MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK - ADVANCED LEVEL ONLINE BILINGUAL (MSW)

The Advanced Standing Online Bilingual Master of Social Work (MSW) alongside the regular program, is an innovative offering by the School of Social Work to ensure that communities have professional social workers who are linguistically competent and culturally aware of the nuances faced by individuals, families, groups, and communities when faced with receiving services. This unique program seeks to enhance the knowledge, values, and skills of all of you who have a passion to work with vulnerable, disenfranchised individuals in society. The program focuses on Mental Health and Migration Studies. Advanced Standing Students will complete a total of 31 credit hours to earn their MSW degree.

More than 90% of the courses are taught in Spanish by faculty who are language proficient in Spanish. Meaningful, application-oriented coursework and assignments will ensure that you are prepared to join the workforce with confidence and serve the people that need your support towards leading a sustained, fruitful, healthy life. Bilingual faculty and staff will be available to you for support and to ensure your journey through graduate education.

CURRICULUM

If you have earned a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), you can apply for the Advanced Standing program. Visit the MSW Advanced Standing Option page (https://www.luc.edu/socialwork/academics/graduate/programaavanzado-maestrabiilinguementrabajosocialmsw/curriculoprogramaavanzadoadvancedcurriculum/) to see if you qualify. Our curriculum is a well-thought-out sequence of courses that prepares you to practice as a professional social worker in your communities. The course content and training will also enable you to sit for the licensure exams in your respective states.

The academic curriculum of the Advanced Standing Bilingual MSW program is only 23 credit hours. This option allows recent BSW graduates to complete an MSW in just 4 consecutive semesters, including a Summer semester.

Advanced Level Courses

Click here to view an example of the academic plan: Example Academic Plan (Spanish/English) (https://www.luc.edu/media/lucedu/socialwork/ pdfs/academicadvising/obtemplates/Template%20-%20OBMSW%20Advanced%20Standing.pdf)

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<td>Advanced Mezzo &amp; Macro Practice</td>
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<td>SOWK 730</td>
<td>Immigration Dynamics and U.S. Social Policy</td>
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<td>SOWK 731</td>
<td>Social Work Practice with Refugees and Immigrants</td>
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<td>SOWK 732</td>
<td>Migration, Social Justice, and Human Rights</td>
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<td>Clinical Social Work with Older Adults</td>
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FIELDWORK

Basic Information about Field Practice

Completion of the field practicum requirements in the indicated time is required for graduation.

TRADITIONAL PROGRAM - TWO REQUIRED FIELD PRACTICES

- First level – 400 hours to be completed in 2-3 semesters
- Second Level – 600 hours to be completed in 2-3 semesters

ADVANCED PROGRAM - A REQUIRED FIELD PRACTICE

- Second Level – 600 hours to be completed in 2-3 semesters

FIRST LEVEL OF FIELD PRACTICE: DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the first level of field practice is to expose the student to the fundamental areas of social work. At this level, students do not provide individual or group therapy.

- 400 total hours; 10-15 hours per week for 2-3 semesters
- Field practice begins in the fourth semester of the program
- The student receives weekly supervision at the agency of his/her field practice

REQUIREMENTS FOR FIELD PRACTICE AGENCIES - FIRST LEVEL

- Work with the Latino community or refugee populations.
- You can train master’s students in social work for 2-3 consecutive semesters.
- Can provide general supervision during field practice.
- You can train students during non-traditional hours if needed (evenings no later than 9pm and weekends).
- To complete the internship at your workplace, review this PDF: Workplace Requirements and contact Field Practice Coordinator Vanessa Farias: vfarias@luc.edu

Second Level of Field Practice: Description

The purpose of the second-year field practice is for the student to implement his/her more advanced practice skills, including providing individual and/or group therapy services.

- 600 hours in total; 15-24 hours per week for 2-3 semesters
- Field practice begins in the seventh semester of the program.
- The student receives weekly clinical supervision at his/her field practice agency.

Requirements for Second Level Field Practice Agencies

- Work with the Latino community or refugee populations.
- You can train master’s students in social work for 2-3 consecutive semesters.
- Can provide clinical supervision during field practice.
- You can train students during non-traditional hours if needed (evenings no later than 9pm and weekends).
To complete the internship at your workplace, review this PDF: Place of Employment Requirements and contact Field Practice Coordinator, Susan Gallego: sgallego@luc.edu

Process for Applying for and Confirming Field Practice

The process requires the student to take initiative to identify agencies where they can complete their field practice, working together with the Field Practice Coordinator who will contact you via Loyola University Chicago email. This process can take several months and does not officially begin until the student receives an email from the Field Practice Coordinator.

If you have any questions or concerns about the field practice or process, please contact Susan Gallego, Field Practice Coordinator: sgallego@luc.edu

In general, the process consists of:

- The student identifies 3 agencies in his/her area, which follow Loyola’s requirements. They will receive access to this information once they begin the process.
- The coordinator evaluates the agencies selected by the student and communicates to the student which of the selected agency(s) was/were approved.
- The student completes the application for field practice through the SONIA system, the database used in the social work school to coordinate the internship.
- The student interviews with the agency(s). This process is similar to a job interview. The interview does not guarantee an offer.
- If the student receives one or more field internship offers, he/she can only accept ONE. If the student does not receive any offer, he/she has to start the process again.
- To ensure accreditation requirements are met, the agency and university must agree on a contract. Different agencies might have their own internal process. The university has no control over the time this process takes.
- The student begins his/her field practice once the contract has been signed with the agreed terms.

