements.
Program Plans
The School of Social Work at CSULB offers three program plans for the completion of the MSW degree: 2-Year, 3-Year, and an Advanced Standing option. In addition, we offer a distance education option that follows the 3-year program plan.

2-Year MSW Program
Students admitted to the 2-Year MSW program must complete 60 semester units of coursework. Students enroll in 15 units of coursework (5 courses total) each semester for four (4) semesters as follows: Fall/Spring/Fall/Spring. Students attend classes on Mondays and Fridays during the daytime.

In addition, each student must complete two fieldwork placements: one in the first year of the program and one in the second year of the program. Each placement involves 500 hours of fieldwork, with a total of 1000 hours completed to fulfill degree requirements. Students complete 16 hours of field placement each week between the months of September and May. Field hours are completed Tuesday through Thursday in either two 8-hour weekdays, or one 8-hour weekday & two 4-hour weekday periods.

3-Year MSW Program
Students admitted to the 3-Year MSW program must complete 60 semester units of coursework. Students enroll in 6-9 units of coursework each semester for eight (8) semesters as follows: Fall/Spring/Summer/Fall/Spring/Summer/Fall/Spring. Students attend classes on Monday evenings, Wednesday evenings, and Saturdays during the daytime.

In addition, each student must complete two fieldwork placements: one in the second year of the program and one in the third year of the program. Each placement involves 500 hours of fieldwork, with a total of 1000 hours completed to fulfill degree requirements. Students complete 16 hours of field placement each week between the months of September and May. Field hours are completed Monday through Friday in either two 8-hour weekdays, or one 8-hour weekday & two 4-hour weekday periods.

Advanced Standing MSW Program
Since 2005, our Advanced Standing program has offered students with an undergraduate degree in Social Work from a CSWE-accredited program the opportunity to obtain their MSW degree within 12 months (one summer, one fall & one spring semester). Upon successful completion of an intensive Summer Bridge Program, Advanced Standing MSW students complete 30 units of advanced coursework in the fall and spring semesters. Advanced Standing MSW students attend classes on Mondays and Fridays during the daytime (with additional days in the summer) and complete one 660-hour field internship that starts in June and ends the following May. Students complete 16 hours of field placement each week (Tuesday through Thursday) in either two 8-hour weekdays, or one 8-hour weekday & two 4-hour weekday periods.

Distance Education
The MSW program is also offered at off-campus locations throughout the state. Current distance education sites are in the Sonoma County and Ventura County areas. Courses are taught using face-to-face instruction, as well as interactive television and web-based instructional support. The distance education MSW is offered using a 3-year program plan in the Child and Family Wellbeing specialization. Students attend classes on Saturdays and complete fieldwork requirements during the second and third academic years of the program. The next distance education cohorts are scheduled to begin in fall 2019.
Specializations

The Master of Social Work (MSW) degree offers opportunity for study in one of three areas of specialization: Child and Family Wellbeing, Adulthood and Aging, or Integrated Health. Students are assigned a specialization during their first year in the program. The second-year courses and field placement will be determined by this specialization. Program stipend recipients and students who choose to complete the Pupil Personnel Services Credential will be assigned to a specific specialization.

Child and Family Wellbeing Specialization
The Child and Family Wellbeing specialization prepares students to use strength-based and evidence-based approaches to promote positive child and family functioning across diverse populations. Through coursework and field placements, students will acquire and enhance their skills to effectively engage, assess and intervene with children and families both preventively and with those experiencing challenges. Students will also gain knowledge of the policies most salient to the lives of children and families and skills to effectively influence such policies. This specialization provides a solid framework for students interested in working in child protective services, schools and other public agencies or community-based non-profits.

Adulthood and Aging Specialization
The Adulthood and Aging specialization prepares students to use strength-based and evidence-based approaches to promote positive adult, older adult, and family functioning across diverse populations. Through coursework and field placements, students will acquire and enhance their skills to effectively engage, assess, and intervene with adults and older adults. Students will gain knowledge of the unique psychosocial needs facing adults, older adults, and their families. Students will examine adulthood and the aging processes from multiple perspectives: biomedical, psychological, socioeconomic, spiritual and cultural while examining contemporary trends that are shaping aging policy, practice, and theory. This specialization provides a solid framework for students interested in working in the areas of adult protective services, supportive services for family caregivers, Alzheimer’s and dementia care services, hospice services, the prison system and community corrections, promotion of healthy aging, long-term care, and health care collaborations.

