



Robert Stempel College
of Public Health
& Social Work

Welcome to the School of Social Work MSW New Student Orientation

Spring 2026



FIU's MSW 2 Year Breakdown

❖ **Year One - Generalist:** Beginning generalist practice with individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations.

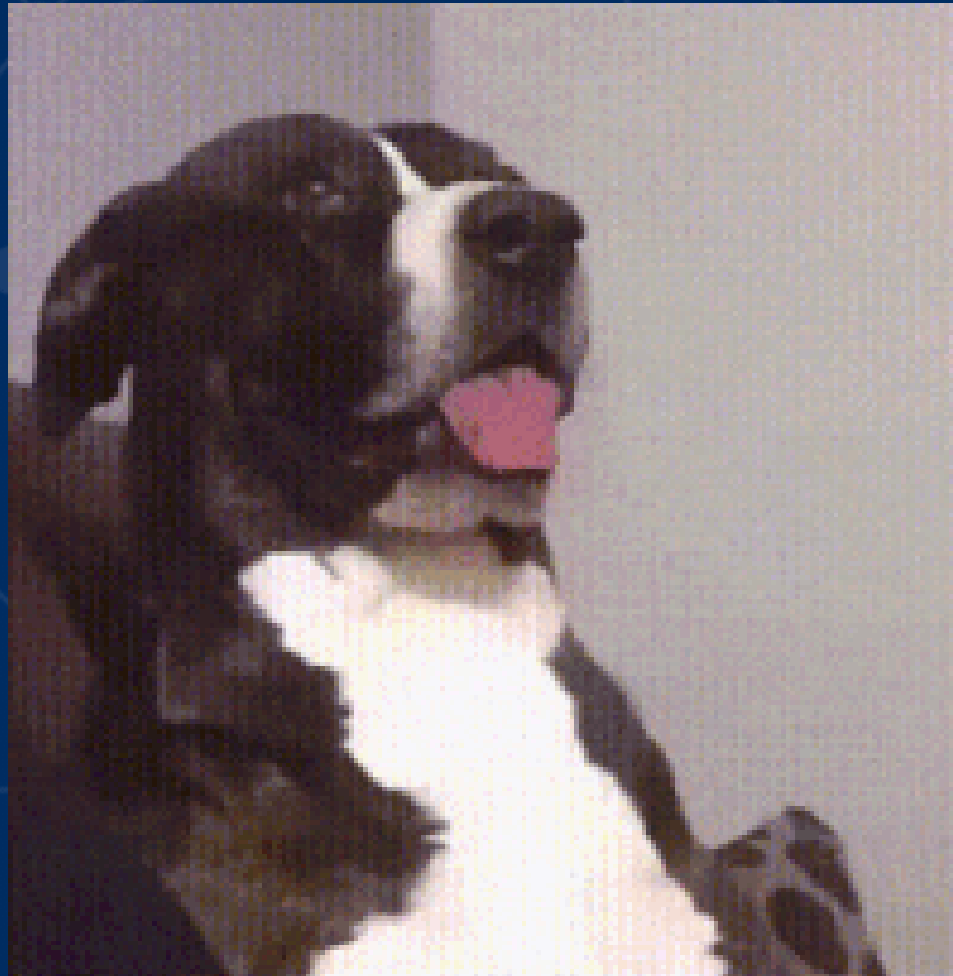
❖ **Year Two – Specialization:** Advanced Clinical Practice



First things First ALWAYS check your
FIU email.



