SOCIAL WORK/PUBLIC HEALTH (MSW/MPH)

The MSW/MPH dual degree program provides a multidisciplinary education covering both client-centered and population-based health perspectives to train those who will work to address the health and social needs of vulnerable populations. The dual degree program is designed to prepare social work and public health leaders who understand and respond to social and health issues in order to promote the well-being of communities at local and global levels. The program will have an emphasis on eliminating social and health inequities through transformative education, rigorous research, and active community engagement.

Curriculum

MSW/Master of Public Health

The MSW/MPH program blends coursework from the School of Social Work and the Master of Public Health (MPH) program.

Students in the dual degree will select the Micro Practice Specialization with Advanced Clinical Practice Track (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/social-work/msw-specializations-tracks/advanced-clinical-practice-track/). Within the MPH program, students complete the Public Health Policy and Management (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/health-sciences/master-public-health-mph/) track.

The focus of the **MSW Program** is to prepare students to become practicing social workers in a variety of settings. The curriculum of the MSW program is designed to prepare students to have the knowledge and skills necessary for them to effectively intervene with and on behalf of the client systems that they serve.

The **MPH Program** provides students with the theoretical, methodological, and practical experience relevant to addressing contemporary public health issues. The MPH curriculum consists of required course work in all five areas of concentration in public health (Health Services Administration, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Environmental Health, and Social/Behavioral Health), track-specific and elective courses, and a practicum training experience, and a capstone project.

The dual degree has been carefully crafted to fulfill both program requirements while maximizing opportunities for curriculum integration through shared content. The resulting curriculum requires 75 credit hours which can be completed within three years on a full-time basis.

Code	Title	Hours
MPH Requirements		
MPH Core Courses		
MPBH 400	Determinants of Population Health	3
MPBH 402	Public Health Practice and Management	3
MPBH 403	Introduction to Epidemiology	3
MPBH 404	Biostatistics for Health and Biological Science	3
MPBH 407	Public Health Policy: Concepts and Practice	3
MPBH 499	Public Health in Action	3
Public Health Policy and Management Track Courses		
MPBH 416	Health Services Research Methods	3
MPBH 425	Policy Analysis	3
Management-oriented Courses		
MPBH 422	Population Health Planning & Management	3
CMAN 533	Fiscal Management in Health Care Organizations	3
Bioethics (BEHL) 400-Level Elective		*3*
Choose one of the following:		
BEHL 402	Justice & Health Care	
BEHL 404	Biomedical Ethics and Law	
BEHL 407	Social Determinants of Health and Bioethics	
BEHL 411	Systems Ethics Frameworks	
BEHL 412	Organizational Ethics I: Business, Professionalism, and Justice	
BEHL 418	Advancing Health Equity Practice	
BEHL 432	Global Bioethics	
MPH 400-Level Elective		6
MPBH 411	MPH Capstone	1-3
MSW Requirements		
Generalist MSW Courses		
SOWK 500	Life Span Development, Human Behavior, Trauma, & Theory	3
SOWK 501	Assessment of Client Concerns in Context	3
SOWK 502	Power, Oppression, Privilege, and Social Justice	3
SOWK 503	Practice Skills with Individuals and Families	3
SOWK 504	Integrated Micro/Mezzo/Macro Theory and Practice	3
SOWK 505	Group Work Practice in Social Work: Micro/Mezzo/Macro	3
SWII 530	Internship I & Simulated Experience	0.5
SWII 530S	Integrative Seminar	1
SWII 531	Internship II & Simulated Experience	0.5
Specialized Courses		
SOWK 680	Advanced Micro-Level Practice	3
SOWK 681	Advanced Mezzo & Macro Practice	3
SWII 632	Internship Instruction III & Simulated Experiences	0.5
SWII 632S	Integrative Seminar	1
SWII 633	Internship Instruction IV & Simulated Experiences	0.5
Micro Practice Specialization with Advanced Clinical Practice Track Courses		
SOWK 603	Seminar in Brief Treatment	3
or SOWK 645	Crisis Intervention	
SOWK 614	Clinical Social Work Practice in Health Care	3
Total Hours		**75**

Specialization & Track

The Social Work/Public Health (MSW/MPH) is only compatible with the Micro Practice Specialization with Advanced Clinical Practice Track (https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/social-work/msw-specializations-tracks/advanced-clinical-practice-track/).

Suggested Sequence of Courses

MPH and MSW Dual Degree Template - Micro Practice Specialization Management Focus, Micro Specialization-Advanced Clinical Practice Track
This option assumes field starts in year 2.

