

# Master of Social Work (MSW)



COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

This degree map is based on the 2025-26 Academic Catalog and is subject to change. Students should meet with their academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their individual progress toward degree completion. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on several factors including summer/winter enrollment, dual enrollment and number of courses successfully completed each semester.

Generalist Year							
Fall Courses	Credits	Winter Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits	Summer Courses	Credits
SOWK 502 Foundations of Social Work	3	Elective	3	SOWK 516 Social Welfare Policy and Services	3	SOWK 522 Generalist Practice with Org. & Communities	3
SOWK 511 Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3	Elective	3	SOWK 521 Social Work Prac. w Ind	3	*SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp.	3
SOWK 506 Soc. Identities/Inequalities	(3)			SOWK 523 SW Prac with Families & Groups	3	Elective	3
SOWK 526 Research Methods	3			*SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp.	3		
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>3-6</b>	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>6-9</b>
Specialization Year							
Fall Courses	Credits	Winter Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits	Summer Courses	Credits
SOWK 566 Advanced Research Methods	3	Elective	(3)	SOWK 551 Adv. Prac. W Individuals & Families	3	SOWK 560-Adv. Prac. with Orgs.	3
Elective	3			SOWK 552 Adv. Prac. with Groups & Comm	3	Elective	3
*SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp	3			SOWK 556- Social Welfare Policy and Services II	3	*SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp	(3)
SOWK 506 Social Identities	(3)			*SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp	3	Elective	3
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>9-12</b>				<b>12</b>		<b>6-12</b>
Nine credits of graduate electives are required. Electives are offered on a rotating basis throughout the year.							+9 credits of electives
*A total of 4 semesters of Integrated Field Exp is required at the generalist level,							<b>60 Credits Total</b>

A student with an undergraduate degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program can apply for the accelerated or advanced standing path to an MSW.

Advanced Standing Year							
Fall Courses	Credits	Winter Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits	Summer Courses	Credits
SOWK 500 Advanced Bridge	3	Elective	(3)	SOWK 551 Adv. Prac. W Individuals & Families	3	SOWK 560-Adv. Prac. with Orgs.	3
SOWK506 Social Identities and Inequalities	3			SOWK 552 Adv. Prac. with groups & Comm	3	Elective	(3)
SOWK 566 Advanced Research Methods	3			SOWK 556 Social Welfare Policy and Services II	3	*SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp	3
*SOWK 591- Integrated Field Exp or	3			*SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp	3	Elective	(3)
Elective	(3)						
<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Semester Total</b>	<b>6-12</b>
Nine credits of graduate electives are required. Electives are offered on a rotating basis throughout the year. *A total of two semesters of Integrated Field Exp is required for Advanced Standing						+9 credits of electives	
							<b>36 Credits Total</b>

## Regular Admission (60 credits) Curriculum Checklist

### First Fall (12 credits)

- SOWK 502: Foundations of Social Work
- SOWK 506: Social Identities and Inequalities
- SOWK 511: Human Behavior in the Social Environment
- SOWK 526: Research Methods

### First Winter (0-3 credits)

- Elective\*

### First Spring (12 credits)

- SOWK 516: Social Welfare Policy and Services
- SOWK 521: Generalist Practice with Individuals
- SOWK 523: Generalist Practice with Families & Groups
- SOWK 591: Integrated Field Experience

### First Summer (6-9 credits)

- SOWK 522: Generalist Practice with Organizations & Communities
- SOWK 591: Integrated Field Experience\*
- Elective\*

### Second Fall (9-12 credits)

- SOWK 566: Advanced Research Methods
- SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp\*
- SOWK 506: Social Identities and Inequalities\*
- Elective\*

### Second Winter (0-3 credits)

- Elective\*

### Second Spring (9-12 credits)

- SOWK 551: Advanced Practice with Individuals, Couples, Families
- SOWK 552: Advanced Practice with Groups and Communities
- SOWK 556 Social Welfare Policy and Services II
- SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp

### Second Summer (6-12 credits)

- SOWK 560 Advanced Practice with Organizations
- Elective
- SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp\*
- Elective\*

\*9 credits of electives are required

\* A total of 4 semesters of 591 (12 credits) is required of students in the generalist program

## Advanced Standing (36 credits) Curriculum Checklist

### First Fall (12 credits)

- SOWK500: Advanced Standing Bridge
- SOWK 506: Social Identities and Inequalities
- SOWK 566: Advanced Research Methods
- SOWK 591: Integrated Field Experience

### First Winter (0-6 credits)

- Elective\*
- Elective\*

### First Spring (12 credits)

- SOWK 551: Advanced Practice with Individuals, Couples, Families
- SOWK 552: Advanced Practice with Groups and Communities
- SOWK 556 Social Welfare Policy and Services II
- SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp

### First Summer (6 -12 credits)

- SOWK 560 Advanced Practice with Organizations
- Elective
- SOWK 591 Integrated Field Exp\*
- Elective\*

\*Nine Credits of Electives are required

\*A total of 2 semesters of 591 (6 credits) is required of students in the advanced standing program

Electives: SOWK 513 Social Work Practice with Alcohol and Other Drug Use; SOWK 514 Leadership and Organizational Culture in Social Work; SOWK 515 Working with Mandated Clients; SOWK 517 Behavioral Health and Generalist Social Work; SOWK 518 Social Work Issues of Aging; SOWK 525 Narrative Practice. In addition, graduate classes from other programs may be considered for inclusion to fulfill an elective. Please consult with MSW Program Director for more information.

**Campus Locations:** Commonwealth(3 campuses) X Online