

CASWE distinguishes curriculum at the Master's level as providing provides knowledge and skills in research and scholarship, professional leadership, social work supervision, advanced practice and/or areas of specialization. The learning objectives for the MSW reflect an advanced level of knowledge and skills in selected major areas of social work practice.

The MSW at St. Thomas University focuses on advanced practice with a structural lens providing students with:

- advanced theory and practice skills in professional leadership and social work supervision
- advanced direct practice skills development

The program's objectives are consistent with the mission and social justice statements of St. Thomas University and its School of Social Work. Courses are based on the application of structural social work theory which places major emphasis on understanding the structural roots of personal and social problems. The program prepares social workers to analyze and challenge sites of privilege, as well as to assist individuals and groups experiencing the effects of marginalization and oppression.

Program Structure – Foundational Classroom and Field Instruction

The two-year MSW program is comprised of a foundational year of studies in social work (30 credit hours), followed by one year of advanced social work course work in the Master of Social Work program.

The 30-credit hours foundation year of studies includes the following curriculum:

Semester 1 – Fall Term

SCWK 5116 Generalist Social Work Practice Skills (6 cr)

SCWK 5036 Theory for Social Work Practice (6 cr)

Semester 2 – Winter Term

SCWK 5313 Social Policy in the Canadian Context (3 cr)

SCWK 5943 Social Work Values and Ethics (3 cr)

SCWK 5013 Group Work in Action (3 cr)

Semester 3 – Spring Semester

SCWK 5059 Field Instruction (9 cr/450 hours)

Students in the first year of the program must successfully complete all course work with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 to be able to progress to the second year.

The program structure for the second year is the same as the one-year Master of Social Work.

D. School of Social Work Policies

Please see: <https://stu.ca/socialwork/policies/> for all School of Social Work policies.

E. Social Work Courses

Social Work courses are only open to social work students admitted to the social work programs. Courses for the MWBSW are only available to MWBSW students. Courses for the MSW are only for MSW students.