This isn’t a degree you get, this is a degree you earn.

May 2017

Less structure and oversight, requires personal:
- Responsibility
- Initiative
- Time management
- Follow through.

Assignments (1 HR in Seat:3 HR Prep Ratio):
- More research, critical thinking & application
- Writing and more writing – academic as well as reflective
- Group projects – out of classroom time commitment
- Skill labs - such as role/real play triads.

Stressful:
- Balancing graduate college course work/internships, work, home
- Importance of boundaries – negotiating new temporary ones, being transparent
- A temporary hold to your (non-family) personal life as you know.

Cohort Effect:
- Share, debrief, vent, support
- Focus on finding solutions & resources – collaboration
- (or not)
- Future professional & work colleagues – references.

Conduct Expectations – Social Work Use of Self:
- Use of self-awareness, self-reflection & self-regulation to integrate & activate the value base of our profession
- Ethical strengths-based, solution focused decision-making
- Professional demeanor in behavior, appearance and communication (oral, written, electronic)
- Awareness of your social media footprint
- Constructive use of feedback, supervision and guidance – being proactive in seeking such.
• Take a deep breath – you don’t need to change the world – solve a harmful human condition – you don’t need to be an expert.
• A sanctioned learning environment.
• In 2022 looking back, how will you know that you made the best use of this opportunity?
• Did you push your own boundaries, test new things, expand your professional network, make mistakes and grow from the lessons learned?
• Never, ever, ever stop visualizing walking across that stage!
• If you sense you are stumbling, there is honor in reaching out and using support.

Program Overview

• Complies with UNI Graduate College Requirements.
• Complies with CSWE Educational Policy and Core Competencies and Practice Behaviors.
• Required to attend classes that are on-site at UNI – morning, afternoon & evening
• We try to limit classes to 2 days per week in Fall and Spring Semesters,
• Summer Session meets daily.
• Some events scheduled outside of Semesters:
  • Orientations
  • Workshops, Conferences.
• Courses taught by both department faculty and department adjuncts.

• Statistics – take as soon as possible.
• <3.0 – Must have at least a 3.0 after completion of 9 Credit Hours.
• All students must maintain a 3.0 throughout the program – Graduate Probation & Suspension.
• No more than six (6) Credit Hours of C credit (C+, C, C-) earned within the program of study may be applied toward credit for graduation.
• BA Transcript.
- **Scholarships**
- **Graduate Assistantships**
- **UNI Office of Financial Aid and Assistance**
  - [http://uni.edu/finaid/](http://uni.edu/finaid/)
  - **Part-Time Status** – at least 5 Credit hours.

- **EPC 1** – Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
- **EPC 2** – Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice
- **EPC 3** – Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
- **EPC 4** – Engage In Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
- **EPC 5** – Engage in Policy Practice
- **EPC 6** – Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- **EPC 7** – Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- **EPC 8** – Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- **EPC 9** – Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

- **Foundation (Fall 2017 through Spring 2018)**
  - 6 Courses (18 Credit hours)
  - Block Field Placement & Seminar (8 Credit Hours)

- **Advanced Core (Summer 2017)**
  - Two-Day TIC Conference (late May/early June) – Varies, not always Required
  - 3 Courses (9 Credit Hours)

- **Trauma Informed Practice (Fall 2017 through Spring 2018)**
  - 6 Courses (18 Credit Hours includes 3 hours of a graduate elective)
  - Concurrent Field Placement & seminar (10 Credit Hours)

- **Research Paper/Signature Assignment** (due as final assignment of SW 6265 Advanced Social Work Research, Fall 2018, must be submitted no later than Friday of the 8th week of the spring semester – Spring 2019)
- Advisor will be assigned during the first two weeks of the first semester
  - Reach out and establish rapport
  - Maintain contact – use as sounding board
  - Obtain approval for electives

- Student Advisement Report and Student Requests
  - Advisement Report
  - Student Requests

- Graduate Research Paper
  - Requirements
  - Resources
    - Turnitin.com
    - APA Formatting

- Electives
  - All courses must be 5000-level or higher
  - Obtain approval from faculty advisor.

- Practicum Seminar is a part of Practicum.

- Things Will Change – Policies & Requirements.
  - Please monitor:
    - UNI Email – especially from the UNI Graduate College and the Social Work Department
    - Department Website.
  - If these do not provide the info, check with:
    - Debra Laneville, Graduate Program Secretary
    - Dr. Onken, MSW Program Director.
  - We value your perspective – serve on a departmental committee &/or MSW Student Association.
• UNI MSW Home Webpage
  • MSW Admissions
  • MSW Student Handbook Manual
    • (In revision, not online)
  • Programs & Course Plans
  • Graduate Research Paper
  • Graduate Assistants
  • MSW Student Association.

• Other
  • Resources for New Graduate Students
    • UNI Writing Center

• UNI MSW Home Webpage Links
  • MSW Program Activities Calendar
  • MSW Student Orientation PowerPoint May 2013
  • MSW Foundation Field Orientation PowerPoint May 2017
  • MSW Specialized Practice Field Orientation PowerPoint May 2017
  • Academic Advisement Report & Student Request Training
  • Council on Social Work Education
  • NASW – Iowa Chapter
  • Social Work Licensing
  • Online Social Work Resources