



Texas A&M-Commerce
Social Work Department

Hello,

We are pleased that you are considering the Master of Social Work program at Texas A&M University-Commerce. We think ours is an exciting, and challenging, program that will prepare you for a fulfilling career in the Social Work profession.

Please read the attached documents carefully and complete them in full. These documents and forms are also available online at <http://www7.tamu-commerce.edu/socialwork/admission-msw.htm> to fill and print. Successful applicants are admitted to the two year program start in the fall of the year.

Students admitted to Advanced Standing must have completed their BSW degree within seven years of their expected date of graduation.

A Request for Reference form is in your application packet. Please complete the top portion of that form and mail one directly to each of the three people you plan to use as a reference. See the instructions for information as to who should be included as a reference.

If you have additional questions about the application process feel free to call Dr. Orren Dale at 903-468-3007 in the Department of Social Work.

Again, thank you for choosing Texas A&M University-Commerce as the place to pursue your graduate education!

Sincerely,

Ed Skarnulis

Edward R. Skarnulis, Ph.D.
Professor and Department Head
Department of Social Work



MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

APPLICATION PROCESS CHECKLIST

AS YOU COMPLETE THE APPLICATION PROCESS, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING CHECKLIST TO BE SURE YOU HAVE INCLUDED EVERYTHING. (*You may keep this form for your records*)

- ❑ Application form completed and sent to the graduate school.
- ❑ \$35.00 Application fee forwarded to the graduate school with application.
- ❑ One copy of official transcript from each college attended sent to the social work department. If you are a graduate of TAMU-Commerce there is no need to request transcripts as they are on file here. For all other students, please remember it can take as long as six weeks for transcripts to be forwarded.
- ❑ Reference list form sent with application to the social work department.
- ❑ One ***Request for Reference*** sent to each of your three references. These should be returned directly to the social work department.
- ❑ Resume or Curriculum Vitae sent to the social work department (Please include your mailing address, telephone number, and email address).
- ❑ Autobiographical statement sent to the social work department.
- ❑ GRE test taken and scores sent to the social work department. For information contact <http://www.gre.org/ttindex.html>

The Graduate School Application may be completed online at:
<http://www7.tamu-commerce.edu/gradschool/Applications/Application.shtml>



MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The Master of Social Work program at Texas A&M-Commerce is designed to meet the educational needs for social workers in the northeast region of Texas. Candidacy status was approved by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in February 2002.

The program prepares students for advanced generalist social work practice. The focus is on the rural and increasingly urban communities located in Northeast Texas. The challenge of social work practice in rural communities often includes the lack of existing services, the need to identify and develop new resources and the essential need to collaborate with existing agencies to provide the most beneficial services to the client population.

All courses in the MSW program are taught evenings and weekends.

PROGRAM ADMISSION OPTIONS

Three options for admission to the social work program include:

Regular Admission – This is a full-time, two-year program offered over four regular semesters and one summer. The course work and sequencing of courses is included below. Regular admission is the option open to students whose major is in a non-social work area.

Advanced Standing Admission – Applicants who have a BSW from a CSWE accredited program may apply for Advanced Standing Admission.

Part-time Admission – Part time status is available to both Regular and Advanced Standing students. Applicants interested in the part-time program complete the application process and indicate in their personal statement that they are applying for part-time status. In this program, the first or foundation year courses are taken over two years with the field practicum in the second semester of the second year. The concentration or second year and the Advanced Standing program may also be taken as part-time study over two years. The two semesters of field practicum during the concentration year may be completed in two consecutive semesters or in a block placement.



ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

A successful applicant must show evidence of the capacity to complete graduate-level work as evidenced by past academic performance. The MSW program will admit students who show the greatest capacity to complete graduate-level work and become effective social work practitioners. Students will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, creed, national origin, age, disability status, sexual orientation or gender. The program is committed to recruiting applicants who represent a diverse population.

In addition to the GRE and GPA admission criteria, the program requires three references (one of whom must be a previous professor or supervisor of paid or unpaid employment); an autobiographical statement; official transcripts from previously attended colleges/universities; a resume; and the application form.

Those students enrolled in the Advanced Standing program either full or part-time will take seven three-credit hour courses, two five-credit hour field internships, and one four-credit hour special projects course for a total of thirty-five hours.

