



# MSW Course Descriptions

Please note, course availability is subject to change at the discretion of the MSW Program Office.

This list will be updated each semester, and the most recent version can be found [here](#) under Curriculum Guides.

<u>Course Delivery Formats</u>
A: Asynchronous Online
S: Synchronous Online
H: Hybrid Online
C: On Campus
N: Not offered this term

ELECTIVES		Hrs		SP 2026	SU 2026
<b>SWK 5001</b>	Writing For Agency Practice	3	This course provides an introduction to professional documentation and record keeping, including informed consent forms, biopsychosocial histories, treatment plans, progress notes, termination summaries, and professional correspondence.	A	A
<b>SWK 5002</b>	Lifespan Approaches to HIV Prevention	3	This course provides participants with a multidisciplinary perspective on HIV prevention and treatment, including its etiology, epidemiology, and impact on individuals and society. Students will explore the evolution of the HIV epidemic in the United States over the last four decades through a public health lens, considering population-based health promotion strategies.	A	A
<b>SWK 5003</b>	Global Perspectives of Gender Based Violence	3	This course will provide a comprehensive understanding of the global perspectives of Gender Based Violence (GBV) by examining the historical and current causes and impact of GBV both nationally and globally, and from a social work perspective.	N	N
<b>SWK 5004</b>	International Social Work	3	This course examines a variety of social issues through a global perspective in order to fully appreciate the role of culturally diverse and country-specific responses to social problems.	A	A
<b>SWK 5005</b>	Human Trafficking: Domestic and Global Perspectives	3	This course provides a comprehensive understanding of domestic and global human trafficking by examining the causes and economics of human trafficking from a social work perspective.	A	A

<b>SWK 5006</b>	Sexualities, Diversity, and Social Work	3	In this course the diversity of sexual identities, beliefs, behavior, and lifestyles are explored in the context of social work's mission, values, and ethics for professional practice.	C	S
<b>SWK 5007</b>	Child Welfare I	3	This is the first of a series of two child welfare courses designed to provide the knowledge, concepts, and tools for beginning level practice in public and private child welfare. This course focuses on interventions to protect children by strengthening, supporting, and empowering their families.	A	A
<b>SWK 5008</b>	Child Welfare II	3	This is the second in a series of two child welfare courses. This course focuses on protecting children through strengthening and supporting their families. It addresses the developmental and permanence needs of children in the child welfare system. Prerequisite or Concurrent: SWK 5007.	A	A
<b>SWK 5009</b>	Family Caregiving: Contemporary Issues, Programs, and Policies	3	This course provides students from a variety of disciplines with the opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills to address the needs of individuals providing care for a chronically ill or disabled family member or friend. Programs and policies in place to support caregivers are analyzed and contemporary challenges faced by caregivers are discussed.	A	A
<b>SWK 5011</b>	Loss and Grief: A Social Work Practice Perspective	2	This course examines the theoretical, cultural, social and personal aspects of loss and grief and introduces students to approaches and interventions with diverse populations.	N	S
<b>SWK 5012</b>	Social Work Approaches to Conflict Resolution	2	This course introduces negotiation and mediation skills from a social work perspective to resolve conflict in work with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.	C	N
<b>SWK 5013</b>	Integrative Body-Mind-Spirit	2	This course introduces knowledge and skills regarding assessment and treatment techniques pertaining to a holistic approach of mind, body, and spirit treatment.	C	S
<b>SWK 5014</b>	Juvenile Delinquency and Correctional Practice in Social Work	3	This course provides students with knowledge about social work with juvenile and adult offenders. Theories about criminal offending and interventions with both juveniles and adults are covered.	S	S
<b>SWK 5015</b>	Social Work and the Law	3	This course examines ways that social workers can use the law and legal process to advocate for social justice. The purpose is to teach students the legal concepts and principles that shape social welfare policy and impact social work practice. It will also discuss ways students can use this knowledge to influence the legal process and advocate on both a micro and macro level.	A	A, H

