



Robert Stempel College  
of Public Health  
& Social Work

## Master of Social Work Program

### Personal Narrative Statement

We wish to evaluate as accurately as possible your qualifications for professional education in social work and the appropriateness of the program for your educational needs and goals. Therefore, it is important you write fully developed responses so that we may have a substantial basis upon which to make an evaluation. This is one of the most important parts of your admission folder. Consider it your opportunity to tell the Admissions Committee about yourself. As you prepare your statement, make certain you give the committee members a clear picture of your interests, experiences, and objectives. Include in the statement information about your personal philosophy, value system, and personal experiences relevant to professional social work. In addition, the committee is interested in your view of the profession of social work and how you see yourself using your graduate social work education in the future.

Your personal statement is confidential in its use by the School.

- 1- What do you see as the basic purpose(s) of the social work profession and the function(s) of social workers?
- 2- Which current social problem(s) present(s) the greatest concern to you? What view do you have about the way in which such problems(s) could be prevented or ameliorated?
- 3- How early or recent family, peer group, educational, extended travel, work (volunteer or employed), community, or research experience contributed significantly to your motivation for, and/or understanding of, the field of social work?
- 4- What can you assess as your strengths and weaknesses in relationship to the education and practice of social work? What unique interest or educational need, if any, so you have?
- 5- At this point in time, why is graduate education in social work the best way for you to realize your goals? What are your future goals if you become a professional social worker?
- 6- Does the School of Social Work graduate program have an area of concentration central to your interest?
- 7- Feel free to add other information you believe relevant.

**NOTE:** This personal statement must be double-spaced, with 12 pt. font and 1-inch margins. It must be **five pages** in length. All questions must be answered in a narrative/essay format. They should not be answered in a question and answer format. Please note that this is not a research paper. Narrative must be uploaded to the Graduate Admissions Application Center portal.