

## **Social Work (SW)**

Social Work is a dynamic, noble, and altruistic profession with a rich history of commitment to the needs of others, especially the most vulnerable in our society. To achieve this, social work has a dual focus: to assist the individual to function as effectively as possible in their environment and to work to create conditions in society that foster healthy growth and development, personal freedom, and human dignity. This unique dual focus allows social workers to become involved in activities and service provision that protect, promote, or restore the well-being of all people. As such, social workers are employed in areas such as education, healthcare, mental health, counseling, services to the aging, substance abuse services, corrections and criminal justice, child welfare services, services for the mentally and physically disabled, rehabilitation, veteran services, government, politics and social policy, community development, and other similar areas.

The Social Work Program at Pikeville College educates students in the generalist practice approach, with an emphasis on social work practice in rural Appalachia. All social work majors are provided the opportunity to “practice” social work in the field in an approved agency under the direction of professional social workers and Program faculty. Graduates of the Social Work program are equipped with the knowledge, values, and skills necessary to be competent entry-level social work professionals, as well as being prepared for graduate study in social work and other human service fields.

### **Criteria for Admission to the Social Work Baccalaureate Degree Program**

The following criteria have been established for admission to the Pikeville College Social Work program.

1. The applicant must be enrolled at Pikeville College.
2. The applicant must submit an application for admission to the Division of Social Sciences no later than the following dates:
  - a. Fall semester                      May 1\*
  - b. Spring semester                    October 1\*
3. The applicant must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 on all completed college work.
4. The applicant must have a minimum combined GPA of 3.00 in PSY 110, SOC 119, and SW 215.
5. The applicant must complete the application process in its entirety. More detailed instructions can be found in the Social Work Program student Handbook.
6. The applicant must agree to a criminal background check, which is necessary for field education/practicum placement.
7. The applicant must review and sign a declaration to behave in a manner consistent with the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics at all times.

*\*Note: Admission to Pikeville College does not guarantee admission to the social work program.*

**Social Work Major**

Basic program for a baccalaureate degree:

- I. Core Requirements..... 52-56 hours
- II. Social Work Requirements..... 45 hours

Social Work (39 hours)

SW 220	Development of Social Welfare.....	3
SW 315	Human Behavior in the Social Environment .....	3
SW 334	Professional Ethics .....	3
SW 340	Generalist Social Work Practice I: Individuals and Families .....	3
SW 350	Generalist Social Work Practice II: Groups.....	3
SW 360	Generalist Social Work Practice III: Organizations and Communities .....	3
SW 380	Professional Communication Skills.....	3
SW 400	Social Welfare Policy: Theory and Practice .....	3
SW 495	Senior Seminar-Capstone.....	3
SW 497	Social Work Practicum I.....	6
SW 498	Social Work Practicum II.....	6

Electives (6 hours)

Electives in SW, PSY, SOC, CJ, and/or ANT..... 6  
(Excluding SW 215, PSY 110, and SOC 119)

- III. Related Studies Requirements ..... 6 hours
- PSY 285 Statistics of the Social Sciences  
*or*
- MTH 200 Statistics..... 3
- PSY 300 Experimental Psychology I  
*or*
- SOC 300 Research Methods..... 3
- IV. General electives as needed to meet the minimum requirements of 128 semester hours.

**Social Work Minor**

Minor Requirements ..... 21 hours

SW 215	Introduction to Social Work.....	3
SW 220	Development of Social Welfare.....	3
SW 315	Human Behavior in the Social Environment .....	3
SW 400	Social Welfare Policy: Theory and Practice .....	3
SW	Electives must be at 300-400 level .....	9

**Social Work Course Descriptions**

**SW 215 Introduction to Social Work .....(3)**

An introduction to the social work profession, its philosophy, and value commitments to social welfare. Course will examine social work from its origins to current trends and influences. An overview of social work education is also discussed giving particular attention to social work values and ethics, generalist practice theory, diversity and populations-at-risk, social work roles, and an exploration of various practice settings. Course also includes a service learning component to orient students to the profession. *Required of social work majors and recommended to be taken during first year. Prerequisites or corequisites: PSY 110 and SOC 119.*