<b>SWK 5016</b>	Affirmative Social Work Practice with Individuals, Couples, and Families	3	With focus on practice application, this course provides a comprehensive overview of the salient psych-social issues and life-course phenomena distinctive to the LGBTQ experience and affirmative interventions.	A, C	A
<b>SWK 5021</b>	Summer Institute of Addiction Studies	1	The Addiction Studies Institute provides students with state of the art information in working within the field of substance dependency/prevention. The goal is to provide the latest information in treatment planning, prevention, intervention, family work, wellness and recovery and current trends impacting service delivery systems.	N	S
<b>SWK 5023</b>	Family Violence: Social Work Perspectives and Interventions	3	This is a team-taught course, in collaboration with The Center for Family Safety and Healing, which introduces the fundamental knowledge and concepts for working with victims of all types of family violence. The factors that contribute to family violence and the long term consequences are emphasized. The importance of multidisciplinary teams in responding to family violence is addressed.	C	N
<b>SWK 5024</b>	SW Licensure Exam Strategies and Skills	2	This course provides instruction on test taking strategies and developing a study plan and learning content and strategies to pass the Bachelors/Masters level licensure exam.	S	S
<b>SWK 5025</b>	Social Determinants of Health: An Interdisciplinary Perspective	3	This course prepares students to practice in diverse health settings, with diverse populations, by providing knowledge regarding theories/frameworks related to social determinants of health and skills to apply them. Service provision for underserved populations within an interdisciplinary framework and the importance of social policy to service provision will be emphasized.	S	N
<b>SWK 5029</b>	SocWork Career Development	1	This course will familiarize students with professional development tools and skills. Students will learn how to create a professional portfolio to interview, negotiate, network, and job search; to market their strengths, create a LinkedIn account, build their resume, negotiate during or after a job interview, and engage in workplace professionalism.	S	N
<b>SWK 5030</b>	Global Social Work Perspectives on Poverty and Inequality	3	This course examines the nature and dimensions of poverty and inequality in the U.S. and across the world, considers individual and social consequences of poverty, and examines historic and contemporary approaches to ameliorating poverty including review of major poverty and social welfare policy and programs. It focuses on helping students understand why poverty matters to social workers.	C	N

<b>SWK 5031S</b>	Neurodiversity: Building Cultural Competence with Developmental Disability	3	This course teaches about engaging with neurodiverse individuals, particularly those with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Students will learn from the neurodiversity model, which views neurological differences like autism and ADHD as normal and natural variations in the human genome. This is a service-learning course with in-person and asynchronous components.	N	N
<b>SWK 5517</b>	Social Work Practice in Schools I	3	This course is designed to provide students with an intro to social work practice in school settings. Students will examine the history of school social work, state and federal education laws, educational issues and policies, conceptual frameworks, and service delivery models with an emphasis on behavioral interventions, case management services, psychoeducation and working with parents/caregivers.	A	A
<b>SWK 5805</b>	Theories and Biological Basis of Substance Misuse	3	The focus of this course is to explore traditional and contemporary theories, and their supporting evidence, related to substance misuse and the etiology of substance use disorders (including addiction). Satisfactory completion of introductory psychology and introductory biology course content is preferable/recommended, but not required.	A	A
<b>SWK 5806</b>	Diagnosis and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders	3	The focus of this course is to introduce concepts and current issues related to screening, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment for individuals with potential substance use disorders. It is designed to meet chemical dependency educational content for Ohio's Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor credentials. Prereq or Concurrent: SWK 5805.	A	A
<b>SWK 5807</b>	Preventing Substance Misuse	3	This course introduces students to evidence-based strategies and techniques that are used to prevent individuals from developing a substance use disorder; focuses on prevention as a science and highlights several theories and methodologies that govern prevention practice. Designed to meet chemical dependency educational content for Ohio's Licensed Chemical Dependency Board's Prevention Professional credentials. Prereq or Concurrent: SWK 5805.	A	A
<b>SWK 5808</b>	Group and Relationship Approaches to Addressing Substance Misuse	3	This course introduces evidence-based, evidence-supported, and evidence-informed models and techniques for group, family, and relationship-based interventions concerning substance misuse. It surveys the evidence and techniques applied in group intervention for addressing substance misuse and related problems. Course is designed to meet educational content for Ohio Chemical Dependency credentials. Prereq or Concurrent: SWK 5805.	A	A