Integrated Health Specialization
The Integrated Health specialization prepares students to use strength-based and evidence-based approaches to meeting the changing needs of people from diverse populations with physical, behavioral health, and substance use challenges. Through coursework and field placements, students will acquire and enhance their skills to effectively engage, assess, and intervene with individuals who face chronic diseases and co-occurring conditions of mental health challenges and/or substance use. Students will learn to utilize prevention and brief intervention models critical to integrated care and how to work effectively on an interdisciplinary team. Students will learn how evidence-based practice, along with recovery-oriented and strengths-based care philosophies, can foster changes in practice settings and policies. This specialization provides a solid framework for students interested in working to deliver services in outpatient or primary care facilities, community-based behavioral health agencies, hospitals, and acute, chronic and long-term care settings.
Field Education

The field education sequence has an integral role in the MSW curriculum. The experience offers an opportunity for students to integrate and apply theoretical knowledge and social work practice and intervention skills in a community agency setting under the supervision of a qualified field instructor. A variety of agencies within the surrounding counties are utilized, reflecting the diverse settings in which social workers are employed. University field faculty select the most appropriate field placement site for students.

Each student has two field placements and concurrent enrollment in practice courses during the course of study. Each placement involves 500 hours of internship in a community agency setting and attendance and participation in an integrated field seminar that meets weekly on campus. The field education sequence encompasses a total of 1000 hours, for which 12 units of academic credit are given. The academic year schedule begins in September and continues through mid-May. Fieldwork includes attendance in a field seminar as well as internship in the community. Students complete 16 hours per week. This must include either two 8-hour weekdays or one 8-hour weekday and two 4-hour weekday blocks. No weekend placements are available. Students admitted to the Advanced Standing program complete one field placement for a total of 660 hours that begins in June and continues through mid-May.

Students who are employed in social service agencies may request that their agency be evaluated as a site for the second-year field internship only. The agency must be able to meet all criteria established by the School of Social Work to ensure the educational focus of field education and provide a significantly different experience than the student’s current job duties. Evaluation of field placement sites and approval to utilize an agency of employment as a field site will be completed by the field faculty.

The School of Social Work will reject an applicant or disqualify an enrolled student whose record of academic achievement or performance in field education does not meet the minimum standards of the profession.
Required Courses for MSW Program: 2-Year & 3-Year

The 2-Year and 3-Year MSW programs require the completion of 60 semester units. In order to meet the requirements for the MSW degree, 2-Year and 3-Year MSW students must complete the following:

30 units of foundation coursework (10 courses):

- SW 500 Foundation Social Work Micro Practice Skills and Interventions (3)
- SW 503A Human Behavior & the Social Environment: Focus on Prenatal through Adolescence (3)
- SW 503B Human Behavior & the Social Environment: Focus on Young Adulthood through Late Life (3)
- SW 505 Foundation Social Policy: Addressing Oppression through Social Justice (3)
- SW 570 Foundation Social Work Practice: Skills and Interventions with Groups (3)
- SW 592 Foundation Social Work Macro Practice Skills and Interventions (3)
- SW 594A Research Methods in Social Work I (3)
- SW 594B Research Methods in Social Work II (3)
- SW 596A Foundation Field Education I (3)
- SW 596B Foundation Field Education II (3)

30 units of advanced coursework including the following:

- SW 605 Advanced Social Policy: Analysis, Advocacy & Practice (3)
- SW 670 Social Work Leadership and Management (3)
- SW 680A Advanced Field Education I (3)
- SW 680B Advanced Field Education II (3)

One (1) of the following advanced practice courses (3 units) within the designated specialization:

- SW 620 Advanced Social Work Practice: Child and Family Wellbeing (3) OR
- SW 630 Advanced Social Work Practice: Adulthood and Aging (3) OR
- SW 650 Advanced Social Work Practice: Integrated Health (3)

Three (3) 600-level elective courses (9 units) from the following list of courses:

- SW 643: Social Work Practice within Child Welfare Services (3)
- SW 662: Legal Issues in Social Work Practice (3)
- SW 663: Assessment and Treatment of Alcohol and Substance Use Disorders (3)
- SW 665: School Social Work (3)
- SW 675: Social Work Practice with Death, Dying and Loss (3)
- SW 677: Social Work Practice in Mental Health Services (3)
- SW 678: Play Therapy with Children, Adolescents and Their Families (3)
- SW 679: Psychopathology: Assessment and Treatment in Social Work Practice (3)
- SW 683: Brief Treatment (3)
- SW 690: Selected Topics in Graduate Social Work (3)
- SW 691: Non-Violent Conflict Resolution (3)
- SW 692: Spirituality in Social Work Practice (3)

