



The Social Work Department at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) is designed to utilize the strengths of the liberal arts perspective and an innovative, learner-centered/ability-based curriculum with enhanced cultural competence training for work with the largest diverse population groups in southeast Tennessee. Furthermore, the UTC Social Work Department incorporates specialized training in child welfare

knowledge and skills into the curriculum to address the personnel needs in the Tennessee Department of Children's Services. Specifically, the program's focus is on generalist social work practice with emphasis on strengths and systems perspectives in the context of local and global diversity. The UTC BSW Program seeks to be at the forefront of innovative undergraduate social work programs through its integrated, ability-based curriculum, its integration of social work practitioners as mentors in the curriculum and field experiences, its high academic standards, its use of a learner-centered E-Portfolio, and its continuous program outcomes assessment process. **The UTC Social Work program offers a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree. The BSW program is fully accredited with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).**

THE PROFESSION OF SOCIAL WORK

A social work professional must be comfortable with many different kinds of people and must be able to deal with the realities of people's every day life objectively while maintaining their compassion and caring. Social workers perform many different types of tasks in their communities which may include:

- working with families in the child welfare system who are at-risk for having their children removed from the home.
- working with the caregiver of an older adult to find the right assisted living or nursing facility.
- facilitating a support group for parents of children with cancer.
- working with a neighborhood to institute an after-school tutoring program.
- collaborating with the police department to educate police officers about domestic violence issues.
- facilitating the translation of social service agency materials into Spanish to meet the needs of that population.
- collecting data and writing reports to document the need for better mental health resources in the community.

Social workers' most frequent specialty practice areas are mental health (37%), child welfare/family (13%), health (13%), and aging (9%).

JOB OUTLOOK

Three specific areas of social work (child, family and school social workers; mental health and substance abuse social workers, medical and public health social workers) are expected to have an "excellent" job outlook through 2012 meaning there is an expectation of more job openings than qualified candidates and the annual growth rate for these jobs is above average (TN Job Outlook, 2005, June). These statewide statistics indicate a healthy and growing job market for BSW graduates in several areas of social work practice. **Since July 1, 2006 professional social workers in TN are protected by title protection legislation which requires that positions listed as "social work" must be filled by either a BSW or MSW trained social worker. Effective July 1, 2008 all social workers must become licensed beginning with BSW social workers.**

PRE-REQUISITE COURSES

The UTC Social Work Department requires specific prerequisite courses in addition to the general education courses required by the university. The required pre-requisite courses for the Social Work Department are: PSY 1010, SOC 1510, BIOL 1110, SOCW 1100, and SOCW 2070 in addition to the general education requirements (see course catalog for course descriptions). Students must have either completed these courses or be in the process of completing these courses when applying for formal admission to the program. Students must meet the admission requirements of the University prior to submitting a formal application to the Social Work Department. All students interested in social work as a career choice should contact the Social Work Department at (423) 425-4266 to schedule an appointment with a social work faculty. Prior to being formally accepted into the Social Work Department, all students majoring in social work are considered pre-social work majors.

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

Admission to the University does not guarantee acceptance into the Social Work Department. Selection by the admissions committee is based on information gathered through the Application to the Social Work Department packet. Pre-social work majors and transfer students seeking admission to the Social Work Department must complete the following admission process by February 1st of the sophomore year.

- Complete the Application to the UTC Social Work Department available on the department website: www.utc.edu/socwk
- Have a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.00 or higher on a 4.0 point scale.
- Have a social work major Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.50 or higher on a 4.0 point scale in SOCW courses.
- Earned a grade of "C" or better in the following pre-social work courses: SOCW 1100 or an equivalent introductory social work course and SOCW 2070 or an equivalent Interviewing Skills course.
- Completed the following cognate courses with a passing grade: PSY 1010 (Introduction to Psychology), SOC 1510 (Introduction to Sociology), BIOL 1110 (Principles of Biology I) NOTE: The following courses must be completed prior to the junior year – SOCW 2010, ANTH 2080 or ECON 1010, POLS 1010(American Government).
- Complete a criminal background check process.
- Participate in a scheduled group interview process with the Social Work Department faculty.

FIELD EDUCATION

Students wishing to enter field education in their senior year must meet the following requirements:

- Complete all prerequisites for Field Education I (Social Work 4120) as listed in the university catalog.
- Achieve a 2.00 overall grade point average and a 2.50 GPA in all SOCW courses
- Satisfactorily complete all incomplete grades.
- Submit a completed Field Education Application to the field education coordinator which includes a recent transcript, current resumé, and peer evaluation form.
- Participate in the annual Field Fair.

Expenses and Transportation

In addition to regular education costs, social work students must meet the following expenses: liability and insurance for field education, and others as required. Since field experiences in social work are obtained in a variety of health care and social service settings in local and remote areas, students are individually responsible for transportation to these sites.

Visit our website for more information: www.utc.edu/socwk

UTC SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

Suggested Program of Study for BSW Degree

Fall/Freshman	15 Hours	Spring/Freshman	15 Hours
English 1010 Philosophy 1020 Psychology 1010 Social Work 1100 Approved Fine Arts course	(3) (3) (3) (3) (3)	English 1020 Philosophy 2010 Approved Science Sociology 1510 Approved Fine Arts Elective	(3) (3) (3) (3) (3)
Fall/Sophomore	16 Hours	Spring/Sophomore	15 Hours
Biology 1110 Anthropology 2080 OR Economics 1010 Political Science 1010 Elective	(4) (3) (3) (3) (3)	Social Work 2070 Social Work 2010 Math 1010 or 1130 Electives	(3) (3) (3) (6)
Fall/Junior	14 Hours	Spring/Junior	15 Hours
Social Work 3060 Social Work 3080 Social Work 3120 Social Work 3330 Approved Liberal Arts Elective*	(3) (1) (3) (4) (3)	Social Work 3070 Social Work 3420 Social Work 3760 Social Work 4080 Approved Statistics course Electives	(3) (3) (3) (1) (3) (2)
Fall/Senior	15 Hours	Spring/Senior	15 Hours
Social Work 4070 Social Work 4120 Social Work 4130 Social Work 4170 Elective	(4) (1) (4) (3) (3)	Social Work 4100 Social Work 4410 Social Work 4420 Social Work 4760 Social Work 4900 SW 4600 or SW Elective	(3) (1) (4) (1) (2) (3)

*Students must select one of the following **approved liberal arts elective courses for social work majors** (replaces the requirement for SOC 3050): WSTU 3070/SOC 3070: Gender and Society (3), POL 3480: Politics of Immigration (3), PSY 3310 or SOC 3310: Social Psychology (3), SOC 3450 : Social Inequality (3), ANTH 3650 : Medicine and Disease : A Cross-Cultural Perspective (3), HIST 4340/HIST 4350: Economic History of the United States (3)

** social work majors who participate in the TN Child Welfare Stipend and Certification Program, SOCW 3230 and SOCW 4230 are required courses as part of that program's certification process

Social Work Continuation Standards

The nature of the social work profession requires the following program continuation standards - *to progress in the social work program students are required to:*

- a. Achieve grade of C or higher in all Social Work courses;
- b. Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00;
- c. Maintain a Social Work major grade point average of 2.500 or higher on a 4.0 scale in all Social Work courses.

To enroll in 3000-level and 4000-level Social Work courses, a student must be a Social Work major formally accepted into the program and in good standing.

Visit our website for more information: www.utc.edu/socwk