**SW 220 Development of Social Welfare .....(3)**

A survey and analysis of the social, cultural, economic, and political forces which have influenced the development of social welfare policies in the United States. The impact of these policies on various populations-at-risk is examined with special attention given to the impact of specific social welfare policies on the Appalachian region and its people. Course includes an examination of the role of the social work profession in the development of social welfare policy. Course also includes a discussion of contemporary social welfare policy and its impact on generalist social work practice. *Required of social work majors and open to others. Prerequisites or corequisites: 3 hours in PSY and 3 hours in SOC; recommended that SOC 221 to be taken prior or concurrently.*

**SW 305 Social Work Practice in Medical Settings .....(3)**

A description and examination of the role of social work practice in the healthcare delivery system, including the areas of hospital based medical case management, hospice care, and home healthcare within a bio-psycho-social framework. Course emphasis social work roles and intervention. *Prerequisite: BIO 100/101 or beyond.*

**SW 315 Human Behavior in the Social Environment .....(3)**

This course presents and discusses the interrelatedness of the biological, psychological, social, cultural, economic, and environmental factors, which influence human development and behavior, and presents theories from various disciplines to assist in describing, explaining, and predicting human development and behavior. Special attention is given to diversity, specifically ethnicity, race, gender, social class, and sexual orientation and its relation to human development and behavior. *Required of all social work majors and open to others. Prerequisites: 3 hours in PSY and 3 hours in SOC; recommended that ENG 112 or ENG 115 be completed prior to enrollment in course.*

**SW 334 Professional Ethics .....(3)**

This course provides an examination of the values and ethics inherent in the profession of social work. Basic philosophical underpinnings of various ethical approaches are examined. Course emphasizes the development of ethical decision-making through a variety of learning experiences such as lecture, group discussion, and case study analysis. *Required of all social work majors and open to others. Prerequisites: 3 hours in PSY, 3 hours in SOC, and ENG 112 or ENG 115.*

**SW 340 Generalist Social Work Practice I: Individuals & Families .....(3)**

This is the first course in the social work practice sequence and presents the generalist practice model with emphasis on work with individuals and families. Course is designed to introduce the beginning student to the skills and practice of social work, including

interviewing, assessment, case management, and crisis intervention. Course includes a focus on the strength-based, planned-change or problem solving process and gives special attention to social work's obligation to populations-at-risk and the importance of cultural competence. *Prerequisite: SW 315 and Admission to the Social Work Program.*

**SW 343 Issues in Aging .....(3)**

The biological, psychological, social, and cultural aspects of aging are examined. Special attention will be given to topics such as ageism and physical and mental health issues among the elderly as they relate to social work practice. *Prerequisites: SW 315 and BIO 100/101 or beyond.*

**SW 350 Generalist Social Work Practice II: Groups.....(3)**

This is the second course in the social work practice sequence and presents the application of social work generalist practice skills in service delivery to groups. The course focuses on group work as a social work intervention method, stages of group development, group dynamics, and group processes. Students study the application of various theoretical approaches to social work with groups, including educational, support, self-help, and treatment groups. Special consideration is given to methods of group work with diverse client populations, particularly Appalachian people. Course includes an experiential learning component. *Prerequisite: SW 340 and Admission to the Social Work Program.*

**SW 360 Generalist Social Work Practice III: Organizations & Communities...(3)**

This is the third and final course in the social work practice sequence and presents the generalist practice model with emphasis on macro level social work with organizations and communities. Generalist practice knowledge and skills are expanded to include community assessment, community organizing, program planning, evaluation, acquisition of funding, and grant writing. The course focuses on macro social work in the rural, Appalachian community. The impact of oppression, discrimination, and prejudice on populations-at-risk, specifically those in Appalachia is discussed. *Prerequisite: SW 350 and Admission to the Social Work Program.*

**SW 380 Professional Communication Skills.....(3)**

This course provides information on the various professional communication tasks in social work and other related human service disciplines, such as APA style, case notes, poster presentations, court testimony, press releases, public service announcements, professional correspondence, email, op-ed articles, meeting minutes, agency reports and grant proposals, policy statements, and other relevant methods of communication. Course is designed to offer students the opportunity to become familiar with the various methods of communication in the human services, to practice and master professional communication skills, to peer critique the writing of colleagues, as well as revise their own writing after peer and faculty critique. *Required of all social work majors and open to others. Prerequisite: Junior standing or consent of the Instructor.*