MSW Program Learning Outcomes

Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

Social workers understand the value base of the profession and its ethical standards, as well as relevant laws and regulations that may impact practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Social workers understand frameworks of ethical decision-making and how to apply principles of critical thinking to those frameworks in practice, research, and policy arenas. Social workers recognize personal values and the distinction between personal and professional values. They also understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions influence their professional judgment and behavior. Social workers understand the profession’s history, its mission, and the roles and responsibilities of the profession. Social Workers also understand the role of other professions when engaged in inter-professional teams. Social workers recognize the importance of lifelong learning and are committed to continually updating their skills to ensure they are relevant and effective. Social workers also understand emerging forms of technology and the ethical use of technology in social work practice. Social workers:

- make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, ethical conduct of research, and additional codes of ethics as appropriate to context;
- use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations;
- demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior, appearance, and oral, written, and electronic communication;
- use technology ethically and appropriately to facilitate practice outcomes; and
- use supervision and consultation to guide professional judgment and behavior.

Competency 2: Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice

Social workers understand how diversity and difference characterize and shape the human experience and are critical to the formation of identity. The dimensions of diversity are understood as the intersectionality of multiple factors including but not limited to age, class, color, culture, disability and ability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, immigration status, marital status, political ideology, race, religion/spirituality, sex, sexual orientation, and tribal sovereign status. Social workers understand 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 also understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and recognize the extent to which a culture’s structures and values, including social, economic, political, and cultural exclusions, may oppress, marginalize, alienate, or create privilege and power. Social workers:

- apply and communicate understanding of the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences in practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels;
- present themselves as learners and engage clients and constituencies as experts of their own experiences; and
- apply self-awareness and self-regulation to manage the influence of personal biases and values in working with diverse clients and constituencies.

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

Social workers understand that every person regardless of position in society has fundamental human rights such as freedom, safety, privacy, an adequate standard of living, health care, and education. Social workers understand the global interconnections of oppression and human rights violations, and are knowledgeable about theories of human need and social justice and strategies to promote social and economic justice and human rights. Social workers understand strategies designed to eliminate oppressive structural barriers to ensure that social goods, rights, and responsibilities are distributed equitably and that civil, political, environmental, economic, social, and cultural human rights are protected. Social workers:

- apply their understanding of social, economic, and environmental justice to advocate for human rights at the individual and system levels; and
- engage in practices that advance social, economic, and environmental justice.
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Competency 4: Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
Social workers understand quantitative and qualitative research methods and their respective roles in advancing a science of social work and in evaluating their practice. Social workers know the principles of logic, scientific inquiry, and culturally informed and ethical approaches to building knowledge. Social workers understand that evidence that informs practice derives from multi-disciplinary sources and multiple ways of knowing. They also understand the processes for translating research findings into effective practice. Social workers:

- use practice experience and theory to inform scientific inquiry and research;
- apply critical thinking to engage in analysis of quantitative and qualitative research methods and research findings; and
- use and translate research evidence to inform and improve practice, policy, and service delivery.

Competency 5: Engage in Police 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:

- identify social policy at the local, state, and federal level that impacts well-being, service delivery, and access to social services;
- assess how social welfare and economic policies impact the delivery of and access to social services;
- apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice.

Competency 6: Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
Social workers understand that engagement is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers value the importance of human relationships. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to facilitate engagement with clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand strategies to engage diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may impact their ability to effectively engage with diverse clients and constituencies. Social workers value principles of relationship-building and inter-professional collaboration to facilitate engagement with clients, constituencies, and other professionals as appropriate. Social workers:

- apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks to engage with clients and constituencies; and
- use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to effectively engage diverse clients and constituencies.

Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
Social workers understand that assessment is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in the assessment of diverse clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand methods of assessment with diverse clients and constituencies to advance practice effectiveness. Social workers recognize the implications of the larger practice context in the assessment process and value the importance of inter-professional collaboration in this process. Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may affect their assessment and decision-making. Social workers:

- collect and organize data, and apply critical thinking to interpret information from clients and constituencies;
- apply 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;
- develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives based on the critical assessment of strengths, needs, and challenges within clients and constituencies; and
- select appropriate intervention strategies based on the assessment, research knowledge, and values and preferences of clients and constituencies.

Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
Social workers understand that intervention is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers are knowledgeable about evidence-informed interventions to achieve the goals of clients and constituencies, including individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge to effectively intervene with clients and constituencies. Social workers understand methods of identifying, analyzing and implementing evidence-informed interventions to achieve client and constituency goals. Social workers value the importance of inter-professional teamwork and communication in interventions, recognizing that beneficial outcomes may require interdisciplinary, inter-professional, and inter-organizational collaboration. Social workers:

- critically choose and implement interventions to achieve practice goals and enhance capacities of clients and constituencies;
- apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in interventions with clients and constituencies;
• use inter-professional collaboration as appropriate to achieve beneficial practice outcomes;
• negotiate, mediate, and advocate with and on behalf of diverse clients and constituencies; and
• facilitate effective transitions and endings that advance mutually agreed-on goals.

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

Social workers understand that evaluation is an ongoing component of the dynamic and interactive process of social work practice with, and on behalf of, diverse individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities. Social workers recognize the importance of evaluating processes and outcomes to advance practice, policy, and service delivery effectiveness. Social workers understand theories of human behavior and the social environment, and critically evaluate and apply this knowledge in evaluating outcomes. Social workers understand qualitative and quantitative methods for evaluating outcomes and practice effectiveness. Social workers:

• select and use appropriate methods for evaluation of outcomes;
• apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the evaluation of outcomes;
• critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate intervention and program processes and outcomes; and
• apply evaluation findings to improve practice effectiveness at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels.