

SOCIAL WORK

Dr. Sybil Schroeder, Assistant Professor of Social Work/Director of Field Education

Dr. Sybil Schroeder joined the nationally-accredited Bachelor of Social Work Program in 2009 from Tulane University where she served as Clinical Research Faculty in the School of Medicine and Adjunct Professor in the School of Social Work. Dr. Schroeder has extensive experience in the HIV/AIDS Pandemic Research project management and community organization.

Dr. Schroeder earned a Master of Social Work degree in Health/Mental Health Administration, Planning, and Organizing from SUNO (1997) and a Doctor of Philosophy from Tulane University, School of Social Work. She worked as a medical social worker in the home health arena and with HIV/AIDS projects in Charleston, South Carolina and New Orleans, Louisiana. As a result of her work, she has received several awards.

While at UTPB, she teaches Social Work Research, Cultural Diversity and Social Welfare Policy Analysis. As Director of Field Education, Dr. Schroeder oversees the Field Practicum portion of the BSW curriculum. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Midland Community Healthcare Services and the Texas Statewide HIV/STD Prevention Community Planning Group.

ACCREDITATION

The Bachelor of Social Work Program at UTPB was fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education in June, 2007. All current and former graduates of this program are eligible to sit for the LBSW licensing examination given by the Texas State Board of Examiners for Social Workers, and therefore eligible to be licensed as baccalaureate social workers in the state of Texas.

MISSION STATEMENT

The primary mission of the Social work program is to train generalist social work professionals capable of providing culturally competent services within diverse, multicultural communities. Through all its activities, the program seeks to foster the fulfillment of human potential, promote social and economic justice, and contribute to the development of a social culture that respects the dignity and worth of all members of society.

The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program is designed to provide training to prepare graduates for entry level generalist social work practice or for admission to a graduate program in social work. Such training includes helping students develop and strengthen their sense of social responsibility, appreciation for diversity, understanding of the realities of discrimination and oppression, and knowledge of core social work values, ethics, and skills. Specifically, the BSW program seeks to achieve the following goals:

- Prepare students for agency based generalist social work practice with individuals, families, and communities
- Develop/strengthen the ability to apply critical thinking skills in a professional context
- Understand the effects of diverse backgrounds and membership in a population-at-risk on individuals, families, and communities, and the mechanisms of oppression and discrimination
- Understand that the professional roles and responsibilities of social workers include efforts to promote social and economic justice and alleviate unjust social, political, and economic conditions
- Demonstrate the ability to carry out professional practice congruent with the NASW Code of Ethics, including the ability to practice without discrimination based on group membership

The Bachelor in Social Work program prepares graduates to work in a variety of public and private service settings, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, mental health clinics, family service agencies, Texas regulatory agencies, schools, police and sheriff's departments, and a wide variety of other state, community, non-profit and for-profit agencies.

General Education

Social Work students are required to complete the University General Education Requirements. As part of the General Education Requirements, the BSW requires the inclusion of the following specified courses:

1. To fulfill the Physical and Life Science requirement, select both courses:
BIOL 1308/1108, Biology for Non-Majors, with lab
A second Life/Physical Science Lab Course
2. To fulfill the second course in the Mathematics requirement, select either:
PSYC 3301, Introduction to Statistics
or SOCI 3317, Introductory Statistics
3. To fulfill the Social Science requirement, select either:
PSYC 1301, Introduction to Psychology
or SOCI 1301, Introduction to Sociology

In addition, the major in Social Work program requires two additional Social Science courses, ECON 2301, Principles of Macroeconomics, and either PSYC 1301, Introductory Psychology or SOCI 1301, Introduction to Sociology, whichever was not used to fulfill the Social Science requirement.

Computer Use

All Social Work students must demonstrate a basic use of computing through the completion of PSYC 3301 or SOCI 3317.

Admission to the BSW Program

Admission to the BSW program shall consist of two stages: (1) the Pre-Social Work major; and (2) the Social Work major.

The Pre-Social Work Major. Any student may declare a Pre-Social Work major. Students will remain in the Pre-Social Work until they meet the requirements for application into the social work major. This policy applies to new freshmen, transfer students, and students who desire to change their major to Social Work.

To be eligible to apply for Stage 2, the Social Work major, students must meet the following course, grade and semester credit hour criteria:

1. Attain a minimum 2.5 overall GPA for all courses taken at UTPB, all Social Work (SOWK) courses, and all courses counting towards the degree.
2. Complete SOWK 2361 with a C or higher, and either SOWK 2320 or SOWK 3340 with a C or higher.
3. Attain a C or higher in all General Education courses.
4. Have 9 or fewer credit hours of the general education 44 sch core to complete.
5. Have completed at least 45 credit hours.

The Social Work Major. Admission into the Social Work major requires that the student:

1. Complete the course and grade requirements specified as a Pre-Social Work major. Experience may not be substituted for course requirements; no academic credit will be granted for life or work experience.
2. Submit a formal application for admission.

Admissions Criteria: The BSW program wishes to admit applicants who demonstrate both academic competency and the personal attributes that will provide a solid foundation for professional development. Such attributes include maturity, good judgment, a willingness to consider new ideas, the ability to develop reflectivity and self-awareness, an acceptance of differences in people, and values consistent with the social work profession. Applications will be reviewed by the Program Director and Director of Field Education. Three possible decisions are: (1) regular admission; (2) provisional admission; and (3) denied admission.

Upon admission into Stage 2 of the proposed BSW program, a student's formal academic major will be converted administratively from Pre-Social Work to Social Work.

Students who have completed SOWK courses at other institutions must complete at least 9 credit hours of practice methods courses and 12 credit hours of field practicum at U. T. Permian Basin. The Program

Director will evaluate the transferability of SOWK courses elsewhere and determine which are acceptable for transfer and credit as required professional social work courses. Generally, only social work courses taken from a CSWE accredited BSW program will be accepted as equivalent for professional social work courses; exceptions will be made only when a course from an unaccredited program can be definitively shown to be equivalent to the course offered by UTPB, as determined by the Program Director.

All transfer credit awarded must be based on formal course work; no academic credit can be granted for life experience or work experience in a social service position.

Major Requirements

The BSW degree requires a minimum of 120 semester credit hours as specified below, with a minimum of 54 credit hours taken at the junior and senior levels (3000/4000 numbered courses). The major in Social Work does not require the student to complete a minor. Requirements in addition to the general education core and core extension are:

1. Social Work Core Courses, 45 Credits

- SOWK 2361, Introduction to Social Work
- SOWK 2320, Social Welfare Policies and Issues
- SOCI 3317/PSYC 3301, Introductory Statistics* (credits counted under General Education)
- SOWK 3320, Social Policy Analysis
- SOWK 3324, Ethics & Values of Social Work
- SOWK 3330, Introduction to Social Work Research
- SOWK 3340, Human Behavior in the Social Environment I: Lifespan Development
- SOWK 3345, Child abuse and Neglect
- SOWK 3350, Social Justice
- SOWK 3355, Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families
- SOWK 3356, Social Work Practice with Groups
- SOWK 4280, Field Practicum I Seminar
- SOWK 4281, Field Practicum II Seminar
- SOWK 4370, Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities
- SOWK 4480, Field Practicum I
- SOWK 4481, Field Practicum II

2. Electives, 25 credits, or the number required to complete a total of 120 credit hours. Choices from the following are suggested.

- | | |
|---|---|
| COMM 3355, <i>Advanced Public Speaking</i> | PSYC 3322, <i>Theories of Personality</i> |
| COMM 3375, <i>Political Communication</i> | PSYC 3341, <i>Child and Adolescent Psychology</i> |
| COSC 1335, <i>Computers and Problem Solving</i> | PSYC 3343, <i>Adult Development</i> |
| CRIM 3350, <i>Social Deviance</i> | PSYC 3386, <i>Human Sexuality</i> |
| CRIM 3365, <i>Juvenile Delinquency and Justice</i> | PSYC 3403, <i>Principles of Learning</i> |
| PSYC 4307, <i>Health Psychology</i> | |
| HIST 3371, <i>American Minorities</i> | PSYC 4308, <i>Introduction to Counseling</i> |
| KINE 1301, <i>Concepts in Fitness and Health</i> | PSYC 4341, <i>The Exceptional Child</i> |
| KINE 3310, <i>Motor Development</i> | SOCI 3345, <i>Race, Gender, Ethnicity & Social Change</i> |
| KINE 3330, <i>Physical Activity for the Disabled</i> | SOCI 3348, <i>Population Dynamics</i> |
| LEAD 4339, <i>Leadership and Ethics</i> | SOCI 3349, <i>The Child in Society</i> |
| LEAD 4350, <i>Leadership in Organizational Settings</i> | SOCI 4315, <i>Sociology of Organizations</i> |
| LEAD 4360, <i>Strategic Leadership and Planning</i> | SOCI 4320, <i>Social Stratification</i> |
| LEAD 4370, <i>Conflict Resolution</i> | SOCI 4324, <i>Political Sociology</i> |
| LEAD 4375, <i>Leadership and Community Development</i> | SOCI 4325, <i>Globalization</i> |
| PLSC 3321, <i>Comparative Politics</i> | SOCI 4360, <i>Social Gerontology</i> |
| PLSC 3327, <i>American Foreign Policy</i> | SOCI 4362, <i>Sociology of Health and Illness</i> |
| PLSC 4321, <i>Politics of Adv. Industrial Democracies</i> | SOCI 4363, <i>Death and Dying</i> |
| PLSC 4336, <i>Civil Liberties</i> | SOWK 3347, <i>Rural Sociology</i> |
| PLSC 4345, <i>Public Policy</i> | SOWK 3360, <i>Cultural Diversity</i> |
| PLSC 4347, <i>Public Administration</i> | SOWK 3390, <i>The Family</i> |
| PLSC 4351, <i>Political Theory</i> | SOWK 4305, <i>Drugs and Behavior</i> |
| PSYC 3311, <i>Social Psychology</i> | |

