

2024-2025



MSW Degree Planning Packet



Graduate School of Social Work
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

Table of Contents

Graduate Bulletin Information	Page 2
Section 1: Degree Requirements	Page 2
MSW Foundation Degree Requirements	Page 3
Advanced Standing MSW Pre-requisite Requirements	Page 3
Advanced Social Work Practice Concentration Curriculum Requirements	Page 4
Section 2: Pathway Information	Page 5
Pathway FAQs	Page 5
Aging Services & Policy Pathway	Page 6
Child Welfare Pathway	Page 7
Children & Youth Pathway	Page 8
Ecological Justice Pathway	Page 9
Family Systems Pathway	Page 10
Health & Wellness Pathway	Page 11
Mental Health Pathway	Page 12
Organizational Leadership & Policy Practice Pathway	Page 13
Off the Beaten Path: Design your own pathway	Page 14
Section 3: Academic Plan Overviews	Page 15
Section 4: GSSW Certificate & Stipend Overviews	Page 16
Section 5: Putting it All Together – Tracking Your Degree Progress	Page 17
Degree Progress Tracking Tool	Page 17
Appendix: Academic Plans	Page 18
Advanced Standing Curriculum Plans	Page 18
Master of Social Work Curriculum Plans	Page 22

Graduate Bulletin Information

The University of Denver Graduate Bulletin outlines Graduate School of Social Work program requirements. The advising and academic planning information in this manual is based in the 2024-2025 University of Denver Graduate Bulletin, and is specific to students who started within this academic year (Fall 2024-Summer 2025).

Section 1: Degree Requirements

Students at the Graduate School of Social Work will complete the requirements for the **Advanced Social Work Practice** degree program to earn their Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. The Advanced Social Work Practice degree program will prepare students with the theoretical knowledge, applied skills, and values to work across a continuum of services at micro, mezzo and macro levels. Our model prepares students to practice with a wide range of populations and settings to meet the needs of your community.

The curriculum emphasizes culturally responsive practice needed for the increasing diversity within communities at a local, state, national or global context. Faculty expertise anchors a curriculum that encourages students to focus their degree in alignment with specific areas of interest or career goals. Practice courses are taught by instructors who are actively involved in community engaged social work. The combination of scholarship and applied expertise synergizes the learning experience.

GSSW has structured the curriculum to meet the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) [2022 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards](#) for MSW programs. Competency-based education rests on a shared view of the nature of competence in professional practice. Social work competence is the ability to integrate and apply social work knowledge, values, skills, and cognitive and affective processes to practice situations in a culturally responsive, purposeful, intentional, and professional manner to promote human and community well-being. Competency-based education is an outcome-oriented approach to curriculum design. Overall, professional competence is multi-dimensional and composed of 9 inter-related competencies:

- Competency 1: Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
- Competency 2: Advanced Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice
- Competency 3: Engage in Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) 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, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- Competency 7: Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- Competency 8: Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- Competency 9: Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

For MSW students, the minimum total credits required for the Master of Social Work degree is 81. The requirement for Advanced Standing MSW students, who enter the program with a Bachelor of Social Work degree, is 54 total credits.

The information below outlines the courses required for MSW foundation requirements and Advanced Standing MSW prerequisite requirements, as well as the concentration overview of credits needed for all students.

MSW Foundation Requirements

Foundation requirements must be completed prior to moving forward with concentration requirements

Course	Credits
SOWK 4000: Professional Development Seminar	1 credit
SOWK 4001: Clinical Social Work Skills	3 credits
SOWK 4020: Integrated Practice for Social Justice <i>* This course is a prerequisite for SOWK 4003, 4007, & 4120</i>	4 credits
SOWK 4132: Power, Privilege, and Oppression	3 credits
SOWK 4006: Human Behavior and the Social Environment <i>*This course is a prerequisite for SOWK 4003</i>	3 credits
SOWK 4003: Clinical Social Work Theory and Practice	3 credits
SOWK 4007: Community/Macro Social Work Theory and Practice	4 credits
SOWK 4201: Evidence for Practice	3 credits
SOWK 4120: Social Policy, Analysis, Advocacy, and Practice <i>* This course is a prerequisite for SOWK 4655</i>	3 credits
<i>Required Field Internship*</i> <i>*This course is a pre-requisite for 4790</i>	9 credits
TOTAL	36 credits

Advanced Standing MSW Prerequisite Requirements

Prerequisite requirements must be completed prior to moving forward with concentration requirements

Course	Credits
SOWK 4299: Advanced Standing Seminar	3 credits
SOWK 4302: Advanced Standing: Advanced Evidence for Practice	3 credits
SOWK 4303: Advanced Standing: Engaging Anti-Oppressive Social Work	3 credits
TOTAL	9 credits

Advanced Social Work Practice Concentration Curriculum Requirements

See Pathway Information for applicable course suggestions

The following is a chart of the required type of course and the corresponding credits.

