

Master of Social Work (MSW)



COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

This degree map is based on the 2023-24 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					
Summer Courses	Credits	Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits
SOWK 502 Foundations of Social Work	3	SOWK 506 Soc. Identities/Inequalities	3	SOWK 512 Human Behavior in the Social Environment II	3
SOWK 511 Human Behavior in the Social environment I	3	SOWK 521 Practice Ind/Fam	3	SOWK 522 Generalist Practice with Organizations, and Communities	3
		SOWK 526 Research Methods	3	SOWK 516 Social Welfare Policy and Services I	3
		SOWK 595 Integrated Field Exp. I	3	SOWK 596 Integrated Field Exp. II	3
Semester Total	6	Semester Total	12	Semester Total	12
Specialization Year					
Summer Courses	Credits	Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits
SOWK 551: Advanced Practice with Individuals, Couples, and Families	3	SOWK 552: Advanced Practice with Groups and Communities	3	SOWK 556: Soc. Welfare Policy and Services II	3
		SOWK 566: Advanced Research Methods	3	SOWK 560: Adv Practice with Organizations	3
		SOWK 597: Integrated Field Exp. III	3	SOWK 598: Integrated Field Exp. IV	3
Semester Total	3	Semester Total	9	Semester Total	9
Nine credits of graduate electives are required. Electives are offered on a rotating basis throughout the year.					+9 credits of electives
					60 credits total

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.

MSW Advanced Standing					
Summer Courses	Credits	Fall Courses	Credits	Spring Courses	Credits
SOWK 551: Advanced Practice with Individuals, Couples, and Families	3	SOWK 552: Advanced Practice with Groups and Communities	3	SOWK 556: Soc. Welfare Policy and Services II	3
SOWK 500 Advanced Standing Bridge	3	SOWK 566: Advanced Research Methods	3	SOWK 560: Adv Practice with Organizations	3
		SOWK 597: Integrated Field Exp. III	3	SOWK 598: Integrated Field Exp. IV	3
Semester Total	6	Semester Total	9	Semester Total	9
Nine credits of graduate electives are required. Electives are offered on a rotating basis throughout the year.					+12 credits of electives
					36 credits total

Master's in Social Work (MSW)

Regular Admission (60 credit) Curriculum Checklist

First Summer (6 credits)

- ___ SOWK502: Foundations of Social Work
- ___ SOWK511: Human Behavior in the Social Environment I

First Fall (12 credits)

- ___ SOWK506: Social Identities and Inequalities
- ___ SOWK521: Generalist Practice with Individuals and Families
- ___ SOWK526: Research Methods
- ___ SOWK 595: Integrated Field Experience I

First Winter

- ___ Elective*
- ___ Elective*

First Spring (12 credits)

- ___ SOWK 512: Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
- ___ SOWK 516: Social Welfare Policy and Services
- ___ SOWK 522: Generalist Practice with Organizations & Communities
- ___ SOWK 596: Integrated Field Experience II

Second Summer (3 credits)

- ___ SOWK 551: Advanced Practice with Individuals, Couples, Families
- ___ Elective*

Second Fall (9 credits)

- ___ SOWK 552: Advanced Practice with Groups and Communities
- ___ SOWK 566: Advanced Research Methods
- ___ SOWK 597: Integrated Field Experience III
- ___ Elective*

Second Winter

- ___ Elective*
- ___ Elective*

Second Spring (9 credits)

- ___ SOWK 556: Social Welfare Policy and Services II
- ___ SOWK 560: Advanced Practice with Organizations
- ___ SOWK 598: Integrated Field Experience IV
- ___ Elective*

*Nine Credits of Electives, typically 3 classes, are required

Advanced Standing (36 credit) Curriculum Checklist

First Summer (6 credits)

- ___ SOWK502: Advanced Standing Bridge
- ___ SOWK 551: Advanced Practice with Individuals, Couples, Families

First Fall (9 credits)

- ___ SOWK 552: Advanced Practice with Groups and Communities
- ___ SOWK 566: Advanced Research Methods
- ___ SOWK 597: Integrated Field Experience III
- ___ Elective*

First Winter (3 credits)

- ___ Elective*
- ___ Elective*

First Spring (9 credits)

- ___ SOWK 556: Social Welfare Policy and Services II
- ___ SOWK 560: Advanced Practice with Organizations
- ___ SOWK 598: Integrated Field Experience IV
- ___ Elective*

*Twelve Credits of Electives, typically 4 classes, are required

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

Bloomsburg Online; In-person; Blended

Lock Haven Online; In-person; Blended

Mansfield Online; In-person; Blended

Clearfield Online; In-person; Blended