One of the following capstone requirements (6 units) in the final year of the program:

Thesis/Project I and II (SW 698A and SW 699A) OR
Applied Social Work Project: Part I and Part II (SW 698C and SW 699C)
Required Courses for MSW Program: **Advanced Standing MSW Program**

Students in the Advanced Standing MSW program are provisionally admitted to the School until they have successfully completed the Summer Bridge program. After they successfully complete the Summer Bridge modules and summer field internship hours, the School of Social Work waives the foundation courses (30 units) and the student completes the second year of the 2-Year MSW program in the Fall semester. In order to meet the requirements for the MSW degree, Advanced Standing MSW students must complete the following:

**Summer Bridge Program Modules:**
- Human Behavior & Social Environment
- Policy
- Research
- Practice (Micro & Macro)
- Technology

Fieldwork – 16 hours per week for 10 weeks (160 hours total) plus 2 hours of seminar per week

**30 units of advanced coursework including the following:**
- SW 605 Advanced Social Policy: Analysis, Advocacy & Practice (3)
- SW 670 Social Work Leadership and Management (3)
- SW 680A Advanced Field Education I (3)
- SW 680B Advanced Field Education II (3)

*One (1) of the following advanced practice courses (3 units) within the designated specialization:*  
- SW 620 Advanced Social Work Practice: Child and Family Wellbeing (3) **OR**  
- SW 630 Advanced Social Work Practice: Adulthood and Aging (3) **OR**  
- SW 650 Advanced Social Work Practice: Integrated Health (3)

*Three (3) 600-level elective courses (9 units) from the following list of courses:*
- SW 643: Social Work Practice within Child Welfare Services (3)
- SW 662: Legal Issues in Social Work Practice (3)
- SW 663: Assessment and Treatment of Alcohol and Substance Use Disorders (3)
- SW 665: School Social Work (3)
- SW 675: Social Work Practice with Death, Dying and Loss (3)
- SW 677: Social Work Practice in Mental Health Services (3)
- SW 678: Play Therapy with Children, Adolescents and Their Families (3)
- SW 679: Psychopathology: Assessment and Treatment in Social Work Practice (3)
- SW 683: Brief Treatment (3)
- SW 690: Selected Topics in Graduate Social Work (3)
- SW 691: Non-Violent Conflict Resolution (3)
- SW 692: Spirituality in Social Work Practice (3)

*One of the following capstone requirements (6 units):*
- Thesis/Project I and II (SW 698A and SW 699A) **OR**
- Applied Social Work Project: Part I and Part II (SW 698C and SW 699C)
Sequence of Required Courses

The MSW Program is taken in one of the following four sequences:

**2-Year Program:**
- Term 1: SW 500, 503A, 505, 594A, 596A (Fall)
- Term 2: SW 503B, 570, 592, 594B, 596B (Spring)
- Term 3: SW 620 or 630 or 650, 680A, 698A/C, TWO 600-level electives (Fall)
- Term 4: SW 605, 670, 680B, 699A/C, 600-level elective (Spring)

**3-Year Program:**
- Term 1: SW 503A, 505 (Fall)
- Term 2: SW 503B, 594A (Spring)
- Term 3: SW 500, 594B (Summer)
- Term 4: SW 570, 596A, 600-level elective (Fall)
- Term 5: SW 592, 596B, 600-level elective (Spring)
- Term 6: SW 605, 600-level elective (Summer)
- Term 7: SW 620 or 630 or 650, 680A, 698A/C (Fall)
- Term 8: SW 670, 680B, 699A/C (Spring)

**Advanced Standing Program:**
- Summer Bridge Modules:
  - Human Behavior & Social Environment
  - Policy
  - Research
  - Practice (Micro & Macro)
  - Technology
  - Fieldwork – 16 hours per week for 10 weeks (160 hours total) plus 2 hours of seminar per wk
- Advanced Coursework:
  - SW 620 or 630 or 650, 680A, 698A/C, TWO 600-level electives (Fall)
  - SW 605, 670, 680B, 699A/C, 600-level elective (Spring)