<b>SWK 5809</b>	Intervening with Individuals Regarding Substance Misuse	3	This course introduces students to evidence-based, evidence-supported, and evidence-informed strategies and techniques used with individuals to treat a substance use disorder. It is also designed to meet chemical dependency educational content for Ohio's Licensed Chemical Dependency Board's Prevention Professional credentials. Prereq or Concurrent: SWK 5806	A	A
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<b>CORE COURSES</b>		<b>Hrs</b>		<b>SP 2026</b>	<b>SU 2026</b>
<b>SWK 6188</b>	Preparing for Field Education	1	This course is designed to prepare students for a successful and meaningful field education experience. By providing an orientation to field education, policies and procedures, training on resource acquisition, safety, mental wellness and self-care, students will be ultimately prepared to be active learners and leaders in field.	A	A
<b>SWK 6189</b>	Foundation Field Practicum	2	The focus in field practicum during this part of the educational program is on core social work competencies and learning activities with interrelated and interdependent human systems: individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Prereq or Concurrent: SWK 6501 and SWK 6188	Off-campus	Off-campus
<b>SWK 6201</b>	Social Justice, Social Systems, and Social Problems	3	This course will provide students with foundation knowledge related to social justice in the context of social welfare in advancing human rights of all people. The historical and current issues and trends related to social and economic justice will be presented in the context of social work practice and theory at all levels (i.e. micro, meso, macro). Not open to ASAP students.	A, H, C	A, H, C
<b>SWK 6202</b>	Culturally Responsive Social Work	3	This course provides students with foundational tools & conceptual frameworks for effective & culturally responsive, anti-oppressive, & anti-racist social work practice with vulnerable individuals, communities, & groups with an understanding of historical & contemporary disadvantage. Students will be introduced to relevant theoretical frameworks & the significance of diversity & cultural responsiveness. Not open to ASAP students.	A, H, C	A, H, C
<b>SWK 6301</b>	Soc Work Perspectives on Development and Behavior Across the Lifespan	3	This course provides an overview of biopsychosocial processes of human development that influence individuals' behavior across the lifespan in order to conduct effective prevention and intervention plans. Not open to ASAP students.	A, H, C	A, H, C

<b>SWK 6302</b>	Organizational & Community Systems	3	This course critically examines explanatory theory regarding the functioning of human service organizations, residential institutions, and communities with applications to social work assessment and intervention. Not open to ASAP students.	A, H, C	A, H, C
<b>SWK 6401</b>	Engaging with Evidence	3	This course helps students develop the requisite values, skills, and knowledge for beginning to apply evidence in identifying, selecting and evaluating social work practices at all levels of intervention and for introducing those aspects of engaging with evidence that are critical to developing well-reasoned proposals for social work services and intervention programs based on social work evidence. Not open to ASAP students.	A, H, C	A, C
<b>SWK 6501</b>	Generalist Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups	3	This course will provide instruction on professional values, knowledge, and skills essential for effective social work generalist practice interventions with individuals, families, and groups. Concurrent: SWK 6601. Not open to ASAP students.	A, H, C	A, H, C
<b>SWK 6601</b>	Professional Values and Ethics	1	This course provides students with an intro to and appreciation of the ethical principles that underlie social work practice. Emphasis is placed on the historical, philosophical, and legal foundations giving rise to these ethical principles. Students will be exposed to the roles and skills expected of a social work leader, especially in the context of ethical decision-making and ethical dilemma resolution. Concurrent: SWK 6501. Not open to ASAP students.	A, H, C	A, S
<b>SWK 7189</b>	Advanced Field Practicum	1-4	An internship in a social work agency where students will integrate advanced classroom knowledge and skills with practice experiences. Prereq: SWK 6189 or SWK 7400.	Off-Campus	Off-Campus
<b>SWK 7400</b>	Evidence in Social Work Practice (ASAP only)	2	This course is designed for ASAP students to develop knowledge, values and skills about evidence to inform practice and prepare to analyze evidence at all levels of practice. Prereq: ASAP status.	A	N
<b>SWK 7401</b>	Social Work Evaluation I	3	This is a two semester course sequence focusing on how to evaluate social work practice and programs. Over the two semesters students will learn how to design an appropriate evaluation strategy, select relevant outcome measure, collect and analyze evaluation data, and use evaluation outcomes to guide practice and policy decisions. Prereq: SWK 6401 or SWK 7400.	A, C	A
<b>SWK 7402</b>	Social Work Evaluation II	3	This is the second part of the 7401/7402 sequence in which students will conduct an evaluation as part of their field practicum and report the results of the evaluation to demonstrate mastery of these essential social work skills. Prereq: SWK 7401.	A, H, C	A

