

**MSW Two-Year Program**  
**Mental Health Area of Focus Course Checklist**  
**Catalog Year 2021-2022**

It is **your responsibility** to ensure that your degree and licensing requirements are met and in order to move into the second year of the program. Your academic advisor is available to help you. Please meet with your MSW advisor at least once per academic year to ensure you are on track.

**Fall Required Courses:**

- SW 6220 Diversity, Social Justice, and Reflexive Social Work II..... 3 credit hours
- SW 6401 Mental Health Advanced Practice I..... 3 credit hours
- SW 6521 Advanced Field Practicum I.....4 credit hours
- Electives and/or Advanced Practice outside Mental Health area of focus\*.....5 credit hours  
15 credit hours

**Spring Required Courses:**

- SW 6402 Mental Health Advanced Practice II.....3 credit hours
- SW 6522 Advanced Field Practicum II.....4 credit hours
- Electives and/or Advanced Practice outside Mental Health area of focus\*.....8 credit hours  
15 credit hours

All second year courses are held on Thursdays and Fridays. Practicum (fieldwork) is completed on other weekdays, for a total of 600 hours.

**Grades:**

- All MSW students must earn a C+ or better in each of the required courses, including Practicum, in order to take the second course in any sequenced and in order to move into the second year of the program
- All MSW students must maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA in order to be in good academic standing

**Additional Coursework:**

- \*Must take one Advanced Practice course outside of chosen area of focus (fall or spring). School Social Work is not an area of focus and School SW courses are electives, not Practice courses.

**Reminders:**

- Students may take up to 16 credit hours in any one semester, without requiring pre-approval from the MSW Program Director and the Dean of the Graduate School (see request form in the Canvas modules)
- Students in the Two-Year Program must successfully complete a minimum of 60 credit hours in order to graduate. Students in the Advanced Standing Program must successfully complete a minimum of 45 credit hours in order to graduate

**Notes:**

SW 6401 3 credits	Mental Health Practice I: Children and Adolescents	What mental health challenges do children and adolescents currently face, and how can social workers help empower them? Students who take this class learn how to engage in, assess, intervene in, and evaluate mental health practice with children and adolescents, and with their families and communities. A contextual social work perspective is taken, that includes the strengths perspective, multi-cultural competency, eclectic practice, and ecological theory. Students study DSM diagnoses of children and adolescents, through the lens of social work values and theory. This course also considers the interrelationship between mental health and such issues as addictions, criminal behavior, physical health, and evolving local and global conditions. Students will learn to assess the common mental disorders of children and adolescents from an Eco-biopsychosocial-spiritual perspective and to select intervention strategies that differentially fit the needs identified in those assessments. Students will learn to develop and utilize their conscious-use-of-self in establishing effective helping relationships.
Fall	Required Course	
SW 6402 3 credits	Mental Health Practice II: Adults and Aging	This course is the second of a sequence of two required practice courses taken by all students in the Mental Health Domain of the second year of the MSW program. This second class, taught in the Spring of the second MSW year, provides knowledge, skills, and a value base for contextual Social Work practice with adults and the aging in their families and communities. The first class, taught in the Fall of the second MSW year focused upon Social Work practice with children and adolescents. In this course, students concentrate their studies on the assessment and promotion of mental health for adults and the aging in the context of their families, institutions, and local and global communities. Students will learn to assess the common mental disorders of adults and the aging from an ecological (biopsychosocial-spiritual-environmental) perspective and to select intervention strategies that differentially fit the needs identified in those assessments. Clients will be viewed as typically having multiple-problem challenges (e.g., in mental health, school learning, physical health, substance abuse, family environment, etc.) that are best approached by multi-disciplinary teams of professionals and other community members. Students will learn to develop and utilize their conscious-use-of-self in establishing effective helping relationships.
Spring	Required Course	
	Electives	Electives: One class must be a practice class in another area of focus. The remaining elective credits can be general electives that are practice, theory, and skills focused, and that support the student's academic and career interests.

Types of Practicum Placements: Inpatient, residential and outpatient mental health programs serving children, adults and/or older adults and their families.