

MARGARET PEREZ HATTORI-UCHIMA SCHOOL OF HEALTH

SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

PROSPECTUS

The University of Guam offers a four-year professional educational program in social work leading to a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree. The BSW is recognized by the National Association of Social Workers as the entry-level degree for the profession.

Through the integration of liberal arts education and the teaching of social work knowledge, values, and skills, the Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Guam prepares individuals to think critically, to develop a global perspective of social welfare and social development, to actualize the concept of social caring, to demonstrate belief in the intrinsic value and dignity of all humankind, to serve those in need, and to act with conviction in advancing the principles of social justice and human rights within the communities of Guam, Micronesia, and the neighboring regions of the Pacific and Asia.

Accreditation

The Bachelor of Social Work program at the University of Guam is the only Council on Social Work Education-accredited baccalaureate program in the Western Pacific. The program was founded in 1980, attained candidacy status in 1999, and was granted initial accreditation in 2003. The program's accreditation was reaffirmed in 2007 and 2015, and it will seek reaffirmation again in 2023.

What is Social Work?

Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work. Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous

knowledges, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance well-being.

Relevance and Demand

The communities in Guam and other Micronesian islands experience many social problems, such as addictions, poverty, high incidences of sexual abuse, teen pregnancy, homelessness, and more. While these problems are complex and require changes at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels of society, a UOG graduate with a social work degree can function as a change agent and advance solutions with individual people and communities.

Why UOG?

UOG social work faculty members have diverse personal, cultural, and professional backgrounds and are involved with local communities as well as European, Asian, American and global professional networks. Students are admitted in cohort systems and develop mutually supportive learning environments. Theories and interventions taught are relevant and appropriate for indigenous and immigrant cultures of UOG students.

Career Possibilities

Graduates of the UOG social work program are employed in different professional settings (government, nonprofit, and for-profit) and work with various populations (children, adolescents, adults, and elderly). They work with individuals and their families, collaborate with teams, organize and lead groups, develop treatment plans and write reports, and engage in research, program, and policy advocacy, initiatives, and developments.

Examples of employment agencies of UOG social work graduates include, but are not limited to, the following: Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center, Department of Public Health & Social Services, Guam Memorial Hospital, Guam Regional Medical Center, the Department of Youth Affairs, Sanctuary Inc., Westcare Inc., GALA, Erica's House, Department of Labor, Guma Mami, the Lighthouse Recovery Center, Oasis Empowerment Center, the Alee Shelter, I Famagoun-ta, Guam Superior Court, New Beginnings Drug and Alcohol Program, and UOG CEDDERS.

Post-Graduate Studies

The UOG BSW program and the School of Social Work at the University of Hawaii developed a partnership that allows UOG social work graduates to earn an accredited Master of Social Work degree from the University of Hawaii in one year while maintaining residence in Guam. Students who are, in particular, interested in research and teaching for their careers can pursue doctoral degrees in social work or social welfare.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates of the BSW program demonstrate the integration and application of the following competencies:

1. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior
2. Advance human rights and social, racial, economic, and environmental justice
3. Engage anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion in practice
4. Engage practice-informed research and research-informed practice
5. Engage in policy practice
6. Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities
7. Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities
8. Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities

9. Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities

ADMISSION

There are two levels of social work majors: Pre-BSW and BSW. A pre-BSW student is any declared social work major who has not yet completed the requirements for advancement to the BSW student status. A BSW student is one who has met these requirements and has been formally admitted to the BSW program.

To be eligible for the BSW junior level, applicants must:

- Complete at least 45 credits of General Education requirements
- Complete EN-111 Writing for Research
- Complete Mathematics General Education requirements
- Complete SO-101 Introduction to Sociology
- Complete PY-101 General Psychology
- Complete BA-110 Principles of Economics
- Complete SW-201 Social Welfare and Development: Global Challenges with a grade of "C" or better
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
- Submit a completed application form and related documents.

Applications for advancement to BSW student status are accepted annually in April. Upon receipt of applications with all necessary documents, the social work faculty reviews applications and notifies applicants by letter of the faculty's decisions regarding admissions. Students must be advanced to BSW student status in order to take SW330 Generalist Social Work Practice Methods Overview. Social work application forms can be downloaded from the Margaret Perez Hattori-Uchima School of Health webpage on the UOG website.

ADVISEMENT

Academic advisers assist students throughout their educational careers as they become competent entry-level social workers. The adviser monitors student

progress, provides consultation in planning a course of study, and assists in problem solving with regard to both classroom and field coursework. The faculty adviser serves as an “anchor person” with whom students may confer regarding any program-related problem or question. In general, the chair of the Division of Social Work advises pre-BSW students and other program faculty advise BSW students.

To get connected with an adviser, visit the [Academic Advisement](#) section of the Catalog.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Description	Credit Hours
Social Sciences Courses	15
Statistics Course	3
Social Work Courses	50
Elective Courses	6
Total Credit Hours	74

Note: The University of Guam requires a minimum of 124 credit hours for graduation.

Social Science Courses (15 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PY101	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SO101	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
BA110	PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

In addition, two elective upper-division social sciences courses (300-level or above) may be drawn from the fields of anthropology, economics, political science, psychology,

sociology, women and gender studies, and CHamoru studies or as approved by Social Work faculty advisor.

Statistics Course (3 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
MA151	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Note: These courses may count toward General Education requirements and toward the major in CHamoru Studies.

Social Work Courses (50 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SW201	SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT: GLOBAL CHALLENGES	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
SW313	RESEARCH METHODS FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW330	Generalist Social Work Practice Methods AND OVERVIEW	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW331	GENERALIST SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE METHODS WITH GROUPS	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW332	GENERALIST SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE METHODS WITH ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITIES	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW333	GENERALIST SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE METHODS INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW345	SOCIAL JUSTICE	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW350	HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT I	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SW351	HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT II	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW406	SOCIAL POLICY	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW408	ADVOCACY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW410	SOCIAL WELFARE AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN MICRONESIA	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW460	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PRACTICE FOR SOCIAL WORKERS	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW480	FAMILY VIOLENCE	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW485A	FIELD INSTRUCTION	4	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW485B	FIELD INSTRUCTION	4	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Elective Courses (6 credits)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
SW344	AGING: MYTH & REALITIES	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW355	HUMAN SEXUALITY	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
SW400	FIELDS OF SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Note: Due to the nature of the course, SW400 Fields of Social Work Practice can be taken more than once.

FACULTY

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