**Distance Education Program (Child and Family Wellbeing specialization only):**
- Term 1: SW 503A, 505 (Fall)
- Term 2: SW 503B, 594A (Spring)
- Term 3: SW 500, 594B (Summer)
- Term 4: SW 570, 596A, 600-level elective (Fall)
- Term 5: SW 592, 596B, 600-level elective (Spring)
- Term 6: SW 605, 600-level elective (Summer)
- Term 7: SW 620, 680A, 698A/C (Fall)
- Term 8: SW 670, 680B, 699A/C (Spring)
Course Descriptions (numerical listing)

S W 500. Foundation Social Work Micro Practice Skills and Interventions (3)
This foundation practice course provides the basic knowledge and skills for interventions with children, adults, older adults and families in the context of generalist practice. Emphasis is on engagement, assessment, and evidence-based interventions with a focus on multicultural perspectives. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 503A. Human Behavior and the Social Environment: Focus on Prenatal through Adolescence (3)
This course provides an examination of human behavior and development utilizing a bio-psycho-social-spiritual perspective. Theoretical perspectives on development within the social environment from perinatal through late adolescence are critically reviewed for bias and potential for multicultural application. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 503B. Human Behavior and the Social Environment: Focus on Young Adulthood through Late Life (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course provides an examination of human behavior and development utilizing a bio-psycho-social-spiritual perspective. Theoretical perspectives on development within the social environment from young adulthood through end of life are critically reviewed for bias and potential for multicultural application. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 505. Foundation Social Policy: Addressing Oppression through Social Justice (3)
This course focuses on the critical analysis of policies which includes socio-economic, political and global factors influencing the U.S. social welfare system. Societal values and structural impediments influencing formation, implementation and evaluation of policies are emphasized using a multicultural framework. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 570. Foundation Social Work Practice: Skills and Interventions with Groups (3)
Prerequisite: SW 500. Corequisites: SW 596A or SW 596B.
This course focuses on intervention techniques with treatment and task groups across the lifespan. The course will examine all aspects of working with groups including planning, facilitating, analyzing, and evaluating different groups. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 590. Selected Topics in Social Work (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units for majors and 9 units for non majors with different topics. Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

S W 592. Foundation Social Work Macro Practice Skills and Interventions (3)
Corequisites: SW 596A or SW 596B.
This course focuses on the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills for macro practice. History, methods, theories, and socio-political determinants are emphasized. Explores implications for diverse communities; examines the relationship between professional values and ethical dimensions within community practice. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 594A. Research Methods in Social Work I (3)
This course focuses on the evidence-based research process, including conceptualization of research problems, designs, sampling, measurement, and data collection. The emphases are on building skills for conducting multiculturally-focused social work research and evaluating findings critically. Letter grade only (A-F).
S W 594B. Research Methods in Social Work II (3)
Prerequisite: SW 594A.
This course covers the application of research methods for evidence-based social work practice, including qualitative data analyses, quantitative statistical analyses, program evaluation, and preparation of reports for dissemination, with continued emphasis on the ability to conduct and critique multiculturally-focused research. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 596A. Foundation Field Education I (3)
Corequisite: SW 500 or SW 570.
First of two semesters of supervised agency practice. Develops basic skills with individuals, families, groups, and communities. Includes weekly integrative seminar which utilizes group process to support practice competencies, professional development, self-awareness, ethics, and problem solving in a multicultural context.
Credit/No Credit grading only. Course fee may be required. Seminar 2 hours, Clinical Process 1 hour. Two hours weekly field seminar on campus and 16 hours in agency placement required.

S W 596B. Foundation Field Education II (3)
Prerequisites: SW 500 and SW 596A. Corequisite: SW 570 or SW 592.
Second of two semesters of supervised agency practice. Develops basic skills with individuals, families, groups, and communities. Includes weekly integrative seminar which utilizes group process to support practice competencies, professional development, self-awareness, ethics, and problem solving in a multicultural context.
Credit/No Credit grading only. Course fee may be required. Seminar 2 hours, Clinical Process 1 hour. Two hours weekly field seminar on campus and 16 hours in agency placement required.