**SW 390 Special Topics in Social Work..... (1-3)**

This course consists of small group study regarding issues of current and special significance for social work practice. Issues may include death and dying, racism and ethnic prejudices, global poverty, forensic social work, social work and law, social work and juvenile justice, AIDS, school social work, social work with gay and lesbian people,

and social work with oppressed people. This course may be repeated in a different topic for a maximum of six hours. *Prerequisite: Junior standing and consent of the Instructor.*

**SW 400 Social Welfare Policy: Theory and Practice .....(3)**

The course is an advanced course in social policy for students who have already obtained a basic understanding of the history and philosophy of the social work profession and its interrelatedness to the development of social welfare, as well as a foundational knowledge base of historical and contemporary patterns of social service provision. This course emphasizes policy practice. The first part of the course focuses on the analysis of social programs, policies, and of the policy making process at all levels. The second part of the course will be devoted to the development of the knowledge and skills related to advocacy, such as media relations, community organizing and coalition building, lobbying methods, campaign strategies, position taking, and proposal development. An important focus of the course is to identify and understand the impact of a wide range of social policies on social work clients and the human service delivery system within a social justice framework with specific attention given to rural, Appalachian clients and service delivery. The course content reflects the interdisciplinary efforts of the social, political, legal, economic, and administrative processes involved in policymaking at all levels. *Required of all social work majors and open to others. Prerequisites: SW 220 and ENG 112 or ENG 115.*

**SW 450 Mental Health Assessment .....(3)**

The course will examine the role of social workers in various mental health settings with special emphasis on assessment techniques, assessment tools, including scales, Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) criteria, and use of current DSM. Special attention given to social work roles in intervention and crisis stabilization. *Prerequisites: 15 hours of course work in either SW, PSY, SOC, CJ; recommended that PSY 323 or PSY 440 are completed prior to enrollment in course.*

**SW 495 Senior Seminar – Capstone .....(3)**

This course serves as the capstone course for the social work program and is designed to foster the integration of curriculum content, critical thinking, ethical problem-solving, and the use of informational resources in making decisions about social work practice. Additional focus of the course is on the preparation of students for continued professional development following graduation. In addition to course requirements, students will be expected to successfully complete a comprehensive exam. *Prerequisite: Admission to Social Work Program AND pre- or corequisite: SW 497.*

**SW 497 Social Work Practicum I .....(6)**

This course is the first course in a field instruction sequence, which provides educationally directed practice experience under the direct supervision of an approved, agency-based professional social worker in collaboration with social work program faculty. This course provides students with the opportunity to integrate the knowledge, values, and skills of generalist social work practice in the field setting with client systems of all sizes (individuals, families, small groups, organizations, and communities). Emphasis is placed on supervised practice in a rural, Appalachian setting. A total of 240 hours will be completed through agency-based, on-site experiential learning. Course also includes a weekly seminar designed to complement field placement by assisting students with the integration of knowledge, values, and skills acquired in social work

classes, applying that knowledge in the field, and the further development of generalist social work competencies. *Prerequisites: Admission to the Social Work Program AND admission to field education component as outlined in the Social Work Program Field Education Handbook.*

**SW 498 Social Work Practicum II.....(6)**

This course is the second course in a field instruction sequence, which provides educationally directed practice experience under the direct supervision of an approved, agency-based professional social worker in collaboration with social work program faculty. This course provides students with the opportunity to further integrate the knowledge, values, and skills of generalist social work practice in the field setting with client systems of all sizes (individuals, families, small groups, organizations, and communities). Emphasis is placed on supervised practice in a rural, Appalachian setting. A total of 240 hours will be completed through agency-based, on-site experiential learning. Course also includes a weekly seminar designed to complement field placement by assisting students with the further integration of knowledge and values, as well as further refinement of practice skills. *Prerequisites: SW 497 AND admission to field education component as outlined in the Social Work Program Field Education Handbook.*

**SW 499 Directed Individual Study in Social Work ..... (1-4)**

Directed study in a specific area or issue in social work not covered by existing courses within the curriculum. Interdisciplinary study is welcomed and encouraged. Student must be of junior or senior standing. Permission of instructor(s) granted upon approval of a student generated proposed plan of study. *Prerequisites: 21 hours of social work courses AND consent of the Instructor, Program Director, Division Chair, and Dean of the College.*