

Requirements for the Master of Social Welfare (MSW) Degree

To be eligible for conferral of the Master of Social Welfare (MSW) degree, students must satisfy all of the following requirements.

Minimum Total Units

Students must complete a minimum total of 54 units:

- At least half must be from graduate level coursework numbered 200-299.
- A total of 25 units must be earned in required field practicum placements and integrative seminars.

Cumulative GPA

Students must maintain a 3.0 on the basis of all upper division and graduate courses (100- and 200-series) taken in graduate standing. Courses numbered below 100 and above 299 are not included in determining a student's GPA for academic standing or earning a degree.

Foundations of Social Work

During **fall of the first year of study**, students must complete all of the following courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 200	Theories for Multilevel Practice	2	Every Fall
SOC WEL 220	Introduction to Social Welfare Policy	2	Every Fall
SOC WEL 240	Historical, Philosophical, & Intellectual Foundations of Social Work	2	Every Fall
SOC WEL 241	Foundations of Multilevel Practice	3	Every Fall

Field Education

Students must complete a total of **25 field placement practicum and required integrative seminar units**. Students will be in field two days a week in the first year, and three days a week in the second year.

In the **first year** of study students must complete all of the following field education courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 290A	Foundation Field Integration Seminar	2	Every Fall
SOC WEL 290B	Foundation Field Integration Seminar II	1	Every Spring
SOC WEL 410A	Foundation Field Practicum	4	Every Fall
SOC WEL 410B	Foundation Field Practicum	4	Every Spring

In the **second year** of study students must complete all of the following field education courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 292A	Advanced Field Integration Seminar	1	Every Fall
SOC WEL 292B	Advanced Field Integration Seminar II	1	Every Spring
SOC WEL 412A	Advanced Field Practicum	6	Every Fall
SOC WEL 412B	Advanced Field Practicum	6	Every Spring

Diversity-Competent Social Work Practice

Students must complete a course in diversity-competent practice, valued at 2 units or higher.

The following courses may be used to satisfy the diversity-competent practice requirement for the MSW degree:

Course	Description	Units
African American Studies		
AFRICAM 111	Race, Class, and Gender in the United States	3
AFRICAM 137	Multicultural Communities	3
Asian American Studies		
ASAMST 131	Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies	4
Demography		
DEMOG 240	Human Migration	2
Education		
EDUC 200D	Psychosocial Development: Identity, Culture, and Education	3
EDUC 280A/B	Proseminar: Sociocultural Critique of Education	3
Environmental Science, Policy and Management		
ESPM C254	Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Health Status	3
ESPM 262	Race, Identity, and the Environment	3
Gender and Women's Studies		
GSW 130AC	Gender, Race, Nation and Health	4
Native American Studies		
NATAMST 149	Gender in Native American Society	4
Public Health		
PB HLTH 202B	Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Health Status and Behavior	3
PB HLTH 204F	Culture, Practice and Eliminating Health Disparities	3
PB HLTH 204G	Research Advances in Health Disparities: Multidisciplinary Perspectives	2
PB HLTH 212A	International Maternal and Child Health	2
PB HLTH 212C	Migration and Health: A U.S.-Mexico Binational Perspective	2 or 3
PB HLTH 219C	Community Based Participatory Research in Public Health	3 or 4
PB HLTH 221B	Understanding and Overcoming Health Care Disparities	2
Sociology		
SOCIOL 131AC	Race and Ethnic Relations: U.S. American Cultures	4
SOCIOL 133	The Sociology of Gender	4
Social Welfare		
SOC WEL 250F	Facilitating Interpersonal Group Dynamics	2
SOC WEL 250J	Social Work with Latino Populations	2
SOC WEL 250K	Social Work and Disabilities	2
SOC WEL 250L	Human Sexuality	2
SOC WEL 250M	Death and Dying	2
SOC WEL 255	Community Organizing	2
SOC WEL 260	Forensic Social Work	2
SOC WEL 272	Health and Human Services in Mexico	2
SOC WEL 274	Immigrants and Refugees	2
SOC WEL 275	Diversity-sensitive and Competent Social Work	2
SOC WEL 298	Narrative Therapies for Vulnerable Populations	2

Social Research Coursework & Master's Capstone Requirement

All MSW students complete a sequence of courses in methods of social research (research sequence), which culminates in a research project completed to satisfy the Berkeley master's degree capstone requirement.

In the **second year** of study students must complete the following courses **with a grade of B or better**:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 282A	Seminar in Social Welfare Research	2	Every Fall
SOC WEL 282B	Seminar in Social Welfare Research	2	Every Spring

- Successful completion of [SOC WEL 282B](#) satisfies the Berkeley master's degree capstone requirement.