Course	Credits
Required Theory	3 credits
Required Assessment Skills	3 credits
Required Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities	3 credits
Required Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups	3 credits
Required Policy & Advocacy Skills	3 credits
Required Evaluation & Research Skills	3 credits
Required Values	3 credits
Required Field Internship* <i>*some pre-approved concentration year internships may require more than 12 credits.</i>	12 credits
Required Electives* <i>*If field internship is over 12 credits, then elective credits will be reduced accordingly.</i>	12 credits
TOTAL	45 credits

Notes:

- All students may take up to 10 credits in another graduate school or through MSW@Denver toward degree through the [Visiting Student application](#)
- For a complete list of all courses in each category, please consult the [Course Planning Tools within the Student Resource Portal](#).

Section 2: Pathway Information

This packet has shown you the overall requirements to obtain an MSW degree; adding a Pathway interest helps you think about how best to apply course content to align your interests and career aspirations.

Q: How do I use this Pathway option?

A: You have a choice to create a curriculum plan that is a Advance Social Work Practice degree, solely based on a variety of interests in each requirement area (Theory for Practice, Assessment Skills, Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities, Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, , Policy & Advocacy Skills, Evaluation & Research, Values, and Electives) OR you could focus your curriculum toward an area of practice, population, or a social work setting that appeals to you and your career interests.

Q: If I choose a pathway, do I need to follow the course recommendations exactly?

A: No. Pathways are designed to give you flexibility for both your specific interests as well as course availability. If one of the classes that is suggested is not available, you may wait until another quarter or choose a different course that is listed within that category to fulfil the degree requirements. Pathways are *suggestions!*

Q: What if I want a specific type of license after my MSW degree?

A: You should consult the state licensing board for your particular area, such as LSW, LCSW, CAC, School Social Worker, etc. Some courses will be more geared toward specific types of social work practice. Think ahead about which courses would be best to take in order to meet your future licensure wants or needs. Consult with the GSSW Career Services team for more specific questions.

Q: What if the courses I want are mostly listed in the “Electives” category?

A: If you are struggling to find courses that you want within the required categories, please check in with a faculty academic advisor. Faculty academic advisors can help you think through how your interests may be represented within our current required course offerings or suggest electives that may be eligible for a waiver-substitution in some rare cases.

Q: What if I want to complete a certificate or stipend?

A: Review specific requirements associated with stipends, certificates, or dual degrees. Some courses may fulfill multiple requirements within the MSW degree. If a course is required for a certificate and meets one of the mandatory categories of the Advanced Practice Concentration curriculum, it can count towards the degree as well as the certificate/stipend requirement. The total number of credits per category and for the degree must still be met. For questions about stipends, certificates, or dual degrees, please consult with the faculty lead listed on the student portfolio.

Q: What if I want to take a class within another program at GSSW?

A: Students in the Denver Campus, Four Corners, or Western Colorado programs may take classes as offered or cross listed between these 3 programs and may take up to 10 credits in the MSW@Denver program as a visiting student, as space allows. Additionally, students in these 3 programs may take up to 10 graduate course credits within any other institution within the University of Denver, with approval from an academic advisor and the course instructor. Students in the MSW@Denver program may take up to 10 credits in any other GSSW program.

Students enrolled in a dual degree program should consult their faculty academic advisor in both programs.

Aging Services & Policy Pathway

A pathway in Aging Services will prepare you for a career working with older adults and their families, or to lead change efforts regarding aging services both locally and nationally. Consider applying to the [GeriCare Everywhere](#) stipend to your degree plan to maximize learning and employability

Course Considerations

Theory

SOWK 4320: Family Systems Theories
SOWK 4325: Evolving Perspectives & Trends in Health & Wellness

Assessment Skills

SOWK 4501: Wellness Assessment & Promotion Across the Lifespan
SOWK 4338: Assessment of Mental Health Across the Lifespan

Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities

SOWK 4465: Human Security
SOWK 4340: Leadership & Supervision Skills

Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups

SOWK 4401: Integrated Health Care
SOWK 4420: Advanced Assessment and Intervention with Family Systems
SOWK 4725: Mind-Body Connections in Social Work Practice
SOWK 4784: Suicide Assessment & Interventions

Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4630: Family Policies & Services
SOWK 4645: Health Care Policy
SOWK 4650: Aging Policy
SOWK 4712: Social Work & the Law

Evaluation & Research

SOWK 4900: Methods for Evaluating Practice & Programs
SOWK 4361: Adapting & Implementing Interventions
SOWK 4903: Photovoice as Intervention and Research Methodology

Values

SOWK 4240: Intergenerational Justice
SOWK 4742: Disability Studies

Electives

SOWK 4523: Care Management Skills
SOWK 4741: Grief & Loss Across the Lifespan
SOWK 4445: SW Assessment & Intervention in Aging

Child Welfare Pathway

A pathway in Child Welfare will prepare you for a career working with children, youth and families across the continuum of care within the child welfare system, from entry to exit in both public and private child welfare agencies. Consider adding on the [Child Welfare stipend](#) to your degree plan in order to maximize learning and employability.

Course Considerations

Theory

SOWK 4315: Critical Theories of Child and Adolescent Development

SOWK 4370: Community & Organizational Change

SOWK 4320: Family Systems Theories

Assessment Skills

SOWK 4338: Assessment of Mental Health Across the Lifespan

SOWK 4752: Trauma Informed Assessment & Interventions

Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities

SOWK 4340: Leadership & Supervision Skills

SOWK 4465: Human Security

Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups

SOWK 4418: Child Welfare Practice

SOWK 4420: Advanced Assessment and Intervention with Family Systems

SOWK 4454: Child & Adolescent Trauma

SOWK 4700: Solution Focused Brief Therapy

Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4600: Child Welfare Policies and Services

SOWK 4610: Policies & Programs for Children & Youth

SOWK 4630: Family Policies & Services

SOWK 4660: Social Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4712: Social Work & the Law

Evaluation & Research

SOWK 4361: Adapting & Implementing Interventions

SOWK 4900: Methods for Evaluating Practice & Programs

SOWK 4902: Public Impact for Policy, Community Organizing and Research Dissemination

Values

SOWK 4235: Disproportionality & Disparities

Electives

SOWK 4732: Disrupting Privilege through Anti-Oppressive Practice

SOWK 4520: Advanced Clinical SW Practice with Families

SOWK 4741: Grief & Loss Across the Lifespan

SOWK 4710: Intimate Partner Violence

Children & Youth Pathway

A pathway in Children and Youth will prepare you to work across developmental stages from birth to early adulthood in settings that include mental health clinics, family services, community and government agencies, schools, youth programs, treatment centers and the juvenile legal system. Consider adding on the [School Social Work certificate](#). Only students enrolled in the certificate are allowed to take SOWK 4718: School SW Assessment & Realities. Application deadlines apply to this certificate!

Course Considerations

Theory

SOWK 4315: Critical Theories of Child & Adolescent Development

SOWK 4320: Family Systems Theories

SOWK 4360: Social-Eco Resilience: Connecting Human & Environmental Wellbeing

Assessment Skills

SOWK 4338: Assessment of Mental Health Across the Lifespan

SOWK 4752: Trauma Informed Assessment & Interventions

Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities

SOWK 4340: Leadership & Supervision Skills

SOWK 4465: Human Security

SOWK 4202: Creating a Regenerative Future

Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups

SOWK 4412: Practice Elements in Interventions with Children & Youth

SOWK 4425: Positive Youth Development Programming

SOWK 4454: Child & Adolescent Trauma

SOWK 4715: School Social Work Interventions

SOWK 4784: Suicide Assessment & Interventions

SOWK 4245: Restorative Approaches in Social Work Practice

Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4610: Policies & Programs for Children & Youth

SOWK 4712: Social Work & the Law

Evaluation & Research

SOWK 4900: Methods for Evaluating Practice & Programs

SOWK 4904: Introduction to Human Centered Design for Evaluation & Program Development

Values

SOWK 4240: Intergenerational Justice

SOWK 4545: Social Work Practice with LGBTQIA

Electives

SOWK 4410: Prevention & Treatment of Adolescent Substance Use

SOWK 4500: Foundations of Play Therapy with Young Children

Ecological Justice Pathway

A pathway in Ecological Justice will prepare you to cultivate a compassionate human presence on Earth guided by social work values of equity and justice. This specialty will challenge you to envision and create a world— inclusive of natural and built environments—that is thriving, healthy and regenerative for all. Consider adding the [Human-Animal-Environment Interactions in Social Work certificate](#). Courses in this certificate will satisfy your *Electives* requirement. Consider adding on the [Global Social Work certificate](#) to this pathway.

