Program Description

Degree Awarded: MSW Social Work (Planning, Administration and Community Practice)

The professional program leading to the MSW degree prepares social workers for leadership and effective practice in macro-social work positions and to be capable of responding effectively to the needs of special populations in the Southwest.

The curriculum is designed to provide students with knowledge, skill and practice opportunities in the areas of program planning and evaluation, administration, policy analysis and advocacy, and community practice. The master's degree program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and is located at the Downtown Phoenix campus and in Tucson.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Watts College of Public Service & Community Solution
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus, ASU@Tucson

Degree Requirements

39 credit hours and a portfolio, or
39 credit hours and a thesis
Summer Session Coursework (9 credit hours)
SWG 516 Social Work Skills Seminar (3)
SWG 598 ST: Advanced Standing Bridge Seminar I (3)
SWG 598 ST: Advanced Standing Bridge Seminar II (3)

Planning, Administration and Community Practice (21 credit hours)
SWG 623 Program Evaluation (3)
SWG 632 Policy Practice (3)
SWG 643 Advanced Practicum: Planning, Social Work Administration, and Community Practice I (3)
SWG 644 Advanced Practicum: Planning, Social Work Administration, and Community Practice II (3)
SWG 681 Social Work Administration (3)
SWG 682 Community Participation Strategies (3)
SWG 685 Program Planning in Social Services (3)

Electives (9 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (0 or 6 credit hours)
SWG 599 Thesis (6) or
portfolio (0)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students must start the program in summer (beginning with the first summer session) and complete three credit hours in each six-week summer session and three credit hours during the eight-week session, for a total of nine credit hours. The remainder of the program is completed within two semesters (full time).

Students continue with their practicum during the fall and spring semesters. The culminating experience is a portfolio or thesis.

Electives may be selected from offerings at the School of Social Work or courses offered through other departments with the approval of the MSW program coordinator. If the student chooses to complete a thesis for the culminating experience, only three credit hours of elective coursework is needed to reach the 39 credit hours required for the program.

Admission Requirements
Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions.
Applicants must have a BSW from a Council on Social Work Education-accredited program, with at least a 3.20 GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last two years of work leading to the Bachelor of Social Work (junior and senior GPA). Applicants must have received their Bachelor of Social Work degree no more than six years prior to the date of admission to the MSW program. All applicants are required to have completed a course in human biology and a course in statistics before enrollment in the advanced standing program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work
3. three letters of reference
4. professional resume that includes volunteer and paid work experience
5. statement of educational and career goals
6. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

A combination of academic and professional references is desirable. References from friends, family members or personal therapists are not accepted. At least one of the three required references must be from the applicant's Bachelor of Social Work field instructor or, if employed in a social work-related job for two or more years, from the applicant's supervisor.

Guidelines for writing the statement can be found at [https://socialwork.asu.edu/content/msw-application-proceduresmaterials](https://socialwork.asu.edu/content/msw-application-proceduresmaterials).

Applicants should see the program website for application deadlines. Applicants admitted to the advanced standing program begin classes in the summer.

Students should contact the School of Social Work at 602-496-0800 with any questions about the application process.

**Contact Information**

School of Social Work | UCENT 800
mswadvising@asu.edu | 602-496-0800