<b>SWK 7500</b>	Professional Development (ASAP only)	2	This course for ASAP students introduces knowledge, skills, and values needed to prepare for and engage in the second year field practice experience. Prereq: ASAP status.	A	A, C
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<b>ADVANCED PRACTICE COURSES</b>		<b>Hrs</b>		<b>SP 2026</b>	<b>SU 2026</b>
<b>SWK 7510</b>	Strengths-Based Clinical Social Work with Individual Adults (Micro course)	3	In this course, students will learn several research-informed clinical social work approaches for working with the strengths of individual adults to effect client change such as solution-focused therapy, narrative therapy, strategic therapy, and cognitive-behavioral therapy. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7511</b>	Clinical Social Work with Children and Adolescents (Micro course)	3	The course focuses specifically on the preschool, school aged children and adolescents and provides an overview of: 1) the background of mental health treatment of children/adolescents; 2) development in context; 3) developmental psychopathology; 4) the helping process; and 5) common childhood/adolescent disorders. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7512</b>	Clinical Social Work with Couples & Families (Micro course)	3	This course emphasizes a treatment approach that views family members as making up an interlocking system that is the context for the formation and resolution of problems of the family and its members. This course focuses on the family as the client rather than individual family members.	A, S	N
<b>SWK 7513</b>	Clinical Social Work with Groups (Micro course)	3	This course focuses on the process and methods of advanced clinical social work with groups using various theoretical approaches with different types of groups and member diversity in various settings. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	S	N
<b>SWK 7514</b>	Behavioral Methods in Social Work (Micro course)	3	In this course, students will learn the fundamental principles and practice of cognitive behavioral treatment (CBT) methods in social work across a variety of settings, practice problems, and client populations. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	C	N

<b>SWK 7515</b>	Crisis Intervention and Trauma Treatment (Micro course)	3	This course covers different approaches and common steps involved in intervening with clients experiencing a crisis. Given that many clients find experiencing a crisis to be traumatic, this course will also cover several research-informed approaches for treating trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A, S, C	A
<b>SWK 7516</b>	Assessment and Diagnosis in Clinical Social Work Practice (Micro course)	3	This course looks at patterns of human behavior and psychosocial functioning conceptualized as psychopathology, deviance, and/or responses to extreme stress. The content addresses such concepts as function and dysfunction, mental health and mental illness, and normality and abnormality. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A, S, H, C	A, C
<b>SWK 7517</b>	Social Work Practice in Schools (Micro course)	3	This course prepares students to work effectively in the education setting as a licensed school social worker. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7518</b>	Advanced Case Management (Micro course)	1.5	In this course, students will develop competencies needed in the provision of case management services to address various complex client problems. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7519</b>	Advanced Practice in Motivational Interviewing (Micro course)	1.5	In this course, students will learn advanced practice knowledge, skills, and values related to engaging clients in motivational interviewing conversations for the purpose of promoting their intentional behavior change processes. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A, S	A
<b>SWK 7520</b>	Pharmacotherapy in Social Work Mental Health and Substance Abuse (Micro course)	1.5	This course is a survey of key principles, issues, and social work practice implications related to common interventions involving medications for addressing mental health and substance abuse problems. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7524</b>	Resilience in Performance Contexts (Micro course)	3	This course focuses on intervention skills & strategies to build resilience & mental strengths in various populations & individuals. Includes cognitive, emotion-regulation & behavioral intervention techniques for individual & group social work practice. Apply knowledge of generalist practice to use of resilience-building skills in high performance careers (healthcare), youth, military populations, performing arts, vulnerable populations & more. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	C	N