Specialty Area Requirements

All MSW students complete a series of required advanced practice and policy courses in their chosen specialty area. Requirements vary by specialty area as shown below:

Aging Services

Students in the Direct Practice in Aging Services area must complete the following courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 210C	Aging Processes	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 226	Social Policy and Gerontology	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 246	Direct Practice in Aging Settings	2	Every Spring

Child and Family Services

Students in the Direct Practice in Child and Family Services area must complete the following courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 230	Social Policy: Children and Families	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 243	Direct Practice in Child and Family Settings	2	Every Spring

Community Mental Health

Students in the Direct Practice in Community Mental Health area must complete the following courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 205	Psychosocial Problems and Psychopathology	2	Every Fall
SOC WEL 222	Mental Health and Social Policy	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 244	Direct Practice in Mental Health Settings	2	Every Spring

Health Services

Students in the Direct Practice in Health Services area must complete the following courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 238C	Health Policy - A Social Welfare Perspective	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 245	Direct Practice in Health Settings	2	Every Spring

Management and Planning (MAP)

Students in the Management and Planning area must complete the following courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 210I	Group, Organizational, and Community Dynamics	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 251	Program Development	2	Every Fall
SOC WEL 252	Program Implementation	2	Every Spring

MAP Additional Policy Course Requirement

MAP students must **also** complete **one** of the following additional policy courses:

Course	Description	Units	When
SOC WEL 222	Mental Health and Social Policy	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 226	Social Policy and Gerontology	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 230	Social Policy: Children and Families	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 238C	Health Policy - A Social Welfare Perspective	2	Every Spring
SOC WEL 254	Policy Practice	2	Every Fall

Electives

Students must complete a sufficient number of units in professionally relevant elective course work required to reach the minimum total units (54) required for the MSW degree.

Since the number of required courses varies according to area of specialized practice, the total number of elective units required in each area will also vary as shown below:

Specialty Area	Required Foundation Units	Required Specialty Area Units	Minimum Required Elective Units
Aging Services	15	6	8
Child and Family Services	15	4	10
Community Mental Health	15	6	8
Health Services	15	4	10
Management and Planning	15	8	6

- Students receiving a Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program Stipend are required to take SOC WEL 250N to partially satisfy the elective requirement.
- Students pursuing the Pupil Personnel Services Credential are required to take both SOC WEL 232 and SOC WEL 250T to partially satisfy the elective requirement.

The following courses may be used to satisfy the elective requirement for the MSW degree:

Course	Description	Units
African American Studies		
AFRICAM 107	Race and Public Policy	3
Anthropology		
ANTHRO 115	Introduction to Medical Anthropology	4
ANTHRO 149	Psychological Anthropology	4
ANTHRO 158	Religion and Anthropology	4

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The following courses may be used to satisfy the elective requirement for the MSW degree:

Course	Description	Units
Asian American Studies		
ASAMST 141	Law in the Asian American Community	4
ASAMST 145	Politics, Public Policy, and Asian American Communities	4
Business Administration		
MBA 209F	Fundamentals of Business	3
MBA 292A	Strategy and Leadership for Social Impact	2 or 3
MBA 292S	Social Sector Solutions: Social Enterprise	3
MBA 295T	Special Topics in Entrepreneurship: Social Lean Launchpad	1-3
Chicano Studies		
CHICANO 172	Chicanos and the Educational System	4
CHICANO 174	Chicanos, Law, and Criminal Justice	4
CHICANO 176	Chicanos and Health Care	3
City and Regional Planning		
CY PLAN 113A	Economic Analysis for Planning	3
CY PLAN 115	Urbanization in Developing Countries	4
CY PLAN 220	The Urban and Regional Economy	3
CY PLAN 230	U.S. Housing, Planning, and Policy	3
Demography		
DEMOG 220	Human Fertility	4
Development Practice		
DEVP 233	Law, Politics, and Policy Making	3
Economics		
ECON 157	Health Economics	4
Education		
EDUC 114A	Early Development and Education	4
EDUC 200A	Culture and Cognitive Development: Theoretical Perspectives	3
EDUC 200B	Social Development	3
EDUC 207C	Diagnosis of Human Handicaps	4
EDUC 207D	Assessment and Education of Exceptional Pupils in Regular Classes	2
EDUC 213D	Education Interventions for the School Psychologist	3
EDUC 260A	Issues in Educational Administration and Policy	3
EDUC 261A	Organization Theory in Education and Other Social Services	3
Legal Studies		
LEGALST 155	Government and the Family	4
LEGALST 160	Punishment, Culture, and Society	4
LEGALST 163	Adolescence, Crime and Juvenile Justice	4
LEGALST 168	Sex, Reproduction, and the Law	4
LEGALST 170	Crime and Criminal Justice	4
LEGALST 182	Law, Politics and Society	4
LEGALST 183	Psychology of Diversity and Discrimination in American Law	4
Native American Studies		
NATAMST 101	Native American Tribal Governments	4
Political Science		
POL SCI 171	California Politics	4