The minimum admission requirements for the MSW program are as follows:

- **A four-year bachelor's degree from an accredited college/university.**
- **A Liberal Arts background**
- **A 3.0 GPA however, applicants with a 2.75 GPA and a 3.0 (4.0 scale) in the last sixty hours of the bachelor's degree will be considered.**
- **A Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score Transcript. These must be received prior to acceptance into the program. Remember it can take as long as six weeks for transcripts to be forwarded. There is currently no required minimum score on the GRE-it is used to assess mastery of undergraduate content.**
- **An autobiographical statement. Specific requirements for this statement are included in this packet.**
- **Three references, one of which must be from an undergraduate professor or supervisor of a paid or unpaid social services agency.**

NOTE: To be eligible for Advanced standing, the applicant must be admitted to the MSW program within seven years of receipt of the accredited BSW degree.

Applications are reviewed in the order in which they are received. Studies commence the following year. Advanced Standing students begin studies in the summer. The two year program begins in the Fall semester.



**MSW Program
(Full Time) for Fall 2003**

(This curriculum will be in effect for all incoming students, both regular and advanced standing)

Fall -Admission to Two Year Program



FALL- FULL TIME FOUNDATION	sch	Level
SWK 511 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	3	F
SWK 501 Generalist Practice with Individuals & Families	3	F
SWK 521 Foundations of Social Welfare Policy	3	F
SWK 541 Social Justice for Oppressed Populations	3	F
TOTAL sch SEMESTER	12	12
SPRING- FULL TIME FOUNDATION	sch	Level
SWK 513 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II	3	F
SWK 503 Generalist Practice: Groups, Organizations, Communities	3	F
SWK 531 Research for Practice	3	F
SWK 553 Foundation Field Practicum I	1-5	F
TOTAL sch SEMESTER	14	26
FALL- FULL TIME CONCENTRATION	sch	Level
SWK 505 Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals	3	C
SWK 595 Research Literature And Techniques	3	C
SWK 555 Advanced Generalist Field Practicum I	1-5	C
SWK 506 Advanced Generalist Practice with Families	3	
TOTAL sch SEMESTER	14	40
SPRING- FULL TIME CONCENTRATION	sch	Level
SWK 508 Social Work Supervision and Administration	3	C
SWK 507 Communities, Organizations and Social Policy	3	C
SWK 509 Advanced Generalist Practice with Groups	3	C
SWK 557 Advanced Generalist Field Practicum II	1-5	C
TOTAL sch SEMESTER	14	54
SUMMER- FULL TIME CONCENTRATION	sch	
SWK 590 Seminar in Advanced Generalist Practice	3	C
SWK 597 Elective	3	C
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/TOTAL	6	60



**MSW Proposed
Part Time Program Sequence**



Fall -Admission to Two Year Program



YEAR ONE FALL-FOUNDATION	HRS	
SWK 511 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I	3	F
SWK 541 Social Justice for Oppressed Populations	3	F
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	6	6

YEAR ONE SPRING-FOUNDATION	HRS	
SWK 521 Foundations of Social Welfare Policy	3	F
SWK 501 Generalist Practice with Individuals & Families	3	F
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	6	12

YEAR ONE SUMMER-FOUNDATION	HRS	
SWK 513 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II	3	F
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	3	15

YEAR TWO FALL-FOUNDATION	HRS	
SWK 503 Generalist Prac-Groups, Organizations, Communities	3	F
SWK 531 Research for Practice	3	F
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	6	21

YEAR TWO SPRING-FOUNDATION	HRS	
SWK 553 Foundation Field Practicum I	1-5	F
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	5	26

END OF FOUNDATION YEAR COURSES



**Summer-Admission to Advanced Standing
(BSW Students and those who have completed the foundation content)
Concentration Course Sequence**



YEAR TWO SUMMER-CONCENTRATION	HRS	
SWK 597 Elective	3	C
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	3	29

YEAR THREE FALL- CONCENTRATION	HRS	
SWK 595 Research Literature And Techniques	3	C
SWK 505 Advanced Generalist Practice with Individuals	3	C
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	6	35

YEAR THREE SPRING- CONCENTRATION	HRS	
SWK 508 Social Work Supervision and Administration	3	C
SWK 506 Advanced Generalist Practice with Families	3	C
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	6	41

YEAR THREE SUMMER- CONCENTRATION	HRS	
SWK 507 Communities , Organizations and Social Policy	3	C
SWK 509 Advanced Generalist Practice with Groups	3	C
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	6	47

YEAR FOUR FALL - CONCENTRATION	HRS	
SWK 555 Advanced Generalist Field Practicum I	1-5	C
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	5	52

YEAR FOUR SPRING - CONCENTRATION	HRS	
SWK 557 Advanced Generalist Field Practicum I	1-5	C
SWK 590 Advanced Generalist Practice Seminar	3	C
TOTAL sch SEMESTER/RUNNING	5	60