E-Advising Is NOT Used in Grad School



Core Competencies

- **Competency 1:** Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
- **Competency 2:** Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
- **Competency 3:** Engage Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Practice
- **Competency 4:** Engage In Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice
- **Competency 5:** Engage in Policy Practice
- **Competency 6:** Engage with Individuals, Families, and Groups
- **Competency 7:** Assess Individuals, Families, and Groups
- **Competency 8:** Intervene with Individuals, Families, and Groups
- **Competency 9:** Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, and Groups

Course Tracks

**Two Year
(60 credit hours)**

**Advanced Standing
(33 credit hours)**

***Must have a BSW
and GPA at or above
3.25**

Two-year

- Full-time: 4-5 semesters
- Part-time: 6-9 semesters

Advanced Standing

- Full-time: 2-3 semesters
- Part-time: 3-5 semesters

***Part-time option not available
for MSW practicum**

**Most courses
offered Monday –
Thursday**

5PM – 7:40PM

7:50PM - 10:30PM

**Modesto Maidique
Campus**

Prerequisites

- Missing pre-requisites??*
- **MUST be completed during the first term**
 - Biology with human content (BSC 2023; will take an equivalent: BSC 1010, BSC 1005, BSC 2085, BSC 2086)
 - Statistics (STA 2023, STA 2122)
 - Twelve (12) credits in social science courses (Psychology, Sociology, American Government/Political Science, Economics)

* Check admission letter for notification of missing pre-reqs

Master of Social Work (MSW) 60 Credit Program Plan

All new students are required to see the social work advisor before registering for classes. For course descriptions, see University Catalog: <http://catalog.fiu.edu/>.

Year One – Generalist

Block I	Block II
<p><u>SOW 5105 – Human Behavior and the Social Environment I (3cr)</u> Pre-req: BSC 2023 – Human Biology (Acceptable substitutions: BSC 1005, BSC 1010, BSC 2010, BSC 2085, BSC 2086, PCB 2099)</p> <p><u>SOW 5235 – Social Welfare Policy and Services I (3cr)</u> Pre-req: No Pre-Req</p> <p><u>SOW 5342 – Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families (3cr)</u> Pre/Co-req: SOW 5105 – Human Behavior and the Social Environment I Co-req: SOW 5379L – Interviewing Skills Lab</p> <p><u>SOW 5379L – Interviewing Skills Lab (3cr)</u> Co-req: SOW 5342 – Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families</p> <p><u>SOW 5404 – Social Work Research Methodology (3cr)</u> Pre-req: STA 20122 – or – STA 2023 – Statistics</p>	<p><u>SOW 5344 – Theory and Practice with Communities & Organizations (3cr)</u> Pre-req: No Pre-Req</p> <p><u>SOW 5629 – Social Work Practice with Diverse Populations (3cr)</u> Pre-req: SOW 5342 – Social Work Practice with Individuals & Families</p> <p><u>SOW 5324 – Theory and Practice with Groups (3cr)</u> Pre-req: SOW 5342 – Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families Co-req: SOW 5532 – Field Practicum I</p> <p><u>SOW 5532 – Field Practicum I – MSW I* (3cr)</u> Pre-req: Block I Co-req: SOW 5324 – Theory and Practice with Groups <i>Pre/Co-reqs: SOW 5344 – Theory and Practice with Communities & Organizations; SOW 5629 – Social Work Practice with Diverse Populations</i> * Clinical Fee - \$200</p>

Year Two – Specialization

Block III	Block IV
<p><u>SOW 6125 – Human Behavior and the Social Environment II - Psychopathology (3cr)</u> Pre-reqs: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses</p> <p><u>SOW 6236 – Social Welfare Policy & Services II (3cr)</u> Pre-reqs: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses</p> <p><u>SOW 6435 – Evidence Based Social Work Practice (3cr)</u> Pre-reqs: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses</p> <p><u>SOW 6425 – Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning (3cr)</u> Pre-reqs: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses Co-req: SOW 6533 – Field Practicum II</p> <p><u>SOW 6533 – Field Practicum II – MSW II ** (3cr)</u> Pre-reqs: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses Co-req: SOW 6425 – Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning <i>Pre/ Co-reqs: SOW 6125 – Human Behavior and the Social Environment II; SOW 6236 – Social Work Policy and Services II; SOW 6435 – Evaluating Empirically Based Social Work Practice</i> ** Clinical Fee - \$100</p>	<p><u>SOW 6351 – Clinical Intervention in Couple and Family Social Work Practice (3cr)</u> Pre-reqs: Block III Co-req: SOW 6534 – Field Practicum III</p> <p><u>SOW 6534 – Field Practicum III – MSW III *** (6cr)</u> Pre-reqs: Block III Co-req: SOW 6351 – Clinical Intervention in Couple & Family Social Work Practice *** Clinical Fee \$200</p>
	<p>Additional Course Requirements:</p> <p>SOW XXXX – Clinical Social Work Elective (3cr) SOW XXXX – Clinical Social Work Elective (3cr) PHC 6500 – Foundations of Public Health Practice (3cr)</p> <p>Total Credits: 9</p>

