# SOCIAL WORK, BSW

**Banner Code:** HH-BSW-SOCW

## Admissions

### Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the social work program, a student must have

1. completed at least 45 credits with a GPA of 2.50 or higher;
2. completed or be registered in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 103</td>
<td>Introductory Biology II-Survey of Cell and Molecular Biology (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGH 101</td>
<td>Composition (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 101</td>
<td>Introductory Sociology (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 100</td>
<td>Basic Concepts in Psychology (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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3. earned at least a C in:

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<tr>
<td>SOCW 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Work (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCW 357</td>
<td>Methods of Social Work Intervention I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOCW 361</td>
<td>Methods of Social Work Intervention I: Laboratory</td>
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And at least two of the following courses:

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<td>SOCW 311</td>
<td>Building Professional Social Work Skills</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCW 312</td>
<td>Knowledge Building for Helping Professionals</td>
<td>3</td>
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### Immunization and Fees

All students who are enrolled in a course that requires a field placement (SOCW 495 Field Practicum and Seminar I and SOCW 496 Field Practicum and Seminar II) must have an annual tuberculosis screening (PPD). In addition, students must complete the entire hepatitis B immunization series in accordance with current U.S. Public Health Service recommendations. The cost of immunizations is the responsibility of the student. The majority of agencies used for field placements require fingerprinting, a criminal background check (may be more extensive than the university requirement), and a child

### Program Requirements

To earn a bachelor’s degree in social work, students must earn a grade of C or above in all Social Work classes applied to the major and must achieve a GPA of 2.50 overall. Class attendance is required in all Social Work courses. Before beginning SOCW 495 Field Practicum and Seminar I, students must successfully complete all required 200- and 300-level courses with a grade of C or above.

The Social Work faculty evaluates student performance periodically and may require students to withdraw from the program when, in their judgment, performance is not satisfactory. The decision is based on the quality of academic and field performance, as well as on personal fitness for the profession of social work. Students have the right to appeal.

A student with a criminal history may find it difficult to obtain a field placement or employment in a human service agency depending on the specific charge. It is possible that a student with a criminal background may not be able to be placed in a field practicum or complete their degree program. The Criminal Background Policy is available on the Social Work Department website (https://socialwork.gmu.edu/).
protective services check. Any cost related to these requirements is the responsibility of the student.

**Writing Intensive Requirement**
The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in the 300 level or above. Students majoring in social work fulfill this requirement by successfully completing SOCW 471 Research in Social Work.

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements
Total credits: 120

#### Mason Core

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<tr>
<td>ENGH 302</td>
<td>Advanced Composition (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">Link</a>)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Written Communication**

Any Mason Core Oral Communication course ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral)) 3

**Quantitative Reasoning**

Any Mason Core Quantitative Reasoning course ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative)) 3

**Information Technology**

Any Mason Core Information Technology course ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology)) 3-7

**Literature**

Any Mason Core Literature course ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature)) 3

**Arts**

Any Mason Core Arts course ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts)) 3

**Natural Science**

Any Mason Core non-lab Natural Science course ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science)) 3

Any Mason Core lab Natural Science course ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science)) 4

**Western Civilization**

HIST 100 History of Western Civilization (Mason Core) ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)) 3

or HIST 125 Introduction to World History (Mason Core) ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)) 3

**Global Understanding**

Any Mason Core Global Understanding course ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global)) 3

Total Credits 34-38

### Social Work Major

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**Statistics**

Select one from the following: 3-4

SOCW 390 Analytic Methods for Social Work Research

SOCI 313 Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (Mason Core) ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/))

PSYC 300 Statistics in Psychology

STAT 250 Introductory Statistics I (Mason Core) ([Link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/))

Total Credits 12-13

#### Electives

Select 32-34 credits of electives 1

Total Credits 32-34
Six credits must be in social work (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/socw/) at the 400- or 500-level, not including courses listed above; SOCW 499 Independent Study in Social Work may be used to satisfy an additional 1 to 3 credits toward general electives.

Notes
SOCW 357 Methods of Social Work Intervention I and SOCW 361 Methods of Social Work Intervention I: Laboratory (only offered in the fall semester) are prerequisites to SOCW 358 Methods of Social Work Intervention II and SOCW 362 Methods of Social Work Intervention II: Laboratory (only offered in the spring semester). Graduation may be delayed if courses are not taken in proper sequence.

Selected Social Work electives are offered each semester on a rotating basis.

4-Year Plan

Bachelors of Social Work in Social Work Sample Plan of Study

Detailed four year plans can be found at https://chhs.gmu.edu/students/academic-advising (https://chhs.gmu.edu/students/academic-advising/)