Field Placement

The program requires 12 credit hours (480 clock hours) of field practice experience. This will be satisfied by two SOWK *Field Practicum* placements taken in the senior year, SOWK 4480/4280 and SOWK 4481/4281. Enrolled students will work in a social service delivery agency under the supervision of a qualified social worker. Social Work faculty will provide faculty liaison services to monitor the student's progress within the field placement. Students who have completed the general education core courses and the majority of the social work core courses should apply for acceptance into the field placement in the long semester prior to the semester they anticipate entering field. Application for field placement is made with the Director of Field Education.

Minor in Social Work

Students who minor in Social Work learn a great deal about our society, its problems, its values, and its responses to needs. Students are better informed as citizens, and they are prepared to work intelligently to make our society better. The Social Work minor seeks to enhance students' understanding of social policy and give students a basic understanding of social work practice. The Social Work minor, however, does not prepare students to be professional social workers or to seek state licensure as social workers.

Minor Requirements

The Social Work minor requires completion of 18 semester credit hours in SOWK courses. The minor requires the following courses (sch):

SOWK 2361, Introduction to Social Work
SOWK 2320, Social Welfare Policies and Issues

SOWK 3324, Ethics and Values in Social Work

The student may choose the remaining 6 sch from the social work course listings, with the exception of the field placement courses, which may be taken only by Social Work majors.

Course Listing

SOWK 2320 Social Welfare Policies and Issues (3)

Examination of the development of policies, the social and political influences on their implementation, and the effects and impact of policy on social work practice in a variety of key areas and practice settings. Pre/co-requisite: PLSC 2305 and 2306, SOWK 2361. F

SOWK 2361 Introduction to Social Work (3)

Introduction to the profession of social work and social work roles in the social welfare system, with emphasis on the mission, philosophy, and values of the profession. This course also introduces students to the social welfare institutions in the United States and their historical foundations. F, S

SOWK 3320 Social Policy Analysis (3)

An analysis of current social welfare policies on the local, state, and federal levels, and various elements of welfare programs and entitlements. The course will cover a range of critiques of social welfare policy and reform proposals. A framework for policy analysis/evaluation and strategies for influencing policy development and change will be studied. Prerequisites: SOWK 2320. S

SOWK 3324 Ethics & Values in Social Work (3)

This course will provide an intensive introduction to the values upon which social work practice is based, and the ethical guidelines which operationalize those values and to which social workers are held accountable. The NASW Code of Ethics will be covered in detail and provide the background for critical thinking and ethical reasoning regarding the inevitable value conflicts and ethical dilemmas social workers face. Pre/co-requisite: SOWK 2361.

SOWK 3330 Introduction to Social Work Research (3)

This course is designed to provide students with the fundamental skills to evaluate research studies critically, apply research findings to practice, and understand social work research as an integral part of informed practice. The course addresses how to conduct research to evaluate practice, quantitative and qualitative methods, and research ethics, with particular attention to the role of research with populations-at-risk, social and economic justice, and cultural diversity. Critical thinking and writing skills will be emphasized. Prerequisite: PSYC 3301 or SOCI 3317.

SOWK 3340 Human Behavior in the Social Environment I: Lifespan Development (3)

This course examines the dynamics of human behavior and provides students with a basic knowledge of the biological, psychological, and sociological influences on the interactions of individuals, families, and groups with society. This course will emphasize systems theory from the social work perspective. Underlying the course will be an appreciation for human diversity, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and various aspects of the family and groups. Pre-requisite or Co-requisite: BIOL 1306/1106 – General Biology I, SOWK 2361–Introduction to Social Work. F

SOWK 3345 Child Abuse and Neglect (3)

The overall objective of this course is help students develop an understanding of the various forms of child abuse, identify the underlying causes of this multifaceted problem, and to appropriately identify the types of services that will benefit maltreated children and their families. The nature and impact of child maltreatment, the ways in which society prevents or responds to it, and the system of response to child maltreatment are addressed. The course will also cover the importance of promoting social and economic justice for children and ways to empower children and their parents through the helping process.