Course Considerations

Theory

SOWK 4325: Evolving Perspectives & Trends in Health & Wellness

SOWK 4360: Social-Ecological Resilience: Connecting Human & Environmental Well-Being

SOWK 4370: Community & Organizational Change

Assessment Skills

SOWK 4501: Wellness Assessment & Promotion Across the Lifespan

SOWK 4565: Social & Environmental Impact Assessments

Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities

SOWK 4202: Creating a Regenerative Future

SOWK 4203: Environmental Change & Resilience for Mental Health

SOWK 4205: Contemporary Eco Justice Issues

SOWK 4435: Grassroots Organizing for Social Justice

SOWK 4465: Human Security

Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups

SOWK 4420: Advanced Assessment and Intervention with Family Systems

SOWK 4245 Restorative Approaches in Social Work Practice

Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4204: Policy Advocacy for Eco Justice in the U.S.

SOWK 4635: Immigration Policies

SOWK 4765: Global Social Change

Evaluation & Research

SOWK 4900: Methods for Evaluating Practice & Programs

SOWK 4903: Photovoice as Intervention and Research Methodology

SOWK 4904: Human Centered Design

Values

SOWK 4240: Intergenerational Justice

SOWK 4480: Social Justice in Mental Health Practice

SOWK 4754: Historical Trauma & Healing

Electives

SOWK 4375: Economic Theory & Social Work

SOWK 4727: Experiential Therapy in Nature

Family Systems Practice Pathway

A pathway in Family Systems Practice prepares you for a career in family systems and family therapy. If you are interested in working from a family systems perspective with clients in a variety of direct-service, private-practice and family-policy settings then this is the pathway for you. Consider applying for the [Mutual Aid Fellowship](#) to enhance your Family Systems learning.

Course Considerations

Theory

SOWK 4315: Critical Theories of Child & Adolescent Development
SOWK 4320: Family Systems Theories

Assessment Skills

SOWK 4338: Assessment of Mental Health Across the Lifespan
SOWK 4501: Wellness Assessment & Promotion Across the Lifespan
SOWK 4752: Trauma Informed Assessment and Interventions

Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities

SOWK 4202: Creating a Regenerative Future

Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups

SOWK 4420: Advanced Assessment and Intervention with Family Systems
SOWK 4700: Solution Focused Brief Therapy
SOWK 4735: Interpersonal Counseling Approaches

Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4630: Family Policies & Services
SOWK 4712: Social Work & the Law

Evaluation & Research

SOWK 4900: Methods for Evaluating Practice & Programs
SOWK 4902: Public Impact for Policy, Community Organizing and Research Dissemination
SOWK 4904: Introduction to Human Centered Design for Evaluation & Program Development

Values

SOWK 4240: Intergenerational Justice
SOWK 4480: Social Justice in Mental Health Practice
SOWK 4764: Historical Trauma & Healing

Electives

SOWK 4410: Prevention & Treatment of Adolescent Substance Use
SOWK 4520: Advanced Clinical SW Practice with Families
SOWK 4521: Advanced Skills for Working with Military Families
SOWK 4741: Grief & Loss Across the Lifespan
SOWK 4710: Intimate Partner Violence

Health & Wellness Pathway

This pathway will prepare you to be a practitioner in a variety of traditional and medical-based sites, integrated health clinics and wellness centers. Consider applying for a [CLIMB stipend](#) to help fund your MSW degree.

Specific courses are required for and may only be offered in certain quarters. Deadlines apply for this stipend!

