Facilities for Graduate Work

The School of Social Work Building houses classrooms, faculty and administrative offices, and a student lounge. The building also houses the school's Learning Resource Center, which contains computer and video laboratories and reading rooms; the center provides an extensive reference library of social work–related journals and other materials.

The school offers students several other services and resources, including the Office of Academic Affairs, which coordinates advising, registration, and other academic matters. Career planning is available through the DiNitto Center for Career Services. The Office of the Associate Dean for Research administers faculty-conducted research in such areas as substance use and mental health; child welfare; cultural diversity; domestic and community violence; gerontology; families, children, and youth; social work education; organizational structures; restorative justice; health; health disparities; and behavioral health.

Areas of Study

The Steve Hicks School of Social Work offers graduate study leading to the Master of Science in Social Work and the Doctor of Philosophy with a major in social work.

The Master of Science in Social Work program prepares students for advanced social work practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities, as well as for policy-related and administrative positions. Two areas of concentration are available: clinical social work or administration and policy practice.

The Doctor of Philosophy degree prepares students to be academicians and researchers. Students pursuing this degree design their own areas of study based on their academic and research interests.

Graduate Studies Committee

The following faculty members served on the Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) in the spring 2024 semester.

Noel B Busch-Armendariz, Esther Calzada, Yessenia Castro, Namkee Choi, Kasey Claborn, Allan H Cole Jr, Fiona Conway, Catherine Cubbin, Diana M Dinitto, Cynthia G Franklin, Rebecca Gomez, Lauren E Gulbas, Mercedes Hernandez, Lori K Holleran, Sandy Magana, Lailea Noel, Yolanda C Padilla, Jose Ruben Parra-cardona, Calvin L Streeter, Sarah A Swords, Carmen R Valdez, Mary M Velasquez, Shetal Vohra, Kirk L Von Sternberg, Kari L White, Yuanjin Zhou

Admission Requirements

Master of Science in Social Work

Applicants for admission to this degree program should have a general liberal arts education with a broad range of studies in the behavioral sciences. All applicants must have completed at least one college-level statistics course that includes inferential applications.

Applicants with a Bachelor of Social Work degree from a school accredited by the Council on Social Work Education may be admitted into a modified program of study.

Doctor of Philosophy

Applicants to the doctoral degree program must have a master's degree from an accredited school of social work, or a master's degree in a related discipline with extensive experience in human services. Preference is given to individuals with research experience and at least two years of professional experience beyond the master's degree.

Professional Liability Insurance

Professional liability insurance is required and a criminal background check may be required of all students enrolled in field placement or internship courses. The insurance policy must cover the duration of the course, beginning on or before the first regular class period.