SOWK 3347 Rural Sociology (3)

Analyzes the rural aspects of population, stratification, social change and the conditions under which persons live and work. Rural social and community organization, agricultural influences, poverty programs and their influences, and technological advances will also be examined. Prerequisite: Junior standing.

SOWK 3350 Social Justice (3)

This course is designed to explore the principles that have shaped America, and to weigh them against the reality of American life. Specifically, how have the values of justice, democracy, liberty, and equality been understood, and to what extent have they been fulfilled in contemporary American society? These questions will be pursued from a historical, philosophical, and social science perspective in order to provide students with a broad framework for analyzing whether we have created a society that is consistent with these four core American principles. A special emphasis is placed upon the role of social justice in social work. Prerequisites: SOWK 2361, ECON 2301. S

SOWK 3355 Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families (3)

This first of three generalist practice courses introduces the student to social work processes, concepts, and theories relevant to generalist social work practice with individuals and families. The course will emphasize general practice skills and the professional relationship. Specific attention is paid to the roles of generalist social work. For Social Work majors only. Pre/co-requisite: SOWK 3340. S

SOWK 3356 Social Work Practice with Groups (3)

This social work practice course introduces students to theories of group development and group dynamics, and emphasizes the development of effective group work skills. The focus is on the knowledge and skills needed to work effectively with task, support, and self-help groups. For Social Work majors only. Prerequisite: SOWK 3340.

SOWK 3360 Cultural Diversity (3)

This course is designed to expand student's cultural awareness to support the development of effective interaction with and service to culturally diverse populations, and will focus on the development of competence in cultural diversity as it relates to individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities from the generalist perspective. Skill-building exercises will focus on assessment, intervention, and advocacy with diverse cultural groups. F

SOWK 3389 Selected Topics (3)

Undergraduate courses which will be offered only once, will be offered infrequently, or which are being developed before a regular listing in the catalog.

SOWK 3390 The Family (3)

A historical and comparative approach in the examination of changing structure and functions of the family institution. The course provides a broad-based but intensive understanding of the family. Issues include the effect of economic, demographic and cultural changes on male-female relationships, sex roles, marriage and child care.

Prerequisites: Junior standing, PSYC 1301 and SOCI 1301. [Cross-listed with SOCI 3390, The Family.]

SOWK 4280 Field Practicum I Seminar (2)

A capstone seminar focused on the integration of classroom theory and knowledge with actual social work practice, based on the student's field placement experiences. Prerequisites: SOWK 3355, SOWK 3324. Co-requisite: SOWK 4480.

SOWK 4281 Field Practicum II Seminar (2)

Continuation of SOWK 4280 through the second semester of field placement. Integration of theory and practice on the basis of field practicum experiences. Prerequisites: SOWK 4480 and SOWK 4280. Co-requisite: SOWK 4481.

SOWK 4305 Drugs and Behavior (3)

Pharmacologic basis of psychotropic drugs and their associated abuses. Theories of cause and treatment of abusers are reviewed. Prerequisites: Junior standing, PSYC 1301 and SOCI 1301. [Cross-listed with PSYC 4305, Drugs and Behavior]

SOWK 4370 Social Work Practice with Organizations and Communities-(3)

A social work practice course designed to acquaint students with the theory and knowledge necessary for generalist social work practice with organizations and communities, with a focus on developing skills for effecting macro-level change. For Social Work majors only. Prerequisites: SOWK 3340, or permission of the instructor.

SOWK 4480 Field Practicum I (4)

This is the first of two field courses in a supervised community social service agency consisting of a minimum of 240 hours (16 hours per week for 15 weeks of the semester). A weekly seminar (SOWK 4280) accompanies this course which enables the student to integrate and apply classroom learning (theory and practice) in the field setting. Prerequisites: Formal admission to field placement, SOWK 3340, SOWK 3355, and SOWK 3356. Co-requisite: SOWK 4280.

SOWK 4481 Field Practicum II (4)

The second course of the field learning experience in a community social service agency consisting of a minimum of 240 hours. A weekly seminar (SOWK 4281) accompanies this course which enables the student to integrate and apply classroom learning (theory and practice) in the field setting. SOWK 4480/4280. Co-requisite: SOWK 4281. Course fee required.