Course Considerations

Theory

SOWK 4325: Evolving Perspectives & Trends in Health & Wellness

SOWK 4370: Community & Organizational Change

Assessment Skills

SOWK 4338: Assessment of Mental Health Across the Lifespan

SOWK 4501: Wellness Assessment & Promotion Across the Lifespan

SOWK 4752: Trauma Informed Assessment & Interventions

Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities

SOWK 4340: Leadership & Supervision Skills

SOWK 4535: Planning & Program Development

Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups

SOWK 4723: Social Work Practice in Health

SOWK 4401: Integrated Health Care

SOWK 4430: Substance Use Interventions

SOWK 4725: Mind-Body Connections in Social Work Practice

Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4645: Health Care Policy

SOWK 4640: Mental Health & Substance Use Policies

SOWK 4650: Aging Policy

SOWK 4712: Social Work & Law

Evaluation & Research

SOWK 4900: Methods for Evaluating Practice & Programs

SOWK 4902: Research Dissemination for Public Impact

Values

SOWK 4235: Disproportionality & Disparity

SOWK 4390: Cultural & Linguistic Competencies in Integrated Behavioral Health

SOWK 4480: Social Justice in Mental Health Practice

SOWK 4742: Disability Studies

SOWK 4555: Spirituality and Social Work

SOWK 4362: EmBODYed Practice: Ethical Approaches to Fatness and the Body

Electives

SOWK 4410: Prevention & Treatment of Adolescent Substance Use

SOWK 4523: Care Management Skills

SOWK 4525: Administration & Management Practice Skills

SOWK 4741: Grief and Loss Across the Lifespan

Mental Health Pathway

The Mental Health Pathway will prepare students to work with individuals, families, groups, and communities coping with trauma, balancing mental health and wellbeing, and navigating complex interconnected life circumstances and systems. Consider applying for a [CLIMB stipend](#) to help fund your MSW education. Specific courses are required for the stipend and may only be offered in certain quarters; plan accordingly. Deadlines apply for this stipend!

Course Considerations

Theory

SOWK 4345: Intersections of Mental Health, Substance Use, & Trauma
SOWK 4325: Evolving Perspectives & Trends in Health & Wellness

Assessment Skills

SOWK 4338: Assessment of Mental Health Across the Lifespan
SOWK 4752: Trauma Informed Assessment & Interventions

Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities

SOWK 4203: Environmental Change & Resilience for Mental Health
SOWK 4465: Human Security

Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups

SOWK 4784: Suicide Assessment & Interventions
SOWK 4430: Substance Use Interventions
SOWK 4454: Child & Adolescent Trauma
SOWK 4700: Solution Focused Brief Therapy
SOWK 4730: Cognitive Behavioral Therapies
SOWK 4425: Positive Youth Development Programming

Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4640: Mental Health & Substance Use Policies
SOWK 4645: Health Care Policy
SOWK 4712: Social Work & Law

Evaluation & Research

SOWK 4900: Methods for Evaluating Practice & Programs
SOWK 4902: Public Impact for Policy, Community Organizing and Research Dissemination
SOWK 4904: Introduction to Human Centered Design for Evaluation & Program Development

Values

SOWK 4480: Social Justice in Mental Health Practice
SOWK 4742: Disability Studies
SOWK 4764: Historical Trauma & Healing

Electives

SOWK 4410: Prevention & Treatment of Adolescent Substance Use
SOWK 4521: Advanced Skills for Working with Military Families
SOWK 4705: Forensic Orientation in Social Work Practice
SOWK 4741: Grief & Loss Across the Lifespan

Organizational Leadership & Policy Practice Pathway

If you want to build the capacity of communities, organizations, and policy makers to advance human rights, social justice and the well-being of all people, then Organizational Leadership & Policy Practice (OLPP) may be the right pathway for your MSW degree. Consider adding on the [Latinx Social Work Certificate](#) to this pathway. Consider adding on the [Global Social Work certificate](#) to this pathway.

Course Considerations

Theory

SOWK 4370: Community and Organization Change Theory

Assessment Skills

SOWK 4565: Social & Environmental Impact Assessments

Engage & Intervene: Organizations & Communities

SOWK 4340: Leadership & Supervision Skills

SOWK 4436: Grassroots Organizing for Social Justice

SOWK 4465: Human Security

SOWK 4535: Planning & Program Development

Engage & Intervene: Individuals, Families, & Groups

SOWK 4420: Advanced Assessment and Intervention with Family Systems

SOWK 4425: Positive Youth Development Programming

Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4635: Immigration Policies

SOWK 4660: Social Policy Advocacy

SOWK 4712: Social Work & the Law

SOWK 4765: Global Social Change

SOWK 4204: Policy Advocacy for Ecological Justice in the U.S.

Evaluation & Research

SOWK 4900: Methods for Evaluating Practice & Programs

SOWK 4902: Public Impact for Policy, Community Organizing and Research Dissemination

SOWK 4903 Photovoice as Intervention and Research Methodology

Values

SOWK 4232: Critical Race Theory

SOWK 4235: Disproportionality & Disparity

SOWK 4762: Bosnia in Transition

SOWK 4786: Human Trafficking

Electives

SOWK 4375: Economic Theory & Social Work

SOWK 4530: Poverty & Community Economic Development

SOWK 4749: Culturally Responsive Practice with Latinx Communities

Off the Beaten Path... build your own pathway!