The below sequence of courses is meant to be used as a suggested path for completing coursework. An individual student's completion of

requirements depends on course offerings in a given term as well as the start term for a major or graduate study. Students should consult their advisor for assistance with course selection.

Course	Title	Hours
Year 1		
Fall		
SOWK 501	Assessment of Client Concerns in Context [1]	3
SOWK 503	Practice Skills with Individuals and Families [1]	3
MPBH 400	Determinants of Population Health [2]	3
MPBH 402	Public Health Practice and Management [2]	3
SOWK 502	Power, Oppression, Privilege, and Social Justice [1]	3
	Hours	**15**
Spring		
SOWK 500	Life Span Development, Human Behavior, Trauma, & Theory [1]	3
SOWK 504	Integrated Micro/Mezzo/Macro Theory and Practice [1]	3
MPBH 404	Biostatistics for Health and Biological Science [2]	3
	Hours	**9**
Summer		
SOWK 505	Group Work Practice in Social Work: Micro/Mezzo/Macro [1]	3
MPBH 407	Public Health Policy: Concepts and Practice (MSW elective) [2,3,4]	3
	Hours	**6**
Year 2		
Fall		
MPBH 403	Introduction to Epidemiology [2]	3
MPH Elective	Elective [2]	3
MPBH 416	Health Services Research Methods [2,4,5]	3
SWII 530	Internship I & Simulated Experience	0.5
SWII 530S	Integrative Seminar	1
	Hours	**10.5**
Spring		
CMAN 533	Fiscal Management in Health Care Organizations [2]	3
MPBH 499	Public Health in Action [2,4,7]	3
MPBH 425	Policy Analysis [2]	3
Select one of the following:		3
SOWK 603	Seminar in Brief Treatment [1]	
SOWK 645	Crisis Intervention [1]	
SWII 531	Internship II & Simulated Experience	0.5
	Hours	**12.5**
Summer		
SOWK 680	Advanced Micro-Level Practice [1]	3
BEHP 4xx	Bioethics Elective [2]	3
	Hours	**6**
Year 3		
Fall		
SOWK 614	Clinical Social Work Practice in Health Care [1]	3
MPBH 422	Population Health Planning & Management [2,4,8]	3
MPBH 411	MPH Capstone [2]	1
SWII 632	Internship Instruction III & Simulated Experiences	0.5
SWII 632S	Integrative Seminar	1
	Hours	**8.5**
Spring		
SOWK 681	Advanced Mezzo & Macro Practice [1]	3
MPH Elective	Elective [2]	3
MPBH 411	MPH Capstone [2]	1
SWII 633	Internship Instruction IV & Simulated Experiences	0.5
	Hours	**7.5**
	Total Hours	**75**

[1] MSW
[2] MPH
[3] Counts for SOWK 602 Health and Behavioral Health Policy and Systems
[4] Shared credit
[5] MPBH 416 Health Services Research Methods substitutes for SOWK 506 Research and Evaluation in Social Work Practice
[6] MPBH 410 MPH Practicum (1 hr credit sharing it will map to both SWII 530 Internship I & Simulated Experience and SWII 531 Internship II & Simulated Experience)
[7] MPBH 499 Public Health in Action substitutes for SOWK 509 Social Work Policy and Community Intervention
[8] MPBH 422 Population Health Planning & Management is equivalent to SOWK 606 Practicum in Research & Evaluation-counts as a Social Work elective

Dual Degree Programs

Students in dual degree programs are responsible for abiding by academic policies and graduation requirements of both academic units to which they are enrolled. It is strongly recommended that students schedule regular meetings with academic advisors from both units to ensure timely degree completion. Dual degree programs may have slightly different degree requirements from the standard for one or both of the degrees earned. Students should closely read through all degree requirements and ask for clarification as needed.

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/) under their school. Any additional University Policies supercede school policies.

MPH Learning Outcomes

Students will graduate with public health competencies in the areas of evidence-based approaches, public health and health care systems, planning and management, policy, leadership, communication, interprofessional practice, and systems thinking. For a description of the **MPH Learning Outcomes**, go to the **MPH Program** description page.