S W 599. Independent Study (1-3)
Prerequisites: Consent of School and instructor.
Independent study of special topics under supervision of a faculty member.
May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 605. Advanced Social Policy: Analysis, Advocacy & Practice (3)
Prerequisite: SW 505.
This course focuses on an advanced understanding of key issues, concepts, and skills associated with policy reform. Students will learn how to apply various strategies, techniques and actions that can influence elected officials, policy makers, organizations and communities. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 620. Advanced Social Work Practice: Child and Family Wellbeing (3)
Prerequisites: SW 500, SW 570, and SW 592. Corequisite: SW 680A.
This course is an advanced practice course that focuses on working with children and families. Emphasis is on evidenced-based intervention techniques and evolving perspectives of goals of social work practice. Multicultural perspectives on assessment and interventions will be examined. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 630. Advanced Social Work Practice: Adulthood and Aging (3)
Prerequisites: SW 500, SW 570, and SW 592. Corequisite: SW 680A.
This course focuses on assessment and intervention with adults and older adults, while addressing the basic processes of aging. The course covers advanced practice models in relation to ecological systems and multicultural perspectives. Letter grade only (A-F).
S W 643. Social Work Practice within Child Welfare Services (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course covers child protective policies and practices, including adoption, family preservation, transitional age youth, foster, kinship, and group care, with focus on incorporating innovative service delivery, multicultural practice and federally mandated outcomes related to child safety, wellbeing and permanency. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 650. Advanced Social Work Practice: Integrated Health (3)
Prerequisites: SW 500, SW 570, and SW 592. Corequisite: SW 680A.
This is an advanced course in integrating behavioral health practice with primary care. The role of social workers, theories, models, and multicultural aspects are enhanced. Advanced engagement, assessment, intervention, implementation, and practice evaluation skills are developed. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 662. Legal Issues in Social Work Practice (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course covers the legal systems affecting social work interventions and the role of social workers within those systems. Examines how laws and legal systems impact client populations. Legal research and resources, legal reasoning, and the court systems are examined. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 663. Assessment and Treatment of Alcohol and Substance Use Disorders (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course focuses on clinical and policy issues significant for social work practice with individuals, family systems and the community. Alcohol and substance use is examined across the lifespan with a focus on multicultural and strengths-based practice. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 665. School Social Work (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
School social work practice emphasizes the home-school-community connection. School social workers intervene in multiple systems, providing support for students and families while bringing about change in school practices. Course content includes social work roles, education laws, evidence-based practice, and diversity. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 670. Social Work Leadership and Management (3)
Corequisite: SW 680B.
This course focuses on organizational leadership and problem solving, using theories of organizational behavior and management. Examines frameworks for governance, planning, monitoring, information management, human resources, fiscal responsibility, quality assurance, and community relations with attention to multicultural and gender issues. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 674. Clinical Diagnosis and Therapeutic Communication (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
Reviews the major theoretical approaches to social work treatment to teach specific clinical interventions. Students are trained to skillfully and therapeutically intervene with a variety of diagnostic categories. Outcome research will be reviewed and evaluated. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 675. Social Work Practice with Death, Dying and Loss (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course provides an overview of psychological, cultural, and professional perspectives of death and dying. Topics examined include health-related death, unexpected traumatic death, and bereavement following loss. Emotional impact of loss and coping strategies used to promote healing are explored. Letter grade only (A-F).
S W 677. Social Work Practice in Mental Health Services (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course focuses on social, economic and cultural factors as they affect social work practice in mental health services including the Recovery Paradigm and client-centered approaches that are in accordance with the California Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 678. Play Therapy with Children, Adolescents and Their Families (3)
Prerequisites: SW 500 and 503A.
This course explores the use of play therapy as a social work practice intervention. It focuses on the modality of play as a means of helping children, adolescents, and their families in a therapeutic setting. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 679. Psychopathology: Assessment and Treatment in Social Work Practice (3)
Prerequisites: SW 503A and SW 503B.
This course prepares students to assess and diagnose psychopathology using diagnostic tools such as the Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM). Ethical challenges presented in the use of these tools in social work practice will be addressed. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 680A. Advanced Field Education I (3)
Prerequisites: SW 596A and SW 596B. Corequisite: SW 620 or SW 630 or SW 650.
First of two semesters of field placement in area of specialization. Seminar experience utilizes group process to develop advanced competencies. Emphasis is placed on case presentation, demonstration and evaluation of practice skills, supervision use, cultural responsiveness, and professional ethics. Credit/No Credit grading only. Course fee may be required. Seminar 1 hour, clinical process 2 hours. Two hours bi-weekly in field seminar and 16 hours in agency placement required.