Often students have a very specific population, cause, or focus of practice that they feel called to pursue. Consult the [GSSW Career Snapshot page](#) or the contact the GSSW Career Services Advisor for more ideas.

Areas of Practice:

- International Social Work
- Substance Use and Addiction
- Pediatric Health Care
- Community Organizing
- Corporate Social Work
- Justice, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Sports Social Work
- Social Work & the Courts
- Hospice Care
- Emergency Assistance
- Domestic Violence & Intimate Partner Violence
- Spirituality & Social Work
- Human Trafficking
- Housing & Food Insecurity/Justice
- Abolition

Populations:

- LGBTQIA2S+
- Military & Veterans
- Immigrants & Refugees
- Latinx Communities (see Latinx certificate)
- Incarcerated Individuals

Types of Social Work:

- Administration/ Management
- Advocacy & Community Organizing
- Aging
- Child Welfare
- Disability
- Healthcare
- International
- Mental Health & Clinical
- Mental Health & Substance Use
- Occupational & Employee Assistance
- Policy Planning
- Politics
- Public Welfare
- Research
- School Social Work

Section 3: Academic Plan Overviews

Quick Navigation

Use the links below to navigate to your specific academic plan located in the Appendix of the packet:

- Advanced Standing Academic Plans:
 - [July \(Summer\) Program Start – Full Time 4-Quarter](#)
 - [September \(Fall\) Program Start – Full Time 4-Quarter](#)
 - [September \(Fall\) Program Start – Part Time 10-Quarter](#)

- Master of Social Work Academic Plans:
 - [September \(Fall\) Program Start – Full Time 6-Quarter](#)
 - [September \(Fall\) Program Start – Part Time 14-Quarter](#)
 - [January \(Winter\) Program Start – Full Time 7-Quarter](#)
 - [January \(Winter\) Program Start – Part Time 14-Quarter](#)

Section 4: GSSW Certificate & Stipend Overviews

GSSW students can further customize their learning by adding a certificate or stipend to their degree plan. The below information can be used in conjunction with information posted on the Student Portfolio page in order to determine if a stipend/certificate is right for you. Some stipends/certificates have strict deadlines associated with them; take care to submit all materials by posted deadlines. Noting your interest in a stipend/certificate in your GSSW application does not enroll you in a stipend/certificate program. Students must follow all directions in order to be considered for a stipend/certificate.

Certificate and stipend programs are often directly tied to field internship. Consult your field advisor regarding eligible sites related to your area(s) of interest and the requirements of your selected certificate or stipend.

Certificate Options

1. Human-Animal-Environment-Interactions in Social Work (HAEI-SW) Certificate
2. School Social Work Certificate
3. Latinx Social Work Certificate
4. Global Social Work Certificate

Stipend Options

1. Mutual Aid Fellowship
2. CLIMB@DU Stipend
3. Child Welfare Stipend
4. GeriCare EveryWhere

Section 5: Putting it All Together - Tracking Your Degree Progress

Track your progress towards degree completion as soon as you begin the program. Students are expected to complete foundation or advanced standing requirements as pre-requisite to the Advanced Concentration curriculum.

The best way to track your degree progress and to find a comprehensive list of course options within each required competency category is to use the GSSW Denver Campus Degree Planner and Degree Audit. The Degree Audit can be found on your student profile at my.du.edu. The Degree Planner can be accessed on the student resource portal by navigating the following steps:

- 1) Academic Planning and advising page
- 2) Select Denver Campus
- 3) Select [Fall 2024 and After](#)
- 4) Expand the Course Planning Tools drop down (*see image below*).

The Denver Campus MSW Degree Planning Packet includes all degree and prerequisite requirements, curriculum overviews, and pathway requirements.

Denver Campus MSW Degree Planning Packet

Course Planning Tools

- [Denver Campus Advanced Standing MSW Degree Planner](#)
- [Denver Campus MSW Degree Planner](#)

**For maximum functionality, please download the file and open in Microsoft Excel. DU provides Microsoft Office access for students: information can be found [here](#).*

Watch [this video](#) for a tutorial on how to utilize your Degree Planner.