When applying to practicums, students must meet the following requirements: (1) Minimum GPA of 3.00 (2) Completion of each course in Block I with final grade of 'B' or better, and (3) Proven Readiness. Please see advisor for clarification as no exemptions are allowed.

Practicum Application deadlines:

September 5th - Spring
January 5th - Summer
May 5th - Fall

Office of Field Education:

<https://stempef.fiu.edu/academics/school-social-work/>

Robert Stemple College of Public Health and Social Work
School of Social Work
Master of Social Work (MSW) 33 Credit Program – Non-FIUBSSW

All new students are required to see the social work advisor before registering for classes. For course descriptions, see University Catalog: <http://catalog.fiu.edu/>.

Year Two – Specialization

Block III	Block IV
<p>SOW 6125 – Human Behavior and the Social Environment II – Psychopathology (3cr) Pre-req: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses</p> <p>SOW 6236 – Social Welfare Policy & Services II (3cr) Pre-req: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses</p> <p>SOW 6435 – Evidence Based Social Work Practice (3cr) Pre-req: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses</p> <p>SOW 6425 – Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning (3cr) Pre-req: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses Co-req: SOW 6533 – Field Practicum II</p> <p>SOW 6533 – Field Practicum II – MSW II ** (3cr) Pre-req: Advanced Standing status or All Foundation Year Courses Co-req: SOW 6425 – Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning <i>Pre/ Co-reqs: SOW 6125 – Human Behavior and the Social Environment II; SOW 6236 – Social Work Policy and Services II; SOW 6435 – Evaluating Empirically Based Social Work Practice</i> ** Clinical Fee - \$100</p>	<p>SOW 6351 – Clinical Intervention in Couple and Family Social Work Practice (3cr) Pre-req: Block III Co-req: SOW 6534 – Field Practicum III</p> <p>SOW 6534 – Field Practicum III – MSW III *** (6cr) Pre-req: Block III Co-req: SOW 6351 – Clinical Intervention in Couple & Family Social Work Practice *** Clinical Fee \$200</p>
<p>Additional Course Requirements:</p> <p>SOW XXXX – Clinical Social Work Elective (3cr) SOW XXXX – Clinical Social Work Elective (3cr) PHC 6590 – Foundations of Public Health Practice (3cr)</p> <p>Total Credits: 9</p>	

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Note: Admitted advanced standing students with BSSW grades lower than a 'B' will be required to complete the equivalent graduate courses in the first term of the MSW program. The course equivalencies are as follows:

<u>Final Grade 'B-' or less in BSSW Course:</u>	<u>Must retake MSW Equivalent:</u>
SOW 3113 The Social Environment and Human Behavior I SOW 3100 The Social Environment and Human Behavior II	SOW 5105 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I *Pre-req to SOW 6125 HSBE II
SOW 3232 Social Welfare Policy & Services I SOW 3233 Social Welfare Policy & Services II	SOW 5235 Social Welfare Policy and Services I *Pre-req to SOW 6236 Policy II
SOW 3203 Introduction to Social Work - and/or - SOW 3313 Social Work Practice with Families and Individuals	SOW 5342 Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning
SOW 3350 Interviewing Techniques Lab	SOW 5379L Interviewing Skills Lab *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning
SOW 3404 Social Work Research	SOW 5404 Social Work Research Methodology *Pre-req to SOW 6435 Evaluating Empirically Based Social Work Practice
SOW 3620 Social Work & Human Diversity	SOW 5629 Social Work Practice with Diverse Populations *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning
SOW 4322 Social Work Practice with Groups	SOW 5324 Theory and Practice with Groups *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning
SOW 4332 Social Work Practice with Communities and Organizations	SOW 5344 Theory and Practice with Communities and Organizations *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning

Revised Summer 2022

Robert Stemple College of Public Health and Social Work
School of Social Work
Master of Social Work (MSW) 33 Credit Program – FIUBSSW

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<p>Additional Course Requirements:</p> <p>SOW XXXX – Clinical Social Work Elective (3cr) SOW XXXX – Clinical Social Work Elective (3cr) SOW XXXX – Clinical Social Work Elective (3cr)</p> <p>Total Credits: 9</p>	

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SOW 3203 Introduction to Social Work - and/or - SOW 3313 Social Work Practice with Families and Individuals	SOW 5342 Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning
SOW 3350 Interviewing Techniques Lab	SOW 5379L Interviewing Skills Lab *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning
SOW 3404 Social Work Research	SOW 5404 Social Work Research Methodology *Pre-req to SOW 6435 Evaluating Empirically Based Social Work Practice
SOW 3620 Social Work & Human Diversity	SOW 5629 Social Work Practice with Diverse Populations *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning
SOW 4322 Social Work Practice with Groups	SOW 5324 Theory and Practice with Groups *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning
SOW 4332 Social Work Practice with Communities and Organizations	SOW 5344 Theory and Practice with Communities and Organizations *Pre-req to SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning

Revised Summer 2022

Graduate Certificate Programs

- Graduate Certificate in Addictions
- Graduate Certificate in Child Welfare
- To apply for a certificate, please see the University Graduate School Admission Page:
http://gradschool.fiu.edu/documents/Certificate_Application.pdf
- Applications should be completed and processed prior to graduation term

Field Practicum/Internship



Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE) Signature Pedagogy

- Apply theories and concepts learned in class; engage in practice behaviors to achieve competencies
- Discover what you may/may not enjoy
- Requires emotional and physical commitment:
 - All are significant time commitments (at least the same as a part-time job)
 - Must practice self-awareness and self-regulation to serve at-risk, vulnerable populations (not “just” working a shift)

Applying for Field Practicum/Internship

Plan to apply for field during the semester before you plan to begin field.

* Be sure to go over pre-requisites for field (listed in field manual) with advisor before applying for field.

Semester You Plan to Begin Field	Application Due Date
Spring	September 5 th
Summer	January 5 th
Fall	May 5 th



MSW II & III Only



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Applying for Field Practicum/Internship

Step 1: Visit the Stempel website to contact Field Faculty

Step 2: E-mail field office at sowpracticum@fiu.edu by deadline listed on practicum flyer email and program sheet

Step 3: Complete application in Exxat by semester deadline

- **No late or incomplete applications will be accepted**
- ✓ Students can access agency listing and internship descriptions after applying to field.

Planning for Field Practicum

- Plan for additional costs: background checks, travel (gas and parking) typical for most internship programs****
- Required field orientation (All MSW Students) & Professionalism Workshop (Generalist only) students are supported with information provided before starting internship
- Employment Setting Placements:
 - Additional application process for students
 - FIU must be affiliated with the agency
 - Agency must have an MSW with 2 years post graduate experience to serve as field instructor
- Students with any criminal background issues:
 - Contact Prof. Abeloff, Associate Director, immediately to assess your ability to complete field placement as soon as possible

Scholarship Opportunities

- **Marian Dumaine Scholarship**

Students must demonstrate a high level of commitment to the field of social work through academic achievements and community engagement. One Dumaine Scholarship for \$500 is awarded in fall and spring to help recipients balance the extra costs of field practicum. Must be going into or remaining in practicum the semester after you apply for the scholarship.