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Course	Description	Units
POL SCI 181	Public Organization and Administration	4
POL SCI 273	Urban Politics	4
Psychology		
PSYCH 130	Clinical Psychology	3
PSYCH 131	Developmental Psychology	3
PSYCH 141	Development During Infancy	3
PSYCH 160	Social Psychology	3
PSYCH 180	Industrial-Organization Psychology	3
Public Health		
PB HLTH 201F	Community Based Research & Interventions to Promote Health: Theory & Methods	3
PB HLTH 202G	Advanced Alcohol Research Seminar	1
PB HLTH 203A	Theories of Health and Social Behavior	3
PB HLRH 204A	Mass Communications in Public Health	3
PB HLTH 204D	Community Organization and Community Building for Health	3 or 4
PB HLTH 205	Program Planning, Development and Education	4
PB HLTH 206B	Food and Nutrition Policies and Programs	3
PB HLTH 210	Maternal and Child Health	3
PB HLTH 212D	Expanded Foundations of Global Health	2
PB HLTH 213A	Family Planning, Population Change, and Health	3
PB HLTH 217C	Aging and Public Health	3
PB HLTH 217D	Neuroscience and Public Health of Alzheimer's Disease	3
PB HLTH 218B	Evaluation of Health and Social Programs	4
PB HLTH 221	Mental Health Policies, Programs, and Services	2
PB HLTH 222A	Health Care Technology Policy	2
PB HLTH 223C	Strategic Management and the Organization of Health Services	3
PB HLTH 226A	Health Economics	3
PB HLTH 226D	Global Health Economics	3
PB HLTH 255A	Social Epidemiology	3
PB HLTH 270	Introduction to Environmental Health Science	3
PB HLTH 281	Public Health and Spirituality	2
Public Policy		
PUB POL C164	Impact of Government Policies on Poor Children and Families	4
PUB POL 220	Law and Public Policy	4
PUB POL 251	Microeconomic Organization and Policy Analysis	3
PUB POL 260	Public Leadership and Management	4
PUB POL 270	Kid-First Policy: Family, School and Community	4
PUB POL 280	Ethics, Policy, and the Power of Ideas	4
Sociology		
SOCIOL 111	Sociology of the Family	4
SOCIOL 140	Politics and Social Change	4
SOCIOL 150	Social Psychology	4
SOCIOL 151	Personality and Social Structure	4
SOCIOL 280L	Advanced Study in Substantive Sociological Fields: Gender	3
SOCIOL 280AA	Advanced Study in Substantive Sociological Fields: Sociology of Gender	3

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Course	Description	Units
Social Welfare		
SOC WEL 205	Psychosocial Problems and Psychopathology	2
SOC WEL 210A	Stress and Coping in Adulthood	2
SOC WEL 210B	Infant Development	2
SOC WEL 210i	Group, Organizational and Community Dynamics	2
SOC WEL 222	Mental Health and Social Policy	2
SOC WEL 226	Social Policy and Gerontology	2
SOC WEL 230	Social Policy: Children & Families	2
SOC WEL 232	Social Work and Education Policy	2
SOC WEL 234C	Legal and Ethical Issues in Aging	2
SOC WEL 236	International Social Welfare	2
SOC WEL 238C	Health Policy: A Social Welfare Perspective	2
SOC WEL 243	Direct Practice in Child and Family Settings	2
SOC WEL 244	Direct Practice in Mental Health Settings	2
SOC WEL 245	Direct Practice in Health	2
SOC WEL 246	Direct Practice in Aging	2
SOC WEL 250A	Social Work with Groups	2
SOC WEL 250B	Family Therapy	2
SOC WEL 250C	Brief Therapy and Crisis Intervention	2
SOC WEL 250N	Public Child Welfare Service	2
SOC WEL 250P	Child and Adolescent Psychopathology	2
SOC WEL 250T	Social Work Practice in School Settings	2
SOC WEL 250U	Substance Abuse Treatment	2
SOC WEL 250X	Domestic Violence: Assessment and Intervention	2
SOC WEL 250Y	International Social Development	2
SOC WEL 250Z	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	2
SOC WEL 251	Program Development	2
SOC WEL 252	Program Implementation	2
SOC WEL 254	Policy Practice	2
SOC WEL 257	Financial Management	2
SOC WEL 265H	Integrated Behavioral Health	2
SOC WEL 265M	Motivational Interviewing	2
Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Studies		
UGIS 112	Women and Disability	3