The Four Pillars of your MSW Degree:

- 1) Academic Course Work
- 2) Field Internship (Applied Practice)
- 3) Mentoring, Supervision, and Guidance
- 4) Adult Learner Mindset and Responsibility

Important Notes:

- Foundation course work and field internship must be complete prior to beginning concentration field internship. Please email field@du.edu with questions regarding field internships.
- Concentration field may not be taken in advance of concentration course work. No more than 9 credits of concentration course work can be outstanding upon completion of concentration internships.
- Independent studies, directed studies, international field internships, or any course work that deviates from the standard GSSW program, must be approved *prior* to engaging in alternative learning.
- It is critical to pay attention to the academic calendar for information regarding registration, add/drop, refunds, and various dates that may impact your financial aid and tuition.
- Interested in working with faculty regarding on-going research project - <https://socialwork.du.edu/research-faculty/active-research-projects>

Appendix: Academic Plans

Advanced Standing Curriculum Plan Options

Students completing one of these plans must have been previously awarded a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree.

July (Summer) Program Start – Full Time 4-Quarter Advanced Standing Curriculum Plan

Summer (Q1) Schedule – Advanced Standing Pre-Requisites

- SOWK 4299: Advanced Standing Seminar (3 credits)
- SOWK 4302: Advanced Standing: Advanced Evidence for Practice (3 credits)
- SOWK 4303: Advanced Standing: Engaging Anti-Oppressive Social Work (3 credits)
- **OPTIONAL:** Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 9 to 12

**Review your specific course plan and year-long academic planning to decide if an optional 4th course is best for you in the summer quarter.*

Fall (Q2) Schedule– 4 classes + field

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 16

Winter (Q3) Schedule – 3 classes + field

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 13

Spring (Q4) Schedule – 3 classes + field

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 13

= 54 total program credits

September (Fall) Program Start – Full Time 4-Quarter Advanced Standing Curriculum Plan

<p><i>Fall (Q1) Schedule – Advanced Standing Pre-Requisites + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4299: Advanced Standing Seminar (3 credit) • SOWK 4302: Advanced Standing: Advanced Evidence for Practice (3 credits) • SOWK 4303: Advanced Standing: Engaging Anti-Oppressive Social Work (3 credits) • SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 13</p>
--

<p><i>Winter (Q2) Schedule – 4 classes + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 16</p>
--

<p><i>Spring (Q3) Schedule – 3 classes + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 13</p>
--

<p><i>Summer (Q4) Schedule – 4 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 12</p>

= 54 total program credits

September (Fall) Program Start - Part Time 10-Quarter Advanced Standing Curriculum Plan

Fall (Q1) Schedule – Advanced Standing Pre-Requisites

- SOWK 4299: Advanced Standing Seminar (3 credit)
- SOWK 4303: Advanced Standing: Engaging Anti-Oppressive Social Work (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Winter (Q2) Schedule – Advanced Standing Pre-Requisite + 1 class

- 4302: Advanced Standing: Advanced Evidence for Practice (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Spring (Q3) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Summer (Q4) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Fall (Q5) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Winter (Q6) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Spring (Q7) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6



Summer (Q8) Schedule – field

- Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

Fall (Q9) Schedule – field

- Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

Winter (Q10) Schedule – field

- Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

= 54 total program credits

Master of Social Work Curriculum Plan Options

Students completing one of these plans do not have a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree.

September (Fall) Program Start – Full Time 6-Quarter Curriculum Plan (Summer off)

Fall (Q1) Schedule – 4 classes + field

- SOWK 4132: Power, Privilege, and Oppression (3 credits)
- SOWK 4020: Integrated Practice for Social Justice (4 credits)
- SOWK 4001: Clinical Social Work Skills (3 credits)
- SOWK 4000: Professional Development Seminar (1 credit)
- SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 14

Winter (Q2) Schedule – 3 classes + field

- SOWK 4007: Community/Macro Social Work Theory and Practice (4 credits)
- SOWK 4120: Social Policy, Analysis, Advocacy, and Practice (3 credits)
- SOWK 4006: Human Behavior and the Social Environment (3 credits)
- SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 13

Spring (Q3) Schedule – 2 foundation classes + 2 concentration classes + field

- SOWK 4201: Evidence for Practice (3 credits)
- SOWK 4003: Clinical Social Work Theory and Practice (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 15

Summer Off - A decision to continue over the summer would require notification & would alter the dispersal of the merit aid package. Students should contact GSSW Admissions and Financial Aid with questions if taking Summer courses.

