The Bachelor of Arts degree in social work is a professional degree program dedicated to teaching people to help others cope with a variety of personal, family, group and social problems. Social workers are employed in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, neighborhood organizations, armed services, industry, substance abuse and mental health programs, and other public and private agencies – just about anywhere there are people.

Wichita State University’s Bachelor of Social Work program is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. It is designed to develop beginning level generalist social workers for practice within Kansas and the region. The program will prepare you for professional practice, graduate social work education and responsible community participation.

The degree requires 45 hours of coursework and practicum experiences. Because it is a professional program, you will be required to have 480 clock hours of field practice experience under educational supervision. Placements vary among more than 80 community and state agencies.

Choices are made by you and the field director based on your educational needs, interests and career goals. After graduation, social work practitioners must meet the requirements of licensure established by the State of Kansas in order to practice in the state.

Admission
When you choose to study social work, you’ll be admitted to pre-major studies in the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. After you complete your entry-level coursework, you will apply for professional standing in the social work program. You will meet with a faculty advisor in the social work department who will help you develop your program of study. Later, you will complete a Practicum Inventory which will assist in placing you for your supervised field practicum. If you are still deciding on a major when you begin taking classes at WSU, the Liberal Arts and Sciences Advising Center will help you explore career and major options.

Related Opportunities
Social work majors may join the Student Organization of Social Work, a group of students and faculty, which arranges special workshops, speakers and social events, and engages in various social action projects. SOSW is a member of the WSU Student Government Association.

Some social work students may want to participate in a Cooperative Education placement through which students may receive academic credit for paid work experience related to the social work major.

Students who are eligible may join the national social work honor society, Phi Alpha, the social sciences honor society, Pi Gamma Mu, or university honor societies such as Phi Kappa Phi and Mortar Board.

Related Programs
Students interested in social work may select a second major or minor in a related field, such as sociology, psychology, gerontology, ethnic studies, women’s studies or criminal justice.

General Education Program Requirements
Well-Rounded Learning
Wichita State strives to offer the most complete college experience possible to produce well-rounded, successful Shocker graduates. Through general education courses, students explore subjects outside of their major, expanding their knowledge, perspective and skills and making a positive impact on their career and life.

Benefits of general education courses:
• Improved critical thinking skills
• Better communication, written and spoken
• Increased analytical reasoning and problem solving
• An acquired knowledge of natural and social science, the arts and humanities

Improve skills by taking courses that include diversity content, study abroad experiences, service learning and experience-based learning.
**Major Requirements**

- Introduction to Social Work & Social Welfare - 3 credit hours
- Policy I: Understanding Social Welfare Policy – 3 credit hours
- Policy II: Connecting Policy & Practice – 3 credit hours
- Social Work Major Courses – 6 credit hours
- Person in Society: Micro- 3 credit hours
- Person in Society: Macro- 3 credit hours
- Introduction to Social Work Research - 3 credit hours
- Generalist Practice with Groups - 3 credit hours
- Generalist Practice with Individuals - 3 credit hours
- Practicum I - 4 credit hours
- Practicum II - 4 credit hours
- Generalist Practice with Orgs & Communities - 3 credit hours

As indicated above, students are required to take six credit hours of Social Work Major Courses. Students may choose their two Major Courses from the following list. BSW students are required to take two Major Course selections: one suggested in the fall semester of their junior year, and one suggested in the spring semester of their senior year.

These courses will meet the requirement for a Major Course selection:

- Social Diversity and Ethics – 3 credit hours
- Human Sexuality – 3 credit hours
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Studies – 3 credit hours
- Generalist Practice with Children and Families – 3 credit hours
- Women and Poverty – 3 credit hours
- International Social Work – 3 credit hours
- Contemporary Issues & Perspectives – LGBTQ – 3 credit hours
- Policy and Practice with Aging – 3 credit hours
- Domestic Human Trafficking – 3 credit hours
- Social Work Practice with Families of Diverse Cultures – 3 credit hours

**Undergraduate Certificate in Social Work and Addictions (UCSWA)**

Undergraduate certificates are awarded by departments and colleges to recognize accomplishment in a cluster of related courses on a topic, skill, theme or method. In the School of Social Work, an undergraduate certificate in social work and addiction may be undertaken by students who wish to focus in on specialized knowledge related to addiction.

The Undergraduate Certificate Program in Social Work and Addiction is designed to provide specialized knowledge and skills in addictions for bachelor’s level students planning to enter the workforce or enter graduate school after graduation. The courses within this certificate program include specific requirement of an eight credit hour practicum to be in addictions work setting, and nine credit hours of additional coursework. The program offers students the opportunity to explore addictions from a social work perspective.

**For more information, contact:**

Office of Admissions  
Wichita State University  
1845 Fairmount St.  
Wichita, Kansas 67260-0124

(316) 978-3085  
wichita.edu/admissions  
wichita.edu/visit

KSDegreeStats.org

Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3187.

For more information on Social Work at WSU visit wichita.edu/socialwork or call (316) 978-7250.