- **Welker Mitchell Scholarship**

Applicants must be fully admitted into the MSW program for the semester during which the scholarship is awarded. Applicants must have demonstrated financial need as well as high commitment to the field of social work through academic achievement and community engagement.

- **BHWET**

Eligible students receive a \$25,000 stipend and tuition waiver for up to 12 credits for one semester and receive additional learning opportunities. Students applying must be admitted to the MSW Program as well as be eligible and plan to enter the MSW II Clinical Practicum in the fall.

- **CSWE-Minority Fellowship Program**

<https://www.cswe.org/centers-initiatives/minority-fellowship-program/>

For more information, visit the Stempel website "Funding Your Education."



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Important Field Placement Information

*Plan ahead for required field hours

***Evening/weekends are very limited due to lack of agency availability**

MSW I (SOW 5532) FIELD PRACTICUM HOURS:

During Fall & Spring semesters:

344 hours to be completed = 21.5 hours per week for 16 weeks

No Field Placements Will Be Made During Summer Semester

MSW II (SOW 6533) & MSW III (SOW 6534) FIELD PRACTICUM HOURS

During Fall & Spring semesters:

288 hours to be completed = 18 hours per week for 16 weeks

During Summer semester:

288 hours to be completed = 24 hours per week for 12 weeks



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KeepCalmAndPosters.com

How You Can Prepare for Field Experience?

- ✓ Assess how you will meet internship commitments (work – family - school balance)
- ✓ Plan Ahead:
 - Financially
 - Work Hours
 - Supports/Self-Care (Use FIU Resources)
- ✓ Consult with the MSW Field Coordinator, Prof Neufeld
- ✓ Signing field forms (hours and background) states that you understand and agree to these policies

Preparing for State Licensure Post-Graduation: Registered Clinical Social Work Intern

The MSW III Seminar course provides student career preparation for post-graduation as well as information on how to register to become a Registered Intern.

The School of Social Work provides an Licensure Exam Prep workshop to alumni, which includes information about the Florida licensure exam .

There is no fee for alumni to attend.

Capstone

Program outcome measure that allows students to critically analyze, synthesize, and apply the knowledge and skills of advanced clinical social work to a client case

- Capstone is a 20-minute presentation to a panel of 2 faculty and 1 field instructor during last semester of program
- Major elements: Critical thinking - Evidence based practice - Application of theory to practice - Self-awareness – Ethical practice
- Capstone Workshop and ongoing faculty support

Helpful Reminders:

- Self Care! Manage your time. PACE yourselves
- **ALWAYS** check Panther Degree Audit after each term and always include your Panther ID on all correspondence
- Work with your academic advisor to plan your program of study
- Most courses have pre/co-requisites
- Not all courses are offered every semester
- Summer courses limited and are not guaranteed

Access FIU Resources

- ❖ **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**

305-348-2277/ 305-919-5305

- ❖ **Disability Resource Center**

305-348-3532/ 305-919-5307

- ❖ **Fostering Panther Pride**

305-348-3445

- ❖ **Veteran & Military Affairs**

305-348-2838

- ❖ **Office of Scholarships**

305-348-0349 and OSAA in Stempel College

Contact Information: Take a Picture!

- Jennifer Abeloff, MS, MSW
 - Associate Director, MSW Program Coordinator
 - abeloffj@fiu.edu
 - 305-348-1627
- Alyssa Ezequiel, MSW
 - Sr. Program Coordinator of Academic Support Services, MSW/PhD Academic Advisor
 - aezequie@fiu.edu
 - 305-348-5841
- Nicole Neufeld, LCSW
 - Coordinator of Field Education/Clinical Assistant Teaching Professor
 - nneufeld@fiu.edu
 - 305-348-4420