Fall (Q4) Schedule – 3 classes+ field

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 13

Winter (Q5) Schedule – 3 classes+ field

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 13

Spring (Q6) Schedule – 3 classes+ field

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 13

= 81 total program credits

September (Fall) Program Start – Part Time 14-Quarter Curriculum Plan

<p><i>Fall (Q1) Schedule – 3 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4132: Power, Privilege, and Oppression (3 credits) • SOWK 4020: Integrated Practice for Social Justice (4 credits) • SOWK 4000: Professional Development Seminar (1 credit) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 8</p>
<p><i>Winter (Q2) Schedule – 2 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4001: Clinical Social Work Skills (3 credits) • SOWK 4006: Human Behavior and the Social Environment (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>
<p><i>Spring (Q3) Schedule – 2 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4007: Community/Macro Social Work Theory and Practice (4 credits) • SOWK 4003: Clinical Social Work Theory and Practice (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 7</p>
<p><i>Summer (Q4) Schedule – 2 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4201: Evidence for Practice (3 credits) • SOWK 4120: Social Policy, Analysis, Advocacy, and Practice (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>
<p><i>Fall (Q5) Schedule – 1 class + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>
<p><i>Winter (Q6) Schedule – 1 class + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>
<p><i>Spring (Q7) Schedule – 1 class + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>



Summer (Q8) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Fall (Q9) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Winter (Q10) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Spring (Q11) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Summer (Q12) Schedule – field

- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

Fall (Q13) Schedule – field

- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

Winter (Q14) Schedule – field

- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

= 81 total program credits

January (Winter) Program Start – Full Time 7-Quarter Curriculum Plan

<p><i>Winter (Q1) Schedule – 5 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4132: Power, Privilege, and Oppression (3 credits) • SOWK 4020: Integrated Practice for Social Justice (4 credits) • SOWK 4000: Professional Development Seminar (1 credit) • SOWK 4001: Clinical Social Work Skills (3 credits) • SOWK 4006: Human Behavior & the Social Environment (3) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 14</p>
<p><i>Spring (Q2) Schedule – 3 classes + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4120: Social Policy Analysis, Advocacy, & Practice (3 credits) • SOWK 4007: Community/Macro Social Work Theory & Practice (4 credits) • SOWK 4003: Clinical Social Work Theory & Practice (3 credits) • SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (4 credits) = 20 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 14</p>
<p><i>Summer (Q3) Schedule – 1 foundation class + 1 concentration class + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4201: Evidence for Practice (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (5 credits) = 20 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 11</p>
<p><i>Fall (Q4) Schedule – 4 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 12</p>
<p><i>Winter (Q5) Schedule – 3 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 9</p>



Spring (Q6) Schedule – 2 classes + field

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (6 credits) = 25 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 12

Summer (Q7) Schedule – 1 class + field

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (6 credits) = 25 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 9

= 81 total program credits

January (Winter) Program Start – Part Time 14-Quarter Curriculum Plan

<p><i>Winter (Q1) Schedule – 3 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4132: Power, Privilege, and Oppression (3 credits) • SOWK 4020: Integrated Practice for Social Justice (4 credits) • SOWK 4000: Professional Development Seminar (1 credit) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 8</p>
<p><i>Spring (Q2) Schedule – 2 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4001: Clinical Social Work Skills (3 credits) • SOWK 4006: Human Behavior & the Social Environment (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>
<p><i>Summer (Q3) Schedule – 2 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4120: Social Policy Analysis, Advocacy, & Practice (3 credits) • SOWK 4003: Clinical Social Work Theory & Practice (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>
<p><i>Fall (Q4) Schedule – 1 class + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4201: Evidence for Practice (3 credits) • SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>
<p><i>Winter (Q5) Schedule – 1 class + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOWK 4007: Community/Macro Social Work Theory & Practice (4 credits) • SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 7</p>
<p><i>Spring (Q6) Schedule – 1 class + field</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • SOWK 4950: Foundation Field Internship (3 credits) = 13.5 field hours per week <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>
<p><i>Summer (Q7) Schedule – 2 classes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concentration Course (3 credits) • Concentration Course (3 credits) <p>Total Anticipated Credits: 6</p>



Fall (Q8) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Winter (Q9) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Spring (Q10) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Summer (Q11) Schedule – 2 classes

- Concentration Course (3 credits)
- Concentration Course (3 credits)

Total Anticipated Credits: 6

Fall (Q12) Schedule – field

- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

Winter (Q13) Schedule – field

- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

Spring (Q14) Schedule – field

- SOWK 4970: Concentration Field Internship (4 credits) = 16.5 field hours per week

Total Anticipated Credits: 4

= 81 total program credits