

Programme Structure for students admitted before AY2019/20

Objectives

The objective of the MSW programme is to produce the leaders of social work profession in direct practice, social policy and research, and social administration and development. Integrative learning, interdisciplinary exposure and innovative capacity building are the key pedagogical features of our MSW programme.

The MSW programme is designed to facilitate students' systematic integration of social work professional values and practice, theory and practice, and research and practice in every class. It also offers students interdisciplinary learning opportunities to take courses from other departments within the faculty as well as public policy, public health, and health sciences in other faculties and schools to their special interest. In our MSW programme, students can expect to build their innovative capacity of being future-ready social work professionals who are equipped with strong and distinct leadership quality and cross-sector mobility in the Singaporean social service sector.

Duration

The candidature period is as follows:

Coursework Programme	Cohort	Normal Candidature		Maximum Candidature	
		Part-Time Study (in years)	Full-Time Study (in years)	Part-Time Study (in years)	Full-Time Study (in years)
Master of Social Work	AY2019/20 & AY2020/21	2.5	2	4	3

With effect from AY2019/2020, students admitted into a government-subsidised graduate coursework programme who take longer than the normal candidature period to complete their degree requirements are required to pay full unsubsidised fees, during the extended semesters.

Programme Structure

There are three options for the Master of Social Work:

1. Master with Specialisation (Family/Community or Health);
2. General Master without Specialisation; and
3. Self designed Master without Specialisation.

A candidate for the degree of Master of Social Work must offer not fewer than ten courses. The ten courses include:

1. For Master with Specialisation (Family/Community or Health)

- 4 essential courses; and
- 5 elective* courses (including 1 specialization related supervised project or practicum if on the specialization track); and,
- 1 general elective course (including any relevant graduate course across Faculties/Schools such as the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS Business School, and the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, NUS)

2. For General Master without Specialisation

- 4 essential courses; and
- 5 elective* courses from either of the specialization tracks and 1 general elective (including any relevant graduate course across Faculties/Schools)

3. For Self designed Master without Specialisation

- 4 essential courses; and
- 6 electives* in a self-designed curriculum including relevant cross faculty graduate courses as approved by the department.

Candidates on a specialization track are required to complete a Supervised Project (SW5112) or Fieldwork Practicum (SW5111 or SW5111A or SW5111B). The Supervised Project will be an independent and original piece of work which involves innovative and original initiatives such as developing a new social service programme/policy or conducting an original piece of field research. SW5111 and SW5111B requires 400 fieldwork hours and field supervision under an approved supervisor; SW5111A requires 800 fieldwork hours and field supervision under an approved supervisor. Field integration seminars are scheduled in conjunction with SW5111A.

*** Students from the AY2014/15 intake onwards without a BSW are required to take the Practicum as an elective course to fulfil graduation requirements regardless of whether or not they are doing a specialization track.**

In addition, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, on the advice of the Head of the Department of Social Work, may require a candidate to undertake such other work as may be deemed relevant to his/her candidature for the degree of the Master of Social Work.

Master of Social Work (With Specialization)

Four Essential Courses:

- SW5103 Family Systems Theory and Intervention;
- SW5104 Management of Human Service Organizations;
- SW5106 Social Policy and Welfare Services;
- SW5107 Program Development and Evaluation; and,

Five Elective* courses from the following:

Family/Community Specialization: Any five specialization courses	Health Specialization: Any five specialization courses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW5205 Working with Trauma – Infancy Through Adolescence • SW5207 Working with Multi-Stressed Families; • SW5208 Using Play Therapy with Children and Families; • SW5215 Poverty and Asset-Building Policy; • SW5216 Family and Interpersonal Violence; • SW5245 Current Group Approaches in Social Work; • SW5252 Community Organization and Development; • SW5253 Volunteer Management; • Supervised Project OR Practicum (compulsory course). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW5205 Working with Trauma – Infancy Through Adolescence • SW5210 Trauma and Mental Health; • SW5211 Risk Assessment & Management: Mental Health; • SW5213 Practice with Persons with Disability; • SW5217 Continuum of Care and Healthy Ageing; • SW5218 Practice with Persons with Addiction; • SW5219 Palliative and End-of-Life Care; • Supervised Project OR Practicum (compulsory course).

One General Elective:

The general elective may be from the Health specialization OR the Family/Community specialization OR the following:

- SW5247 Social Prevention and Public Education;
- SW5880 Special Topics in Social Work (the course will highlight a contemporary issue in social work practice e.g. pathological gambling, social enterprise or end stage renal failure);
- Cross faculty courses such as from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS Business School, or the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Faculty of Medicine.

*** Students from the AY2014/15 intake onwards without a BSW are required to take the Practicum as an elective course to fulfil graduation requirements regardless of whether or not they are doing a specialization track.**

Note:

1. Not all elective courses are necessarily available in any one year.
2. Unless otherwise indicated, each course shall be of one semester's duration.
3. The programme structure and the courses offered may be modified from time to time.

Master of Social Work (Without Specialization)

Four Essential Courses:

- SW5103 Family Systems Theory and Intervention;
- SW5104 Management of Human Service Organizations;
- SW5106 Social Policy and Welfare Services;
- SW5107 Program Development and Evaluation; and,

Five elective (level 5000 or level 6000) courses from either of the specialization tracks offered by the Department of Social Work and 1 elective for General Master) OR six electives in a self-designed curriculum including cross-faculty graduate courses as approved by the Department for Self-Designed Master.

*** Students from the AY2014/15 intake onwards without a BSW are required to take the Practicum as an elective course to fulfil graduation requirements regardless of whether or not they are doing a specialization track.**

Note:

1. Not all elective courses are necessarily available in any one year.
2. Unless otherwise indicated, each course shall be of one semester's duration.
3. The programme structure and the courses offered may be modified from time to time.

Continuation Requirements

- Grade Point Average (GPA) should not fall below 2.50 for two consecutive semesters or 3.00 for three consecutive semesters. Termination of candidature will result if a student fails to maintain the minimum GPA as stipulated above. A student will be issued a warning for any semester in which his/her GPA falls

below that required for graduation (3.00 for a Masters degree). If, in the following semester, the student's GPA again falls below the graduation requirement, but not sufficiently to warrant immediate termination, he/she will be placed on probation.

- With effect from AY2015/2016, where a course is required for the graduate candidature and the minimum grade is not met, a student may repeat:
 - (a) The same course (core or elective) only once. The improved grade point of the repeat/replaced course will replace the weaker one in the Grade Point Average (GPA) computation in the semester in which the successful attempt is made; and
 - (b) One-third of the curricular requirements not exceeding three courses, whichever is lower.