S W 680B. Advanced Field Education II (3)
Prerequisite: SW 680A. Corequisite: SW 670.
Continuation of specialization field placement. Seminar is facilitated by students with support from the instructor. Focus is on integration of graduate coursework and professional development within the context of multicultural practice. Content includes preparation for master’s level social work employment. Credit/No Credit grading only. Course fee may be required. Seminar 1 hour, clinical process 2 hours. Two hours bi-weekly in field seminar and 16 hours in agency placement required.

S W 683. Brief Treatment (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course covers the methodologies used in brief and/or time limited clinical treatment. Models of brief therapy, empirical research and diverse client populations are explored. Reviews ethnic, gender, and other issues related to the use of this treatment approach. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 690. Selected Topics in Graduate Social Work (3)
Prerequisites: Consent of school.
Topics of special interest in social work selected for intensive study. Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units with different topics. Topics announced in the Schedule of Classes.

S W 691. Non-Violent Conflict Resolution (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course is designed to help students examine conflict, their own and others' responses to conflict situations on the intrapersonal, interpersonal and community levels, and to learn to deal with conflict in a productive, non-violent manner. Letter grade only (A-F).
S W 692. Spirituality in Social Work Practice (3)
Prerequisite: SW 503A.
This course examines issues pertaining to spiritually sensitive social work practice. The rich and diverse forms of spiritual expressions and religious and philosophical ideologies that may be espoused by clients are explored. Letter grade only (A-F).

S W 698A. Thesis or Project I (3)
Prerequisites: SW 594A, 594B. Completion of 30 MSW units with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, and advancement to candidacy.
Under the direction of the Thesis/Project Advisor, the student completes a thesis/project proposal, instruments and IRB protocol (if applicable), and drafts literature review.
Letter grade only (A-F). A grade of "B" or better is required for successful completion.

S W 698C. Applied Social Work Project: Part I (3)
Prerequisites: Completion of foundation coursework with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, and advancement to candidacy.
This first course of a 2-semester sequence is a culminating experience incorporating analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of the MSW curriculum. Implementation of knowledge, skills, values, and practice methods related to all size systems is emphasized using a multicultural perspective.
Letter grade only (A-F). A grade of "B" or better is required for successful completion.

S W 699A. Thesis or Project II (3)
Prerequisite: SW 698A.
Under the direction of the Thesis/Project Advisor, the student finalizes the literature review and completes the remaining chapters (typically, introduction, methodology, results, discussion and implications) of thesis/project.
Letter grade only (A-F). A grade of "B" or better is required for successful completion.

S W 699C. Applied Social Work Project: Part II (3)
Prerequisites: SW 698C.
This second course of a 2-semester sequence is a continuation of a culminating experience incorporating analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of the curriculum. Implementation of knowledge, skills, values, and practice methods in all size systems is emphasized using a multicultural perspective.
Letter grade only (A-F). A grade of "B" or better is required for successful completion.
Admission to the Master of Social Work (MSW) Program
Students are admitted by University Enrollment Services to the MSW Program for the fall semester each year. Prospective students should apply directly to the University and then to the School of Social Work. International students must also apply to the Center for International Education. The School of Social Work begins accepting applications the first week of October for admission the following fall semester.

Application & Deadlines
Applicants must follow the instructions provided in the MSW Application Guidelines that are posted on our website. Applicants must apply to the University and submit their application packet to the School of Social Work by the designated deadline for admission to the MSW program the following fall semester.

Admission Requirements
To be admitted to the MSW Program, applicants must meet the following criteria:
1. Hold a bachelor's degree and be eligible for admission to graduate status at CSULB.
2. Demonstrate satisfactory academic achievement as evidenced by a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or above on a 4.0 scale.
3. Completion of a prerequisite course in elementary statistics with a grade of "C" or better.
4. Submission of a complete School of Social Work MSW application packet.
5. Preadmission interviews may be required by the School of Social Work faculty.

NOTE: The GRE is not required.

Admission to MSW Advanced Standing Program
Applicants who have a 3.0 GPA and hold an undergraduate degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program may be provisionally admitted to the MSW Advanced Standing program. Applicants who are interested in our Advanced Standing program are encouraged to attend an MSW Information Meeting for more updated information.

Information Meetings
The School of Social Work offers information meetings for prospective applicants as an opportunity to learn more about the program and application process. Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to attend an information meeting in preparation for application to our program. The dates and locations of the meetings are posted on our website: http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/chhs/departments/social-work/master-of-social-work/information-sessions.html.