MSW PROGRAM SPECIALIZED MICRO LEARNING OUTCOMES

Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

Social workers have an obligation to conduct themselves ethically and to engage in ethical decision-making. Social workers are knowledgeable about the value base of the profession, its ethical standards, and relevant law. Social workers recognize and manage personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice; make ethical decisions by applying standards of the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics and, as applicable, of the International Federation of Social Workers/International Association of Schools of Social Work Ethics in Social Work, Statement of Principles. Social workers tolerate ambiguity in resolving ethical conflicts and apply strategies of ethical reasoning to arrive at principled decisions. Advanced practitioners in clinical social work are knowledgeable about ethical issues, legal parameters, and shifting societal mores that affect the therapeutic relationship.

1. Demonstrate professional use of self as a social worker, reflecting knowledge of personal professional strengths, limitations, challenges, and cooperatively resolving interpersonal conflicts.
2. Demonstrate ethical use of advanced modalities in practice and any related technological applications.
3. Demonstrate capacity to fulfill ethical obligation for advocating for social justice for clients, specifically anti-oppressive practice.
4. Be able to recognize and manage ethical violations and resolve conflicting ethical obligations.

Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice

Social workers understand how diversity characterizes and shapes the human experience and is critical to the formation of identity. The dimensions of diversity are understood as the intersectionality of multiple factors including age, class, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, political ideology, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation. Social workers appreciate that, as a consequence of difference, a person's life experiences may include oppression, poverty, marginalization, and alienation as well as privilege, power, and acclaim. Social workers recognize the extent to which a culture's structures and values may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or create or enhance privilege and power; gain sufficient self-awareness to eliminate the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse groups; recognize and communicate their understanding of the importance of difference in shaping life experiences; and view themselves as learners and engage those with whom they work as informants. Advanced practitioners are knowledgeable about many forms of diversity and difference and how these influence the therapeutic relationship and clients' presenting issues. Advanced practitioners are knowledgeable about the ways in which various dimensions of diversity affect (a) explanations of illness, (b) help-seeking behaviors, and (c) healing practices (Cal-SWEC, 2006). Advanced practitioners are cultural beings and understand how clinical practice choices can be culture-bound.

1. Demonstrate understanding of discrimination patterns in society and how macro, mezzo and micro-level oppression impacts micro-level social work practice with regard to race, class, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, age and any other social categories in which oppression occurs.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the impact of intersectionalities of marginalized identities and associated oppressions and plans practice accordingly.
3. Consistently uses self-reflexivity to examine and manage one's own biases based on oppressive patterns in society.

Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice

Upon completion of a learned understanding of advanced human rights, social, economic and environmental struggles of people, advanced micro practice social work students are able to identify their own roles in advocating for change. Identifying ways in which they can respect the dignity of others, honor social justice, and demonstrate ideals based on evidence-based practice research, students are able to present their critical thinking skills for individuals in the micro field of social work practice.

1. Understands the human rights perspective as a way to integrate systemic change into micro-level practice, including global economic, ecological, human rights, and migratory patterns as they impact client systems.
2. Ability to articulate human rights violations the client and client's system are experiencing, including environmental and economic issues that endanger the health of the client system.
3. Demonstrates the ability to formulate how the practice is advancing the client and client system's human rights.

Competency 4: Engage In Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice

Students at the advanced level of micro practice are able to evaluate diverse clinical models and evaluate applicable research methodologies in order to make the best determination of applicability to particular client needs. Practice-informed research includes qualitative and quantitative ways of understanding what constitutes effective practice, considering the positionality of the clinician researcher and the social/political/historical context of the research.

1. Demonstrate understanding of and be able to contribute to the evaluation of social research regarding advanced practice.
2. Be able to critically evaluate and select potential practice models relevant for the clients' systems.

Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice

Social workers understand that human rights and social justice, as well as social welfare and services, are mediated by policy and its implementation at the federal, state, and local levels. Social workers understand the history and current structures of social policies and services, the role of policy in service delivery, and the role of practice in policy development. Social workers understand their role in policy development and implementation within their practice settings at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels and they actively engage in policy practice to effect change within those settings. Social workers recognize

and understand the historical, social, cultural, economic, organizational, environmental, and global influences that affect social policy. They are also knowledgeable about policy formulation, analysis, implementation, and evaluation. Social workers:

1. Communicate to stakeholders and policymakers the implications of policies and policy change in the lives of clients.
2. Conduct and design a plan of organizational analysis and change, working with relevant constituencies, to evaluate interventions that impact clients and communities utilizing best practice models reflecting social work values, ethics, and the mission of the organization.
3. Collect, maintain, interpret, and analyze data from both internal and external organizational environments, the community of stakeholders and diverse client groups to identify and prioritize social problems.
4. Recognize how oppression and social injustice affects client groups, organizations and communities and being proactive in intervening for human rights and justice.
5. Understand strategies and techniques for advocating at local, state, and federal levels in policy development.

Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

At the specialized level social workers build on their generalist understanding of engagement by practicing with a variety of cases involving individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities both in the classroom and in the field. Social workers critically analyze their knowledge of human relationships within a social/political/historical context applying an ecological perspective to advance practice effectiveness.

As they deepen their grasp of how their personal experiences and affective reactions impact their ability to effectively engage with diverse clients and constituencies, they are able to apply their skills in relationship-building and inter-professional collaboration to facilitate engagement with clients, constituencies, and other professionals as appropriate. This includes taking into consideration the effects of the macro environment, such as issues around migration and its impact on client systems at the micro levels.

1. Implements and describes the use of reflective listening tools when needed to engage and empower members of families, and groups.
2. Applies culturally appropriate resources available to assist with problem solving.
3. Recognizes and describes self-reflective competency in identifying bias, countertransference, and potential microaggressions when engaging diverse client systems.

Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Once social workers understand that assessment is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice within a diverse and antiracist framework, they can use their relational skills to select and apply theories of human behavior taking into consideration the social/political environment. In addition, they can critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to facilitate assessment of needs with clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers relate methods of assessment with diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers integrate the larger practice context in the assessment process such as migration and other factors and include interprofessional collaboration as relevant. Social workers are self-aware and can articulate the ways in which their personal experiences and affective reactions may influence their assessment and decision-making, including social dimensions of privilege. Social workers at the specialized level also:

1. Collect and organize data to support their professional decision-making as well as demonstrate critical thinking to interpret information from clients and constituencies.
2. Illustrate knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the analysis of assessment data from clients and constituencies understanding the lack of political neutrality in their work.
3. Exemplify a process in which mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives are generated based on the critical assessment of strengths, needs, and challenges within clients and constituencies in their social environment; and
4. Convey a deeper understanding of how to select appropriate intervention strategies informed by assessment, research knowledge, and values and preferences of clients and constituencies through the exercise of antiracist practice principles.

Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Social workers understand they have a plethora of treatment models from which to choose in tailoring interventions to be maximally effective with clients. Remaining up to date about the multiple forms of available evidence concerning the effectiveness of these models for client systems, social workers choose models that are most suited to advance the client's self-determination and to empower the client in relation to larger social systems that often are oppressive. Social workers co-formulate intervention goals with clients, ensuring those are revised as the client accomplishes one goal and seeks to move on to the next. Social workers consider how the client responds to different ways social workers use themselves (active expressions empathy v. quiet listening, degrees of self-disclosure and reticence for instance) and examine how the client responds so as to offer the client a relationship that fosters engagement and client progress. Social workers attend to the powerful meaning the relationship can have for the client, understand dynamics of transference, relate using cultural humility so as to learn from clients about cultures different than the social worker's, refrain from words or actions that can hurt the client, and carry out treatment respectfully to advance the client's dignity and resilience.

1. Self-reflective understanding of the professional use of self in interventions with diverse types of client systems in order to understand and challenge oppressive social forces as well as to avoid perpetuating racist biases, microaggressions, and disempowerment of clients.
2. Using supervision and consultation appropriate to developing skills for advanced and interdisciplinary practice.
3. Demonstrating an ability to intervene collaboratively and collectively with clients in choice of treatment plans and their implementation.

Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

Social workers understand that evaluation of practice is an ongoing activity. Social workers plan ahead for evaluating the treatment by reflectively articulating choice of intervention theory and model, formulating intervention goals that are amenable to evaluation, and

planning how to keep notes that foster reflection about client progress. Social workers understand evaluation is participatory -- it occurs with clients in various ways both spontaneous and planned -- and so the social worker pays attention to client's opinions about whether and how the intervention is helpful. Social workers make use of a diversity of models for evaluating treatment, such as participatory consumer evaluation interviews with groups, organizations, and communities; process notes with individual clients, families, and groups; engaging communities and smaller systems in reflecting on those relationship processes that bring about desired changes. Social workers understand that interventions can unintentionally include discriminations (microaggressions) and continually evaluate their practice with an eye to remedying and avoiding those discriminations.

1. Demonstrate understanding of the logic and method of single case evaluation of practice from diverse theoretical and methodological perspectives.
2. Competently demonstrate case evaluation, including identifying problems and their resolution, the fulfillment of goals co-identified with client, and managing systemic problems that impinge on client well-being.
3. Demonstrates competence in incorporating client feedback processes in planning and carrying out the intervention plan.