<b>SWK 7530</b>	Needs Assessment and Program Design (Macro course)	3	This course is designed to introduce methods of program development and design, and the skills for program implementation and management, needs assessment and program design for collective decision-making in organizations, systems and communities. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7531</b>	Resource Acquisition for Human Service Organizations (Macro course)	3	This course discusses methods of acquiring financial and material resources for human service programs through grant writing, fund raising, lobbying, and campaigns. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	N
<b>SWK 7532</b>	Supervision and Human Resource Management (Macro course)	3	This course is an overview of models and specific skills used in social work supervision and effective management of the human resources which are appropriate to both clinical and community practice settings. The focus of the course is to acquire knowledge and skills needed to manage human service workers effectively. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7533</b>	Financial Management (Macro course)	3	This course provides basic knowledge and skills of financial management, in the context of management control, in non-profit, human service organizations. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	S	N
<b>SWK 7534</b>	Prevention Strategies in Social Work Practice (Macro course)	1.5	This course examines prevention models and theories, the evidence surrounding specific preventive interventions, and practice issues related to implementing prevention approaches. The course content and assignments provide students with a conceptual background of the development of prevention approaches to mental and behavioral health concerns. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7550</b>	Community Practice and Development (Macro course)	3	This course prepares students for social work practice in community settings including engagement, assessment, intervention, evaluation in community practice. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	S	N
<b>SWK 7551</b>	Strategic Planning for Organizational and Community Change (Macro course)	3	This course uses strategic planning methods for engaging others; assessing strengths, needs, and environment; setting goals; developing plans; fostering support and partnerships; and evaluating and monitoring results. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	S	N
<b>SWK 7570</b>	Policy Analysis and Social Legislation Processes (Macro course)	3	This course covers the legislative process of social welfare policy making and provides analytical skills of policy analysis to help legislators with policy choices at	A	N

			both state and federal government levels. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500		
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AREA OF EMPHASIS COURSES		Hrs		SP 2026	SU 2026
<b>SWK 7610</b>	Integrative Seminar I on Aging and Health (emphasis on Aging)	3	This class will introduce students to the critical issues, theories, and knowledge needed to understand and work with older persons in the 21st century. The intent is to provide students with a broad introduction to the field of gerontology and a foundation for which students can study late life in greater depth in other courses in the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization on Aging. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7611</b>	Integrative Seminar II on Aging & Health (emphasis on Health)	3	This is the second of two integrated seminars offers in the aging and health practice area. This course covers health care system models and the roles of social workers with emphases on ethical care and diversity in health beliefs and behavior. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7620</b>	Integrative Seminar I on Mental Health and Substance Abuse (emphasis on Mental Health)	3	This is the first of two integrated seminars offered in the mental health and substance abuse practice area. This course surveys: mental health practice approaches; mental health program and policy issues; mental health research and evaluation. Critical consideration is given to issues relevant to mental health and mental illness across time and stakeholder interests. Students examine public, professional, cultural, economic, and political influences on the development and delivery of mental health care. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A, S	A, S
<b>SWK 7621</b>	Integrative Seminar II on Mental Health and Substance Abuse (emphasis on Substance Abuse)	3	This is the second of two integrated seminars offered in the mental health and substance abuse practice area. Surveys social work practice, program, and policy issues, theories, and evidence related to substance use, misuse, abuse, and dependency across the lifespan. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A, S, C	A, S
<b>SWK 7630</b>	Integrative Seminar I on Child and Youth Services	3	This is the first of two integrated seminars offered in the child and youth services practice area. It provides students with the opportunity to develop beginning level knowledge and skills for social work practice in the field of services to children and families, as well as knowledge of policies which affect practice in this field. The course is an integrative seminar to explore the continuum of services,	A	A

			programs, and policies which affect families and children. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500		
<b>SWK 7631</b>	Integrative Seminar II on Child and Youth Services	3	This is the second of two integrated seminars offered in the child and youth services practice area. It prepares students with competencies essential for working with children, youth, and families in various service settings. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A, S	A
<b>SWK 7640</b>	Integrative Seminar I on Community and Social Justice	3	This is the first of two integrated seminars offered in the community and social justice practice area. It focuses on multiple social systems associated with social and economic inequality. Social intervention and social work practice are critically reviewed for advancing community and social justice. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A	A
<b>SWK 7641</b>	Integrative Seminar II on Community and Social Justice	3	This is the second of two integrated seminars offered in the community and social justice practice area. It further develops knowledge of community and social justice practice, develop and/or practice skills in the classroom community, explore professional interests that coincide with future goals, and develop strategies for sustainability of selves in this work. Prereq: SWK 6201, 6301, 6401, and 6501; or SWK 7400 and 7500	A, C	A

<b>INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES</b>		<b>Hrs</b>		<b>SP 2026</b>	<b>SU 2026</b>
<b>SWK 7717</b>	Interdisciplinary Perspective on Dev. Disabilities	3	This course provides an introduction to the psychosocial, medical, and educational implications of developmental disabilities.	N	N
<b>SWK 7718</b>	Interdisciplinary Perspective on Autism Spectrum Disorders	3	This course teaches the analytical skills necessary to comprehend and formulate an interdisciplinary framework relating to major scientific and theoretical perspectives in autism spectrum disorders.	C	N